

## **Planning Inspectorate Appeal – Reference CROW/5/M/04/2477 – Lang Dale**

The East Yorkshire and Derwent Ramblers' Association (EY&D RA) disagree with the appellants Grounds of Appeal and make the following comments.

- 'not Open Country'.

The description of Down as applied to the Yorkshire Wolds is, 'generally within an open landscape and whilst individual land parcels might comprise enclosures of varying size, they will be part of a typical chalk landscape sometimes with open vistas across undulating countryside and sometimes comprising steep-sided scarp slopes and dry valleys with more limited views.'

The area complies with this description.

Also, the information supplied previously by EY&D RA (see submission no 5 G and H) indicates that Lang Dale is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland. The Phase II Habitat Survey recorded 9 calcicolous indicator species. The BioDAT survey carried out in 1998 also recorded a number of calcicolous indicator species.

We believe that the area fulfils the downland criteria and has been mapped correctly as open country on the provisional map.

We understand that Grounds given under paragraphs 9.0 and 10.0 and some in paragraph 8 namely that the land is under a Countryside Stewardship Agreement, are not valid. If taken into account, the appellants numerous reasons for exclusion from the open access map: lack of parking, public safety in the presence of a suckler herd, vermin control including shooting rabbits with a rifle, the presence of a badger sett and Brown Hares are irrelevant. If all land suitable for open access is excluded because of the reasons given in this appeal there would be very few areas included on the map. The appellants appear to be against anyone using their land fearing that they will interfere with farming practices.

There is an existing public footpath on the western boundary of the area under appeal and the Yorkshire Wolds Way forms the boundary in the north. The retention of Lang Dale on the provisional map would be a welcome addition to the network of footpaths in this area of the Yorkshire Wolds..