

**STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE NDP**  
**REVISED LOCAL GREEN SPACE (LGS) POLICY LIST AND ASSESSMENTS**

**POLICY LIST**

NB notes in brackets for examiner information only, not for inclusion in revised policy list.

**CF2-1: Land at Strensall Bridge**

**CF2-2: The Heath**

**CF2-3: Foss Bank - Westpit Lane**

**CF2-4: Wild Haven (Ash Walk/Pasture Close)**

**CF2-5: Lakeside Gardens**

**CF2-6: Howard Road** (NB includes former CF2-10 and CF2-27)

**CF2-7: Strensall Bowling Green**

**CF2-8: Strensall Tigers Sports and Recreation Ground**

**CF2-9: Robert Wilkinson Playing Field**

**CF2-10: Queen Elizabeth Barracks Sports Ground** (NB formerly CF2-11)

**CF2-11 Strensall Park Playing Fields** (NB formerly CF2-13)

**CF2-12: Northfields/The Village 'Green'** (NB formerly CF2-13 + now including former CF2-25 and CF2-30)

**CF2-13: Hallard Way** (NB formerly CF2-15)

**CF2-14: Pasture Close** (NB formerly CF2-16 and now including former CF2-31)

**CF2-15: Land West of Knapton Close** (NB formerly CF2-17)

**CF2-16 Foss Bank/Chaldon Close/Woodleigh Close** (NB formerly CF2-18)

**CF2-17: West Pit Lane** (NB formerly CF2-19)

**CF2-18: South of Lynwood Close** (NB formerly CF2-20)

**CF2-19: Land at York Road/Toby Court** (NB formerly CF2-21)

**CF2-20: Hollis Crescent** (formerly CF2-22 + now including former CF2-28)

**CF2-21: Strensall Park 'Green'** (NB formerly CF2-23 + now including former CF2-29)

**CF2-22: Littlethorpe Close** (formerly CF2-24 + now including former CF2-26)

**CF2-23: Northfields Allotments** (NB formerly CF2-32)

**CF2-24: New Lane Allotments** (NB formerly CF2-33)

**CF2-25: Strensall and Towthorpe Cemetery** (NB formerly CF2-34)

**CF2-26: St Mary the Virgin Churchyard** (NB formerly CF2-35)

**CF2-27: St Wilfrid's Garrison Churchyard** (NB formerly CF2-36)

**CF2-28: Ox Carr Lane/Flaxton Road/Lords Moor Lane Verges** (NB formerly CF2-37)

**CF2-29: Newton Way/Knapton Close** (NB formerly CF2-38)

**CF2-30: Southfields Road** (NB formerly CF2-39)

**CF2-31: South of Middlecroft Drive** (NB formerly CF2-40)

**CF2-32: Westpit Lane Hedge** (NB formerly CF2-41)

**CF2-33: River Foss – South Bank** (NB formerly CF2-42)

## **ASSESSMENTS**

### **CF2-1: Land at Strensall Bridge**

Location: North of Strensall Bridge to the east of Sheriff Hutton Road/west of the River Foss/east of and opposite the Fossview Close residential area (formerly The Tannery).

Size: 0.481 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - opposite Fossview Close residential area.

Local or community value: Yes – the site is used and enjoyed by residents from the relatively new housing development opposite, for whom it is their most accessible area of local green space and 'gateway' to the countryside to the north along the river.

Landscape value Yes - natural/semi-natural area on the west bank of the River Foss with mixed rough grassland and scrub, forming attractive section of river corridor. The site is on the northern boundary of the Strensall Village Conservation Area and is important in facilitating key long distance views, as identified in the conservation area appraisal - "a panoramic view looking north out across open fields is possible from Strensall Bridge and serves as a reminder of the agricultural history of the village."

Historical value: the grade II Listed Strensall Bridge is located at the site's south-west corner, which is important for its setting. The site is also on the northern boundary of the Strensall Village Conservation Area and is important to its setting.

Recreational value: Yes - Centenary Way Public Right of Way runs north-south through the site, identified for Strategic Pedestrian/Cycle Corridor Improvement in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018). A further path links into this from Sheriff Hutton Road, just north of the junction with New Lane.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – area provides mixed scrub/grassland habitat linked to the adjacent river. It also forms part of a key wildlife corridor linking countryside to the north with the City of York to the south.

Summary Assessment/ Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear landscape, wildlife and recreational value and is well-used by local residents. It is also important in relation to the adjacent conservation area and listed Strensall Bridge.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space

### **CF2-2: The Heath**

Location: east of Park Gate, south of Heath Ride.

Size: 3.712 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – surrounded by residential development on all sides.

Local or community value: Yes – extensively used as recreation and dog walking area. It's 'criss-crossing' paths and desire lines is clear evidence of its high level of usage.

Landscape value: Yes – semi-natural landscape created by developer, including features such as small copses and standing stones as well as several footpaths through the site.

Historical value: None known. Formerly the clay pit for Strensall Brickworks.

Recreational value: Yes – provided as open space area in 1990 by developer when planning permission was granted for The Brecks area of Strensall. Identified as an 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018). Regularly used by children, dog walkers and as through-route from bus terminus to residences to the east of the built area of The Brecks.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: acts as sizable wildlife corridor between countryside to the north and Strensall Common to the south. It's growing maturity over the last 30 years increases its inherent value as wildlife habitat.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear recreational and wildlife value as well as forming an attractive and maturing green focus for The Brecks housing area – as originally intended. It is clearly of particular value to the local community.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

### **CF2-3: Foss Bank - Westpit Lane**

Location: east bank of the River Foss between the railway line to the south and Haxby Moor Road to the north; to the west/rear of properties in Westpit Lane, Leyfield Close and other residential roads.

Size: 4.879 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – located to rear of some properties at Westpit Lane (even nos), Creaser Close, Shelley Drive, Adlington Close and Leyfield Close.

Local or community value: Yes – regular use by walkers and dog walkers. Expressions of concern regarding extension of residential gardens into the area are an indication of wider community interest in the site.

Landscape value: Yes – natural/semi-natural area on the east bank of the River Foss, of rough grassland with scattered scrub and more dense areas of tree cover, particularly towards its southern end.

Historical value: the grade II Listed Strensall New Bridge is located in the north-west corner of the site. The Strensall Village Conservation Area extends slightly into the site at the same location.

Recreational value: Yes - regular usage by walkers and dog walkers. Identified as an 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – area provides mixed grassland/scrub habitat linked to the adjacent river. It also forms part of a key wildlife corridor linking countryside to the north with the City of York to the south.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear landscape, wildlife and recreational value and is valued by the local community.

#### **CF2-4: Wild Haven (Ash Walk/Pasture Close)**

Location: to south-west/rear of properties in Oak Tree Close; east of Kirklands, north of end of Pasture Close.

Size: 0.613 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - Surrounded by properties in Kirklands, Ash Walk, Pasture Close and Oak Tree Close.

Local or community value: Yes – enjoyed by local residents for its high amenity value, both passively from their homes and actively as pedestrian through-routers or recreational walkers. Includes a nature trail for both recreational and educational use.

Landscape value: Yes – natural/semi-natural area - uncultivated with many mature trees. Forms highly attractive wooded backcloth to the surrounding residential area.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – includes well-used pathway from Pasture Close to Ash Walk and natural trail for both formal and informal use. Identified as an 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – well-wooded area rich in flora and fauna. Nest boxes provided at several locations. Significant local habitat value within a built-up residential area.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear landscape, wildlife and recreational value and is well-used/valued by the local surrounding community.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-5: Lakeside Gardens**

Location: east of Lakeside Gardens, north of Heath Ride, south of the River Foss.

Size: 0.372 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - surrounded on three sides by residential properties.

Local or community value: Yes – highly attractive feature/focal point of this local neighbourhood. Well-used for informal recreation by residents.

Landscape value: Yes – natural/semi natural lake fringed by mature woodland and grassland, adjacent to the south bank of the River Foss, forming an attractive riverside feature.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – readily accessible from surrounding roads and riverside path/Public Right of Way, via paths and desire lines. Well-used for informal recreation by local residents and recreational river walkers. Identified as an ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – provides valuable wetland, woodland and related habitat, linked to the river. Kingfishers and other wildlife have been seen at this location. It also forms part of a key wildlife corridor along the river, linking countryside to the north with the City of York to the south, and also a secondary corridor south, through The Heath, on to Strensall Common.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear wildlife, landscape and recreational value and is demonstrably special to local residents.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-6: Howard Road** (NB includes former CF2-10 and CF2-27)

Location: north of Howard Road, west of Scott Montcrieff Road, east/rear of residential properties in Humber Drive.

Size 2.429 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties? Yes – to the west, with some also to the south.

Local or community value: Yes – the site is special to local people in providing a variety of formal and informal recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.

Landscape value: Yes – the site is in many ways a visual extension of the distinctive common landscape to the north and east.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – The children’s play area in the north-west corner contains play equipment aimed at children of all ages, including swings and rockers. This area offers significant benefit to local children. The playing field area on the eastern side is ideal for formal and informal ball sports and is valued as one of the few local areas suitable for such use. Football teams in the Neighbourhood area have to travel outside the village on occasion as other village facilities are insufficient to cope with local demand. The more informal areas of the site provide a space for walkers/dog walkers, with desire line walks through the grassed areas. The play area and playing field were identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018) (NB current status unclear given deletion of previously proposed housing allocation on the balance of the site).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – the less intensively managed/mown areas of grassland, scattered scrub and more mature trees around the more formal play area and playing field provide a useful habitat adjunct to the designated Strensall Common to the east and north. The area is ideal for the movement of small animals e.g. hedgehogs. The area offered (at the time of the assessment) a limited variety of food e.g. berries. It is difficult to make a fair assessment of this area of

greenspace as it is suspected that this area has more to offer in terms of wildlife than is visible in October. At other times of the year with the presence of wildflowers, I would expect there to be significant number of bees, butterflies and insects.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear recreational and wildlife value as well as contributing positively to the local landscape. It is a multi-functional open space of special value to the community.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

### **CF2-7: Strensall Bowling Green**

Location: off/west of Park Gate; north/rear of properties on The Village; east/rear of properties on Northfields.

Size: 0.209 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – surrounded on all sides by residential properties in Northfields, Blacklee Close, The Village, The Paddock and Park Gate

Local or community value: Yes – bowling green for a successful bowling club which provides a centre of outdoor activity and companionship. The small clubhouse and several benches for spectators add to the amenities.

Landscape value: Yes – in addition to the well-kept bowling green there are grassed areas on two sides which together with the bowling green provides a green pocket amongst the houses. The site lies adjacent to the northern boundary of the Strensall Railway Conservation Area and contributes to its open setting.

Historical value None known.

Recreational value: Yes – provides an outdoor sport enjoyed by players, families and friends.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: None

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has undoubted recreational and associated community value, as well as contributing something to the local landscape. It is greatly valued by the older community.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

### **CF2-8: Strensall Tigers Sports and Recreation Ground**

Location Playing Field south of the railway line; east of the River Foss; north-west of the end of Langton Court.

Size 1.878 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – to the south (Langton Court) and the east (Durlston Drive).

Local or community value: Yes – considerable community value. An underlease was granted by the parish council to provide a sports ground for Strensall Community Youth and Sports Association. The clubhouse has numerous facilities and rooms are available for hire by community groups

Landscape value: limited to some trees and shrubs around the boundaries.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes - The ground has tennis courts, football pitches and a multi-use games area used for netball etc. There are also plans for an enclosed five a side football pitch. The clubhouse has a kitchen, showers, changing rooms, meeting room and can be hired by other groups. The car park is used during the week, on occasion, for motorcycle training. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: negligible – largely limited to the habitat provided by fringing trees.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has considerable recreational and associated community value. It is demonstrably special to the local community as the prime sports/recreational hub in the Neighbourhood Area.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

### **CF2-9: Robert Wilkinson Playing Field**

Location: north-east of Haxby Moor Road; north-west of West End; south-east of the River Foss.

Size: 1.418 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – some houses on West End back directly onto the site. Others on West End, Haxby Moor Road and Leyfield Close overlook the site across roads.

Local or community value: Yes – the school and its playing fields are an important part of the community and as such are of great value to the community, even though are not directly accessible to/used by community members other than those children attending the school.

Landscape value: Yes – mature trees along the riverside boundary (some within, some without the site) are an attractive feature. The site forms a valuable open space setting for the western end of the Strensall Village Conservation Area, the boundary of which directly abuts it.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes - of significant recreational value to the school, as its playing and sports field. The playing fields occupying the north-east half of the site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018). The remainder of the site is identified as 'Educational Establishment (Including Playing Fields).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – the site forms part of a key wildlife corridor, along the River Foss, linking countryside to the north with the City of York to the south. The site's mature trees – to the north, west and south – provide useful habitat, as does the pond at the site's western extremity.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear recreational, wildlife and landscape value, but it is its recreational value for the area's children that make it of particular community significance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-10: Queen Elizabeth Barracks Sports Ground (NB formerly CF2-11)**

Location: east of Strensall Road; south of Cheshire Avenue; north of properties on Alexandra Road.

Size: 3.079 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - located to north/rear of residential properties on Alexandra Road, with military properties to the north and east.

Local or community value: Yes - limited use due to its secure location but the football pitch has been used by arrangement with the military.

Landscape value: Yes – an easterly extension across Strensall Road of the countryside to the west. Fringing mature trees along all boundaries.

Historical value: has been part of the army facilities since the land was purchased by the MoD by order of the 1884 Strensall Common Act.

Recreational value: Yes - but mainly restricted to use by members of the military, with only limited community use by arrangement. As a playing field, it is valued as one of the few local areas suitable for ball sports use. Football teams in the Neighbourhood Area have to travel outside the village on occasion as other village facilities are insufficient to cope with local demand.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: some infrastructure value as an extension of the countryside to the west.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear recreational and therefore community value as a much-needed playing field suitable for ball sports. It also possesses some landscape and wildlife value.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-11 Strensall Park Playing Fields (NB formerly CF2-13)**

Location: at the heart of the Strensall Park residential area, encircled by Strensall Park (i.e. the road).

Size: 1.504 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - surrounded by residential properties on all but the west side.

Local or community value: Yes – provides an attractive green outlook for residents and a versatile space for play and informal recreational use on local resident's doorsteps.

Landscape value: Yes - large green open space area providing visual amenity for both surrounding residents and users of Strensall Road to the west.

Historical value: - associated with military housing.

Recreational value: Yes - large cut grassed area plus hard-surfaced 'courts' area, in south-east corner, with pitch markings, allowing various recreational activities, including walking, dog walking and ball games. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).



Wildlife or green infrastructure value: some mature trees, particularly in the south of the site and fringing offer some local habitat.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: of great local recreational value to nearby residents, particularly their children. Some related landscape value.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-12: Northfields/The Village 'Green'** (NB formerly CF2-13 + now including former CF2-25 and CF2-30)

Location: North of The Village, east of Northfields and adjacent the village hall and car park.

Size: 1.344 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – faced/bordered by properties on all sides, with the exception of part of the northern boundary which is formed by the planted edges of the village hall car park.

Local or Community Value: Yes - a focal point for the whole village, effectively acting as a village green (although not named or designated as such), hosting both formal village events and providing informal recreational space for a range of activities (see 'Recreational Value' below). Although owned by City of York Council, it is leased to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and therefore maintained for the local community by the parish.

Landscape value: Yes – the site functions as a key green space between the Strensall Village and Strensall Railway Buildings Conservation Areas, abutting the boundaries of both and forming part of the setting of both. It sits at an identified 'gateway' to the Strensall Conservation Area from the east and forms part of a key long distance view east along The Village (ref Strensall Conservation Area Appraisal). Mature trees, particularly to the north, but also intermittently around the other boundaries add to the amenity value.

Historical value: No particular heritage value. The site was first used regularly for recreation in 1970, from which point it was mown regularly. Prior to this it had been in agricultural use, but used occasionally for leisure purposes. A local resident provided the first swings to be installed on site.

Recreational value: Yes – Specifically, it is the location for several events in the village, notably the annual carnival, with an estimated attendance of between 600-1,000 local residents and visitors. Generally, it provides an easily accessible area incorporating 2 separate equipped play areas for both young and older children – in the north-east corner and west of the site respectively - and a relaxing area for families. The north-east play area is fenced and was recently refurbished. The refurbishment replaced a bark chipped surface with turf to reinforce the rural nature of the location. The area around the single football goal is used almost every day by groups of up to 10 mainly youngsters, but often older groups. In good weather, families will gather here to socialise and have picnics where their children, of all ages, can benefit from both the green open space and play equipment. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Limited local value provided by fringing mature trees and shrubs. Otherwise mown amenity grassland.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site has particular recreational value for the local community throughout the year but especially as the site for the village's annual carnival. It also has notable landscape value in relation to two of the area's 3 conservation areas. The fact that it

is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-13: Hallard Way** (NB formerly CF2-15)

Location: south-east side of Hallard Way.

Size: 0.195 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - surrounded by residential properties on Hallard Way, Oak Tree Close, Oak Tree Way and The Willows.

Local or community value: Yes - area of greenspace used for various recreational activities in a residential neighbourhood lacking other local green space facilities.

Landscape value: Yes - greenspace area includes mature trees and recently planted trees.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes - used as recreational area by local residents. The only usable flat green space in this neighbourhood. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: some local value. Recent tree planting done to increase wildlife habitat.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has special value to the local community as a recreational resource in a local area otherwise lacking such space. It represents a small local green 'oasis' and active efforts are being made to increase its value to wildlife through new tree planting.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-14: Pasture Close** (NB formerly CF2-16 and now including former CF2-31)

Location: west of Pasture Close, east of Knapton Close and at the southern end of Kirklands, the space sits at the rear of residential properties on all 3 roads.

Size: 0.354 Ha

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - adjacent to Kirklands and easy access from Pasture Close and Knapton Close. Surrounded by residential properties on all sides.

Local or community value: Yes – provides the only local play area for older children in this residential community. Although owned by City of York Council, it is leased to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and therefore maintained for the local community by the parish.

Landscape value: Yes – provides attractive green open space with mature trees and scrub at the heart of an otherwise residential area.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – contains a variety of items of play equipment for older children throughout the site and is the only such play area serving the local residential community. The equipment has been recently upgraded. Older children also play ball games on the site. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Limited local. Scattered mature trees and scrub provide some locally useful habitat amidst mown amenity grassland.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site has particular recreational value for older local children being the only play area in their residential area. The fact that it is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-15: Land West of Knapton Close (NB formerly CF2-17)**

Location: west of Knapton Close, east of York Road, off/east of the northern end of Newton Way.

Size: 0.100 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - surrounded on all sides by residential properties.

Local or community value: Yes - provides grassed area for use by the local community. Although owned by City of York Council, it is leased to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and therefore maintained for the local community by the parish.

Landscape value: Yes - mature trees along the eastern boundary and hedges to the south surrounding a grassed area make for an attractive local amenity space.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – informal recreational space for local people. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: limited local – mature trees and hedges provide some locally useful habitat.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site has local recreational and amenity space value and is special to the surrounding residents as such. The fact that it is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-16 Foss Bank/Chaldon Close/Woodleigh Close (NB formerly CF2-18)**

Location: east bank of the River Foss, south of the railway line; to the west of Barley Rise, off Chaldon Close and Woodleigh Close.

Size 1.107 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – to the rear/west of properties on Barley Rise, Chaldon Close and Woodleigh Close.

Local or community value: Yes – locally valued as favourite place to walk dogs and to walk generally. Although owned by City of York Council, it is leased to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and therefore maintained for the local community by the parish.

Landscape value: Yes – natural/semi-natural green space with mature trees and scrub fringing the River Foss.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – much-used by walkers and dog walkers. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – area provides mixed scrub/grassland habitat linked to the adjacent river. It also forms part of a key wildlife corridor linking countryside to the north with the City of York to the south. Local observation indicates some evidence of stoats and water voles. There are pipistrelle bats nesting somewhere on the site as they search for food most evenings and nest boxes have been used by small songbirds. There are several mature trees along the site and shelter provided for hedgehogs and other small creatures. There is also overwhelming evidence of moles! Kestrels are regular visitors along the site and a sparrow hawk finds food there.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site is demonstrably special to the local community as a natural, informal recreational area with wildlife interest/value. The fact that it is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-17: West Pit Lane (NB formerly CF2-19)**

Location: At the rear of properties on the west side of Riverside Walk, the north end of Wood Close and south of Westpit Lane, west of the junction with Riverside Walk.

Size: 0.209 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – moreorless surrounded by residential properties on Riverside Walk and Wood Close.

Local or community value: Yes – the space is owned and maintained by the parish council indicating its local value.

Landscape value: Yes - semi natural environment consisting of a large maintained green open space, partially surrounded by a variety of hedgerows and trees.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes - large, flat open space ideal for informal sports and play, easily accessible via Westpit Lane and Wood Close. There is a public right of way through to Wood Close, in daily use by through-routers to the local school. Also well-used by dog walkers. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Limited local - variety of trees and hedgerow partially around the perimeter of the open space.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: Local open space well-used for informal sports and other recreational play, as well as by local dog-walkers and through-routers. The fact that it is owned and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-18: South of Lynwood Close** (NB formerly CF2-20)

Location: Space sits at the rear of and is enclosed by properties on Westpit Lane (to the west), Lynwood Close (to the north) and Middlecroft Drive (to the south).

Size: 0.25 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – enclosed by residential properties on all sides.

Local or community value: Yes – attractive and valued informal recreational/amenity green space. Includes much-used footpaths connecting Lynwood Close, Middlecroft Drive and Westpit Lane. The space is owned and maintained by the parish council indicating its local value.

Landscape value: Yes – attractive natural area consisting of many mature trees and hedgerows with smaller areas of grass that are well maintained/cut short.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: flat green area to the north of the site, well maintained and suitable for limited recreational play e.g. football. Ideal for walkers. Some limited dog walker use. Used as a through-route for access to/from Robert Wilkinson Primary School. The grassed northern part of the site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Local - the area is of benefit to a variety of wildlife. Surrounded by thick mature hedgerow and trees. Ideal for shelter, nesting, movement and food e.g. trees bearing nuts, fruit and berries.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: This area provides a good habitat for local wildlife and has a significant number and variety of food bearing trees. It functions as a valuable and well-used informal recreation area and amenity backdrop to regular through-routers. The fact that it is owned and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-19: Land at York Road/Toby Court** (NB formerly CF2-21)

Location: west of York Road/Toby Court – north of York Road junction with Melcombe Avenue/opposite junction with Kirklands.

Size: 0.187 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - surrounded on three sides by properties on Sherbourne Grove, Toby Court and Melcombe Avenue.

Local or community value: particularly valued for the seasonal colour afforded by annual bulb planting and by older people as a resting place when walking in the village.

Landscape value: mown grass with isolated specimen trees, but also new tree planting. Much enlivened by seasonal bulb planting and valued by locals for the colour and brightness this brings to an otherwise drab neighbourhood.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – although located adjacent to a busy road, the site includes a bench seat which is regularly enjoyed and appreciated by older residents as a resting place en route to/from local village destinations. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Marginal.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has local amenity and leisure value, bringing relief and colour to local residents’ lives.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-20: Hollis Crescent** (formerly CF2-22 + now including former CF2-28)

Location: Enclosed by Hollis Crescent, located to south/rear of properties on Howard Road.

Size: 0.159 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – encircled by residential properties on Hollis Crescent/Howard Road (part).

Local or community value: Yes – informal play and recreational area including formal playground in north-east corner.

Landscape value: Yes – well-maintained ‘neighbourhood green’ with planted trees in 2 corners provides green heart/visual focus to this very local community.

Historical value: associations with military Strensall Camp from circa 1930.

Recreational value: Yes - used as recreational area by local residents, including informal ball games. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Marginal as essentially mown grass with only a few semi-mature trees.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is a clear green visual and recreational focus for the Hollis Crescent/Howard Road local community as well as retaining valued historical associations with the military Strensall Camp.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-21: Strensall Park 'Green'** (NB formerly CF2-23 + now including former CF2-29)

Location: Situated in north-east corner of the Strensall Park residential area.

Size: 0.257 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - Surrounded and overlooked on all sides by residential properties.

Local or community value: Yes - provides green area for use by community. Play area used by families in Strensall Park area and the only locally available play area, the next nearest being at Hollis Crescent, well to the north (ref CF2-21).

Landscape value: Yes – attractive half-moon shaped grassed area with variety of mature perimeter trees, providing a very pleasant outlook for surrounding residents, users and visitors alike.

Historical value: associations with military Strensall Camp since circa 1930.

Recreational value: Yes - recreational area for local residents, with formal children's play area at its centre. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Limited local. Variety of mature trees, coupled with surrounding grass provide useful local habitat for wildlife.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is an attractive visual and recreational focus for local Strensall Park residents, providing the only locally available play area, as well as retaining valued historical associations with the military Strensall Camp.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-22: Littlethorpe Close** (formerly CF2-24 + now including former CF2-26)

Location: north-west of the end of Littlethorpe Close.

Size: 0.276 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - properties to the south, on Littlethorpe Close/Breck Lane and east on Littlethorpe Close.

Local or community value: Yes – valued for its informal play opportunities and formal play area, woodland feel and the local access it affords to wildlife.

Landscape value: Yes – attractive, mature, thick tree belt wraps around the north, west and much of the south of the site, enclosing an area of mown grass, within which is located a small children's play area.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – important informal recreational and play area for local residents. The nearest play area is at Northfields/The Village 'Green' (ref assessment CF2-13). The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – the encircling mature tree belt provides valuable local habitat for wildlife, complementing the adjacent largely rough grassland habitat of The Heath (see

separate assessment CF2-2) to the north. The two together constitute a large area of local green infrastructure connecting north, across Heath Ride, to Lakeside Gardens (see separate assessment CF2-5) with its pond habitat, the River Foss and on into open countryside.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site provides good local woodland habitat which in turn has wider green infrastructure and landscape value. This provides an attractive backdrop to informal recreational and play activities. With its many and varied attributes, the site is greatly valued by the local community.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

### **CF2-23: Northfields Allotments (NB formerly CF2-32)**

Location: south/rear of properties on Terrington Court, north/rear of properties on Northfields and Netherwoods.

Size: 0.519 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - to rear of residential properties on all but its west side.

Local or community value: Yes - fully occupied by 21 plot-holders, with a waiting list of 2. Although owned by City of York Council, it is leased to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and therefore managed for the allotment holders by the parish.

Landscape value: Yes – attractive mature tree belt on south side. More mature trees to west. Site makes a positive contribution to character of this developed area of Strensall. Well-tended with all plots growing flowers, plants or vegetables during season.

Historical value: these allotments have existed for over 60 years so have community history significance.

Recreational value: Yes – provides a valuable opportunity for active recreation for 21 plot-holders, with a further 2 on the waiting list. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – links directly into the River Foss wildlife corridor to the west, bringing wildlife into the residential area.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is of undoubted community value as an active recreational resource and one of only 2 allotment sites in the Neighbourhood Area. The waiting list, though small, bears testament to how much the resource is locally in demand. It is also an attractive feature in the landscape of use to wildlife and a part of the collective memory of the community. The fact that it is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.



**CF2-24: New Lane Allotments** (NB formerly CF2-33)

Location: off the west end of New Lane, north of the River Foss, south of the Country Park Caravan Site.

Size: 0.525 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: residential properties in Fossview Close diagonally adjacent to the south-east; caravans to the north when pitches occupied.

Local or community value: Yes - fully occupied – 20 ploholders plus a beekeeper. There is currently a waiting list of 59 up from circa 20 pre-Pandemic. The secretary has requested that the parish council identify land for further allotments to meet the shortfall. These allotments were provided to the community as a condition of planning approval to compensate for the loss of allotments at The Sidings to development in the early 2000s. Owned by City of York Council and managed on its behalf by York Allotment Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Landscape value: fringed by mature trees and hedges on all sides. Site makes a positive contribution to character of this 'industrialised' area of Strensall. Well-tended with all plots growing flowers, plants or vegetables during season.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – provides a valuable opportunity for active recreation for over 20 ploholders. The site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Marginal.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is of undoubted community value as an active recreational resource and one of only 2 allotment sites in the Neighbourhood Area. The waiting list bears testament to how much the resource is locally in demand. The site's LGS designation would secure its additional recreational benefits to the local community over and above the safeguards to its open status afforded by the existing Green Belt designation.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-25: Strensall and Towthorpe Cemetery** (NB formerly CF2-34)

Location: west side of Sheriff Hutton Road, north of the junction with New Lane.

Size: 0.392 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: No.

Local or community value: Yes - consecrated as a burial ground in 1995. A non-denominational well maintained quiet reflective location owned and maintained by Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council

Landscape value: limited. Mature hedge boundary to the road, hedges to other boundaries with mature tree also on western boundary. Well-maintained grassed area to north of already utilised burial plots.

Historical value: Yes – even though only some 25 years in existence, it serves as a memorial/reminder of members of the local community and as such holds a special place in the collective memory of Strensall.

Recreational value: Yes – as place for quiet contemplation and to remember the local deceased of the village and local area. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: limited to the habitat provided by hedges and mature tree. Some wildlife corridor value by virtue of its very close proximity to the River Foss, i.e. immediately across Sheriff Hutton Road – accentuated by fact it sits in an otherwise bare arable landscape.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The space is local in character and in close proximity to the community it serves. It holds particular local historic and linked recreational significance despite its relatively young age. Given its use and significance in the lives of many residents, it is a demonstrably special space for local people. The site’s LGS designation would secure these benefits to the local community over and above the safeguards to the site’s open status afforded by the existing Green Belt designation.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-26: St Mary the Virgin Churchyard (NB formerly CF2-35)**

Location: north side of Church Lane, between the River Foss to the west and Nos 14-18 Church Lane to the east.

Size: 0.511 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – Nos 14-18 Church Lane to the east and other residential properties on Church Lane opposite.

Local or community value: Yes - the church is a well-used religious facility. The graveyard surrounding the church building is full but not yet closed to burials as a small number of plots are reserved. Cremated remains continue to be interred in the churchyard.

Landscape value: Yes – the churchyard and church are an important part of the Strensall Village Conservation Area. From the churchyard there are long-distance views across open countryside to the west, as identified in the Conservation Appraisal. Also good views to the north. The church and churchyard themselves are identified as the subject of key long distance views from the west and north along West End. There are a number of mature trees of various species along most boundaries and immediately to the north-east of the church.

Historical value: Yes - the church is Grade II listed (12th December 1986) and the graveyard is critical to its setting. The churchyard includes graves of former residents, including war graves.

Recreational value: Yes – as place for quiet contemplation and to remember the local deceased of the village and local area. The site is identified as ‘existing open space’ in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes - managed under the “Grave Yard Conservation Area Appraisal Scheme” with many mature trees. Site links directly into the River Foss wildlife corridor to the west and north.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is of clear landscape, historical and wildlife value. Crucially, it is of great significance to the Strensall community as a place of remembrance. Given its use and cherished place in the lives of many residents, it is a demonstrably special space for local people.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-27: St Wilfrid's Garrison Churchyard** (NB formerly CF2-36)

Location: at the junction of St Wilfrid's Road and Howard Road.

Size: 0.204 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: while there are no properties immediately adjacent, residential properties are located short distances away in all directions – on St Wilfrid's Road to the south, Ox Carr Lane to the west, Howard Road to the north and Hollis Crescent to the east.

Local or community value: the church building was approved as an Asset of Community Value by CYC 17th September 2018 and it is considered that the churchyard forms an integral part of the asset.

Landscape value: Yes – the site is well-treed, bordered by neatly trimmed hedges with well-maintained grassed areas.

Historical value: less than a hundred years old.

Recreational value: none, but the site is identified as 'existing open space' in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018).

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: limited local - numerous trees and hedges attract birds and small animals.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site is considered to be an integral part of St Wilfrid's Church Asset of Community Value registered by CYC. The site is attractive in the local landscape and has some local wildlife value.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-28: Ox Carr Lane/Flaxton Road/Lords Moor Lane Verges** (NB formerly CF2-37)

Location: verges and land on north side of Ox Carr Lane/Flaxton Road and west side of Lord's Moor Lane.

Size: 4.129 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: generally no, except for Ox Carr Lane at south-west extremity of site (properties on Moor La and Oak Tree Close), Flaxton Road/Lords Moor Lane junction and properties opposite on Lords Moor Lane at the site's northern end.

Local or community value: Yes - an unmarked path through the land was upgraded in 2005 and is regularly used by walkers of all ages. Bird and bat boxes have been erected throughout the area. An existing pond on Lords Moor Lane was extended in April 2010. The whole area is rich in flora and

fauna and is valued as a peaceful place with seats provided to view open countryside. Leased by parish council from CYC.

Landscape value: Yes – an extensively wooded roadside strip, forming an attractive amenity for walkers and road users alike.

Historical value: an MoD marker post alongside the path signifies its military origins – it was Ministry of Defence land until 1996.

Recreational value: Yes - although the area is alongside busy highways it is a well-used peaceful area for walkers and naturalists, all the more so since the 2005 path upgrade.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes - rich in flora and fauna, with woodland, grassland, hedgerow and wetland habitats. A section of the site at the Flaxton Road/Moor Lane junction is identified as a candidate SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation), in the Local Plan Publication Draft (February 2018). The site is in effect an extension of Strensall Common and as such contributes to local wildlife infrastructure.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear wildlife and landscape value and is greatly valued by the community as a consequence – its usage/management as demonstrated by the upgraded path, benches, bird and bat boxes bear witness to this fact. The fact that it is leased from City of York Council by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance. The site's LGS designation would secure these benefits to the local community over and above the safeguards to the site's open status afforded by the existing Green Belt designation.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

#### **CF2-29: Newton Way/Knapton Close** (NB formerly CF2-38)

Location: between southern end of Newton Way and southern tip/corner of Knapton Close.

Size: 0.032 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: backed on to by residential properties in Knapton Close (to north and east); Newton Way (to west) and Ox Carr Lane (to the south).

Local or community value: Yes - valued as an attractive path/right of way from Knapton Close to Newton Way. Leased by parish council from CYC.

Landscape value: one or two mature trees, a hedgerow and grass make for a pleasant pedestrian cut-through. Some residents have planted flowers to improve the overgrown look of the area, indicating local care/concern for the site.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: limited to walkers using the footpath which passes through the area.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: limited local habitat.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site is locally valued as a pleasant and convenient pedestrian cut-through between Newton Way and Knapton Close. Resident flower planting indicates local care/interest.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-30: Southfields Road** (NB formerly CF2-39)

Location: Southfields Road, in front of nos 6-18.

Size: 0.073 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – surrounded/overlooked by residential properties on Southfield Road on all sides.

Local or community value: Yes – greatly valued as an open aspect by the elderly residents whose bungalows overlook the site. An important part of the character of the area.

Landscape value: local - amenity grassed area with two mature trees and one newly planted tree. Maintained by Yorkshire Housing Association whose bungalows overlook it from the south.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: limited – freely accessible, but small area surrounded by roads with no path or bench etc..

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: very limited – mown grass and specimen trees as described above.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site provides a pleasant outlook for overlooking residents in the overlooking elderly person's bungalows and for passing motorists/pedestrians.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-31: South of Middlecroft Drive** (NB formerly CF2-40)

Location: south of properties on/accessed off Middlecroft Drive, north of railway line, extending east to footbridge over railway. Opposite Strensall Tigers Recreation Ground across railway to the south.

Size: 0.254 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes - rear of residential properties on Middlecroft Drive, Firbank Close and Adlington Close.

Local or community value: Yes – includes heavily-used and much-valued permissive pathway (see Recreational Value below). Owned and maintained by Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council.

Landscape value: Yes – largely linear site along railway with northern adjunct linking to Middlecroft Drive. Rough grassland with scattered scrub and mature trees. Acts as visual and noise screen for residents from railway.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – includes key footpath link between Middlecroft Drive, River Foss footpaths to the west and over railway footbridge to Durlston Close/residential areas south of railway and Strensall Tigers Recreation Ground. Facilitates important day-to-day and leisure pedestrian access.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes - maintained as semi-natural area to retain the natural feel created by developers. Part of green/wildlife corridor along railway and links to River Foss wildlife corridor with links north to open countryside and south into York.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site has clear recreational and associated community value as an important and attractive pedestrian thoroughfare. It also has landscape and associated wildlife value. The fact that it is leased by the parish council and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-32: Westpit Lane Hedge (NB formerly CF2-41)**

Location: north side of No.20 Westpit Lane.

Size: 0.085 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – Nos. 14 - 18 and 20 Westpit Lane and No.1 Shelly Drive.

Local or community value: as visual amenity for residents and passers-by. Owned and maintained by Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council and valued by the residents because so well-maintained.

Landscape value: Yes – attractive mature hedgerow, extending north-west from Westpit Lane towards the open east bank of the River Foss. Clearly visible from Westpit Lane for half its length, with the other half visible from the riverside footpath.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: None – other than passive amenity when passing it by.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes - thick, high density mature hedgerow and trees. Ideal for shelter, nesting and feeding animals e.g. fruit bearing plants. Also links into River Foss wildlife corridor, which links in turn north to open countryside and south to York city centre.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: this small area is of landscape and visual amenity value to the local community. It also provides ideal habitat for wildlife and nesting birds. The fact that it is owned and managed by the parish council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

**CF2-33: River Foss – South Bank (NB formerly CF2-42)**

Location: extends from the Strensall Bridge/Ings Farm area, north and then east along the river to vicinity of Cowslip Hall.

Size: est. 5.0 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties: Yes – flanked by residential properties on various cul-de-sacs off Heath Ride and Chaucer Lane, and on Terrington Court.

Local or community value: Yes - well used by walkers and dog walkers and connects with Public Right of Way Footpath 17.

Landscape value: Yes – natural/semi-natural riverbank environment of mixed scrub and grassland provides an attractive landscape for both riverside walkers and the large residential area to the south. The southern end of the site – near Ings Farm - abuts the Strensall Village Conservation Area and contributes to its setting. The conservation area appraisal states that “to the east of Strensall Bridge a number of the houses retain their long rear gardens, which adds to sense of immediacy to the surrounding countryside in this part of the area”.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – well-used permissive footpath used by walkers and dog walkers. Allows access to Footpath 17 on the south side of the River Foss from Sheriff Hutton Road as the Public Right of Way (FP17) is severed at Cowslip Hill due to footbridge being washed away and not yet replaced by local authority.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: Yes – important part of River Foss wildlife corridor extending east into open countryside and south to the city of York. Rich habitat for small mammals including otters and water voles and birds of many varieties including kingfishers.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: the site demonstrates landscape, wildlife and recreational value, together making it a key part of the community’s special relationship with the environment of the River Foss.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.