



THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 –  
SECTION 31(6)

**DEPOSIT OF MAPS, STATEMENTS AND STATUTORY  
DECLARATIONS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Title and/or description of land referred to</b>	Escomb - Lake Escomb Ltd
<b>Districts</b>	Wear Valley
<b>Parish</b>	Bishop Auckland
<b>Ordnance Survey grid reference (6 figure all NZ)</b>	NZ 186304
<b>Land Post Codes</b>	DL14 7SU, DL14 7SY
<b>Documents deposited by</b>	Joan Elizabeth Firby (managing agent for Lake Escomb Ltd)  Greencroft Farm Etherley Bishop Auckland Co Durham DL14 0EY
<b>Date of deposit of map and highway statement (received by Council)</b>	04 December 2020
<b>Date of highway declarations (received by Council)</b>	12 April 2021
<b>Date current documentation expires</b>	12 April 2041
<b>Durham County Council contact</b>	Senior Rights of Way Officer Telephone Number 03000 265342 Email <a href="mailto:prow@durham.gov.uk">prow@durham.gov.uk</a>
<b>Notes</b>	See also 31A/3/20/021 for Escomb Farm and land at Escomb

1. Name of appropriate authority to which the application is addressed: Durham County Council

2. Name and full address (including postcode) of applicant:

Joan Elizabeth Firby  
Greencroft Farm  
Etherley  
Bishop Auckland  
Co Durham  
DL14OEY

3. Status of applicant (tick relevant box or boxes):

I am

(a) the owner of the land(s) described in paragraph 4.

(b) ☒ making this application and the statements/declarations it contains on behalf of

Lake Escomb Limited who is the owner of the land(s) described in paragraph 4 and in my capacity as occupier and managing agent of that land.

4. Insert description of the land(s) to which the application relates (including full address and postcode):

The land that Lake Escomb Limited owns is registered at Land Registry under title number DU309166 and is described as Land on the west side of Escomb Farm, Bishop Auckland, DL 14 7SX. It comprises a total of 7.49 hectares. The lake itself is 4.61 hectares. The lake margin is 2.88 hectares.

5. Ordnance Survey six-figure grid reference(s) of a point within the area of land(s) to which the application relates (if known):

The OS number is NZ1830-7747.

6. This deposit comprises the following statement(s) and/or declarations:

Form CA16

(delete Parts B, C, or D where not applicable).

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**for a deposit under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and section**  
**15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006**

**PART A: Information relating to the applicant and land to which the application relates**

**(All applicants must complete this Part)**

**PART B: Statement under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980**

I (Joan Elizabeth Firby) am the managing agent and occupier of the land described in paragraph 4 of Part A of this form and shown edged red on the map accompanying this statement.

No ways over the land shown edged red on the accompanying map have been dedicated as highways.

**PART C: Declaration under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980**

**PART C: continued**

**PART D: Statement under section 15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006**

## **PART E: Additional information relevant to the application**

(Insert any additional information relevant to the application)

The land shown edged in red on the map has been in Higher Level Environmental Stewardship for the last 10 years which has now come to an end. As part of that scheme certain permissive footpaths were allowed. The attached document named 'Permissive Access' was posted at the points indicated by a red dot to show those permissive paths. Now that the scheme has come to an end we wish to make it clear that none of these permissive paths are to be considered as public footpaths in the future.

## PART F: Statement of Truth

(All applicants must complete this Part)

**WARNING:** If you dishonestly enter information or make a statement that you know is, or might be, untrue or misleading, and intend by doing so to make a gain for yourself or another person, or to cause loss or the risk of loss to another person, you may commit the offence of fraud under section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006, the maximum penalty for which is 10 years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine, or both.

**I BELIEVE THAT THE FACTS AND MATTERS CONTAINED IN THIS FORM ARE TRUE**

**Signature (of the person making the statement of truth):**



**Print full name:**

JOAN ELIZABETH FIRBY

**Date:** 3 DECEMBER 2020

**You should keep a copy of the completed form**

### Data Protection Act 1998 - Fair Processing Notice

The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the Use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

Durham County Council is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete this form.

The information that you provide will be used by Durham County Council in its duties to process applications to deposit statements, maps and declarations under section 31(6) the Highways Act 1980 and statements under section 15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006. The information you provide will also be used by Durham County Council in its duty to update the registers in which details of such deposits are recorded under the Dedicated Highways (Registers under Section 31A of the Highways Act 1980) (England) Regulations 2007 and the Commons (Registration of Town or Village Greens) and Dedicated Highways (Landowner Statements and Declarations) (England) Regulations 2013.

Durham County Council is required by the legislation above to maintain a register which holds information provided in this form, which can be inspected online or in person by members of the public on request. It may also be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Durham County Council will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will they act in contravention of their obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.





Location plan



Trueplan (UK) Ltd,  
Mount Pleasant House, 2-4 Lonsdale Gardens,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN11 1HJ

01892614 881

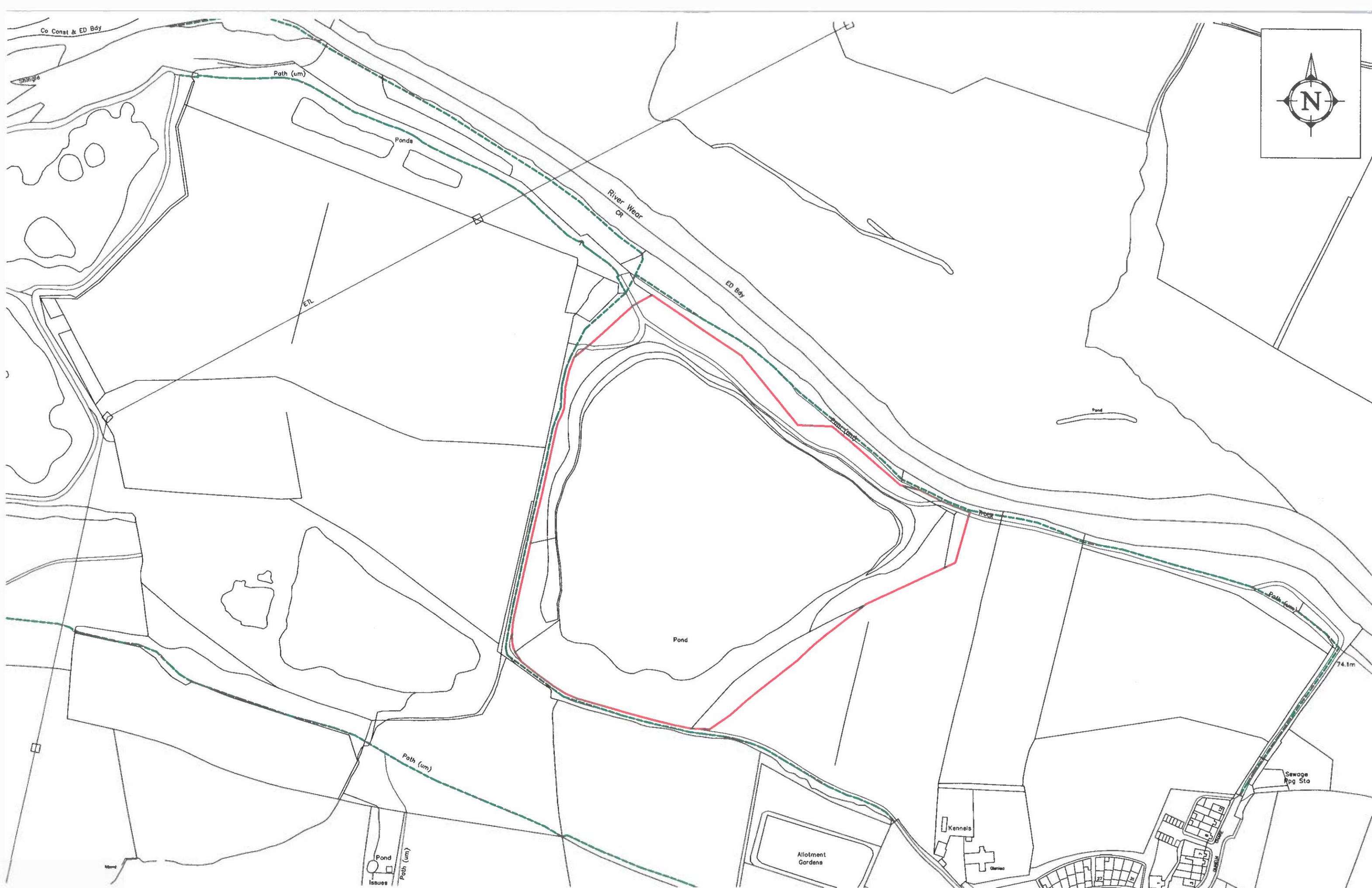
info@trueplan.co.uk

PLAN OF WHOLE SITE

Composite plan at:  
Escomb Farm  
Bishop Auckland  
County Durham

Scale 1:2500 @A3  
Drawing no.: 4  
Date drawn: 15-10-2020  
Revision: 02





Location plan



Trueplan (UK) Ltd,  
 Mount Pleasant House, 2-4 Lonsdale Gardens,  
 Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN11HJ  
 01892 614 881  
 sales@trueplan.co.uk

WAKE ESCOMB LTD  
 LAND

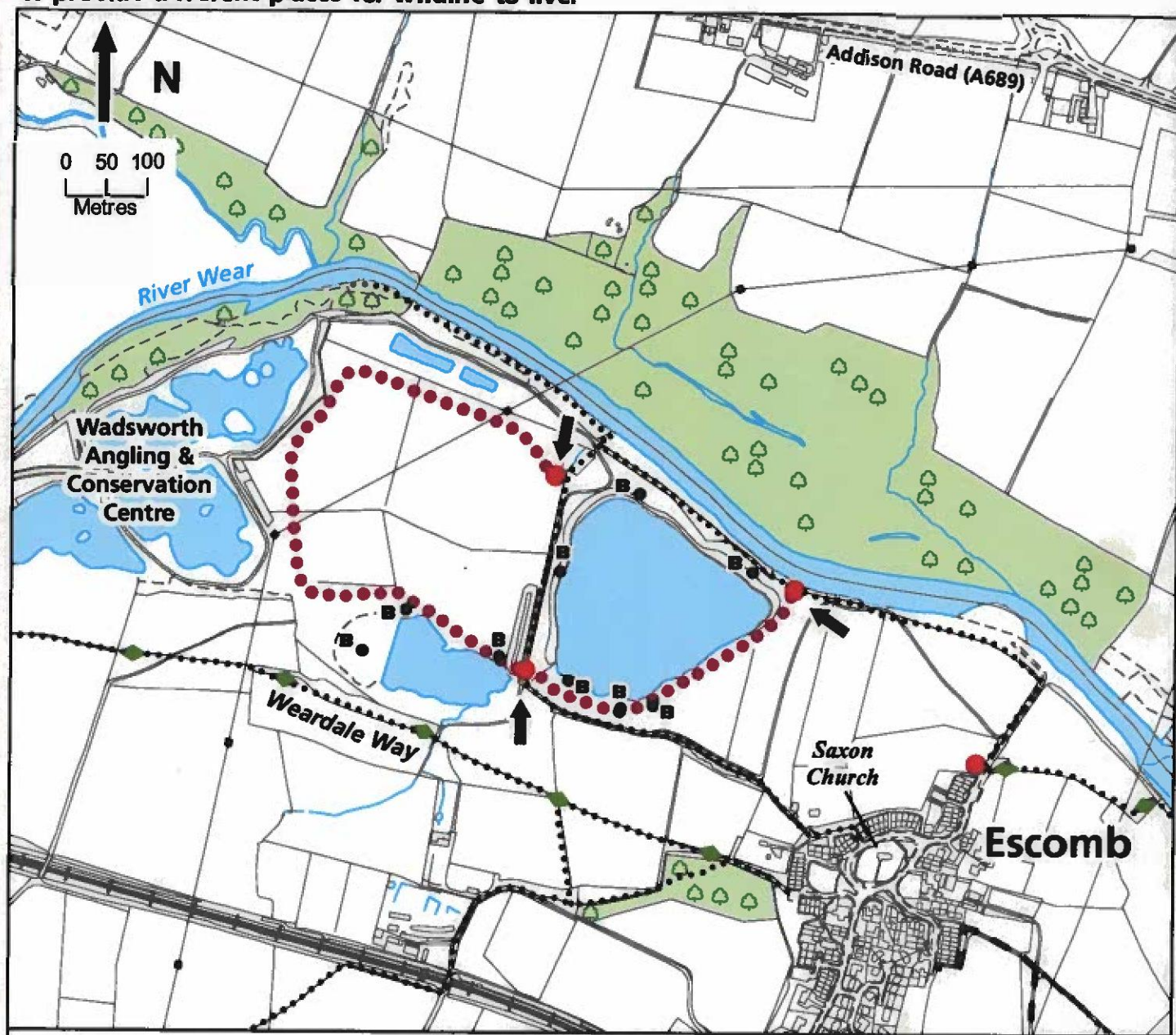
Land lying to the West side of:  
 Escomb Farm  
 Bishop Auckland  
 County Durham

Scale 1:2500 @A3  
 Drawing no.: 4  
 Date drawn: 15-10-2020  
 Revision: 02



# PERMISSIVE ACCESS

Welcome to Escomb lake and surrounding area. The farmer has provided formal footpaths with benches for you to rest at and view the wildlife which use this area. As part of a package of wildlife improvements the farmland has been taken out of arable production. Grassland is being established to create a very valuable habitat for wading birds it is hoped that the grass will remain wet for much of the year. Over time it will become tussocky and 'wilder' in nature. Please keep dogs under close control especially in the spring when birds may be nesting in these fields. New ponds or scrapes are also being dug which will form muddy areas in summer to provide different places for wildlife to live.



Grid Ref NZ 184 303

Ref Nos AG00321800  
12/055/0115

➔ Entry/exit point



You Are Here



Bench



Permissive Footpath



Recreational Route



Public Footpath



Public Bridleway

This access has been provided under the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' farm conservation schemes as managed by Natural England, which help farmers and land managers protect and improve the countryside, its wildlife and history. It is permissive access and no new rights of way are being created. Existing rights of way are not affected. Please follow the Countryside Code and observe any other requirements shown above. Do not disturb wildlife, livestock or other visitors and in particular keep dogs under control. This is working farmland so please take care; people using this site do so at their own risk. Access ends on 31st August 2020.

For access related queries please call the Environmental Stewardship Permissive Access Team on 0300 060 1114 (Office Hours).  
For all other Defra related queries please contact the Defra Helpline on 08459 335577 (Office Hours).

Based on Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright & may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Natural England licence No. 100022021, 2010. The depiction of rights of access does not imply or express any warranty as to its accuracy or completeness.

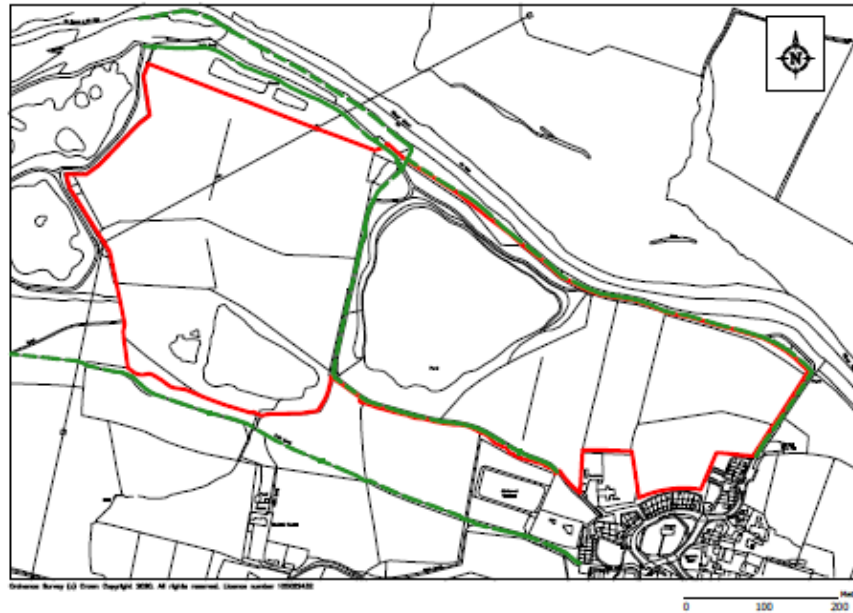
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
STEWARDSHIP**

**COUNTRYSIDE  
STEWARDSHIP**

**ENVIRONMENTALLY  
SENSITIVE AREAS**

**NATURAL  
ENGLAND**

[cwr.naturalengland.org.uk](http://cwr.naturalengland.org.uk)



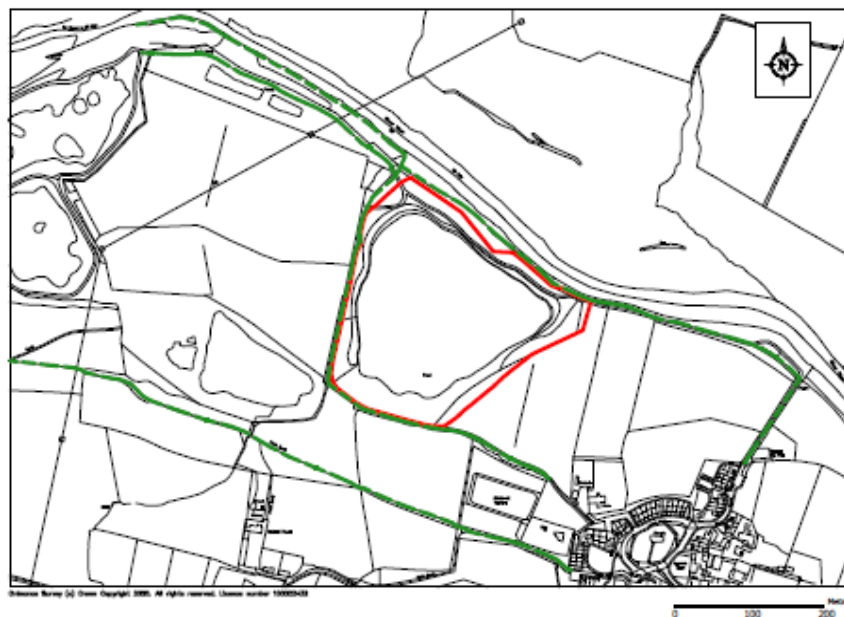
Location plan



Trueplan (UK) Ltd,  
Mount Pleasant House, 2-4 Lonsdale Gardens,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1HJ  
01892 614 881  
plans@trueplan.co.uk www.trueplan.co.uk

Composite plan at:  
Escomb Farm  
Bishop Auckland  
County Durham

Scale 1:10,000 @A4  
Drawing no.: 44387  
Date drawn: 15-10-2020  
Revision: 02



Location plan



Trueplan (UK) Ltd,  
Mount Pleasant House, 2-4 Lonsdale Gardens,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1HJ  
01892 614 881  
plans@trueplan.co.uk www.trueplan.co.uk

Land lying to the West side of:  
Escomb Farm  
Bishop Auckland  
County Durham

Scale 1:10,000 @A4  
Drawing no.: 44387  
Date drawn: 15-10-2020  
Revision: 02



**Please read the following guidance carefully before completing this form**

1. *Guidance relating to completion of this form is available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/commons-act-2006-landowner-statements-highways-statements-and-declarations-form>. Please refer to these separate notes when completing this form.*
2. *Parts A and F must be completed in all cases.*
3. *The form must be signed and dated by, or by a duly authorised representative of, every owner of land to which the application relates who is an individual, and by the secretary or some other duly authorised officer of every owner of land to which the application relates which is a body corporate or an unincorporated association.*
4. *In the case of land in joint ownership all the joint owners must complete paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part A and complete and sign the application in Part F, unless a duly authorised representative completes and signs the form on behalf of all of the owners of the land. Paragraph 3 should be completed in full to clearly explain the capacity of each applicant e.g. trustee, landowner's managing agent, executor.*
5. *'Owner' is defined in section 61(3) of the Commons Act 2006 and section 31(7) of the Highways Act 1980 and means, broadly, a legal owner of the freehold interest in the land.*
6. *Where the application relates to more than one parcel of land, a description of each parcel should be included in Paragraph 4 of Part A and the remainder of the form should be completed to clearly identify which statement and/or declaration relates to which parcel of land. This may require the insertion of additional wording. See separate notes for further guidance. Multiple parcels of land should be clearly identified by coloured edging on any accompanying map.*
7. *Where a statement or declaration requires reference to colouring shown on an accompanying map or previously lodged map, the colouring must be clearly specified and must match that shown on the relevant map. For example, if a footpath is specified in a Part C declaration as shown coloured brown, the accompanying map or previously deposited map referred to must reflect that colouring.*
8. *An application must be accompanied by an ordnance map, or (in respect of declarations under Part C or statements under Part D of this form) refer to a map previously deposited in accordance with the Commons (Registration of Town or Village Greens) and Dedicated Highways (Landowner Statements and Declaration) (England) Regulations 2013 or (if deposited before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013) in accordance with section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980. Any accompanying map must be an ordnance map at a scale of not less than 1:10,560 showing the boundary of the land to which the application relates in coloured edging.*
9. *An application must be accompanied by the requisite fee – please ask us for details (see contacts on page 2).*
10. *Please return completed application forms to:*
  - *When used for Section 31(6) or when Section 31(6) is combined with Section 15A(1)*

**Access and Rights of Way  
Regeneration and Local Services  
Durham County Council  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UQ**

**e-mail [pro@durham.gov.uk](mailto:pro@durham.gov.uk)  
telephone 03000 265 342**

• When used for Section 15A(1) only

**Common Land and Village Greens  
Democratic Services  
Durham County Council  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UL**

**telephone 03000 269 703**

## **PART A: Information relating to the applicant and land to which the application relates**

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Form CA16

1. Name of appropriate authority to which the application is addressed: Durham County Council

2. Name and full address (including postcode) of applicant:

Joan Elizabeth Firby  
Greencroft Farm  
Etherley  
Bishop Auckland  
Co Durham  
DL14 0EY

3. Status of applicant (tick relevant box or boxes):

I am

(a) ☐ the owner of the land(s) described in paragraph 4.

(b) ☒ making this application and the statements/declarations it contains on behalf of

Lake Escomb Limited who is the owner of the land(s) described in paragraph 4 and in my capacity as occupier and managing agent of that land.

4. Insert description of the land(s) to which the application relates (including full address and postcode):

The land that Lake Escomb owns is registered at Land Registry under title number DU309166 and is described as Land on the west side of Escomb Farm, Bishop Auckland, DL14 7SX. It comprises a total of 7.49 hectares. The lake itself is 4.61 hectares. The lake margin is 2.88 hectares.

5. Ordnance Survey six-figure grid reference(s) of a point within the area of land(s) to which the application relates (if known):

The OS number is NZ1830-7747

6. This deposit comprises the following statement(s) and/or declarations:

*(delete Parts B, C, or D where not applicable):*

APPLICATION FORM  
for a deposit under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and section 15A(1)  
of the Commons Act 2006

**PART C: Declaration under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980**

Form CA16

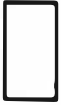
1. Lake Escomb Limited is the owner of the land described in paragraph 4 of Part A of this form and shown edged red on the map lodged with Durham County Council on 4 December 2020.
2. On 4 December 2020 I, in my capacity as occupier and managing agent of Lake Escomb Limited, deposited with Durham County Council, being the appropriate council, a statement accompanied by a map showing Lake Escomb Limited's property edged red which stated that no ways had been dedicated as highways over Lake Escomb Limited's property.

3. No additional ways have been dedicated over the land edged red on the map referenced in paragraph 1 above since the statement dated 4 December 2020 referred to in paragraph 2 above and at the present time Lake Escomb Limited has no intention of dedicating any more public rights of way over its property.



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Form CA16



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Form CA16

(Insert any additional information relevant to the application)

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Form CA16

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**I BELIEVE THAT THE FACTS AND MATTERS CONTAINED IN THIS FORM ARE  
TRUE**

Signature (of the person making the statement of truth):



Print full name:

JOAN ELIZABETH FIRBY

Date: 8 APRIL 2021.

You should keep a copy of the completed form

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(All applicants must complete this Part)