



Cloughton Woodland – Design and Access Statement

Upgrade of existing forest Road:

We propose to obtain grant funding through the Forestry Commission to upgrade the current access road into Cloughton Woodland.

Although some timber lorries have been able to use the existing road in the past, this access is limited to only the driest weeks of the year. The gradient of the first hill has caused problems during wet conditions and generally there is not enough strength in the current road structure to safely utilise large articulated timber lorries on a regular basis.

The top level of road within the woodland was originally dug in to the woodland floor at a lower level than the surround land. This makes it very difficult to disperse surface water causing the road surface to become saturated and deteriorate quickly.

We would like to re-stone and re-surface the road length (733m) to standard Forestry Commission spec, adding further stone to the bottom of the first hill to make the initial gradient less severe.

The turning area at the end of the forest road would also be upgraded as shown on site map and plan 1.

The running surface of the top road (between points B & C on the enclosed map) would require a small drainage ditch along the western edge to facilitate surface runoff. The main viewing point of the upgraded road would be from the woodland entrance beside the A171. The upgrade will not look much different from the existing road to the untrained eye and the majority of the forest road is well out of sight.

No change would be made to the woodland entrance layout where the forest road meets the layby of the A171.

The existing line of the road cuts through a Scheduled Ancient Monument of Cloughton Cross-Dyke. This feature is covered under a NYMNP A management plan and consultation with the National Park Archaeological department is always taken before any harvesting or other significant operations take place in the vicinity of the monument. The upgrading of the road at this point on the route will not stray from the current boundaries of the existing road, so there will be no adverse effect on the

monument feature, although consultation with relevant parties will still take place before any work begins.

Over the next 5 years we have planned to harvest in the region of 5000 tonnes of timber and around another 10,000 Tonnes in the following 15 years so getting the road up to a useable standard is very important to the future management of the property.

