

STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE NDP

REVISED LOCAL GREEN SPACE (LGS) ASSESSMENTS OF AMENITY GREENSPACE SITES

CF2- 14: Amenity Greenspace at Northfields/The Village (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 141)

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

Size: 0.516 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties?: Yes – faced by properties on all sides, with the exception of part of the northern boundary which is formed by the planted edge of the village hall car park and open land to the east of that.

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).

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 adjacent to play equipment (see separate assessment CF2-25) for both young and older children, and a relaxing area for families. 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 adjacent play equipment.

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 council on behalf of the community further emphasises its local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space

CF2- 16: Amenity Greenspace adjacent to Pasture Close (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 150)

Location: West of Pasture Close and at the southern end of Kirklands, the space sits at the rear of residential properties on both and on Knapton Close to the west and south.

Size: 0.216 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. Older children also play ball games on the site.

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 council on behalf of the community further emphasises it's local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space

CF2- 19: Amenity Greenspace Land Off West Pit Lane (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 741)

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.

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 it's local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space

CF2- 20: Amenity Greenspace Off Lynwood Close (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 742)

Location: Space sits at the rear of and is enclosed by properties on Westpit Lane and Lynwood Close and by the footpath between Westpit Lane and Middlecroft Drive, with the rear of Middlecroft Drive properties to the south.

Size: 0.094 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties? Yes – enclosed by residential properties as detailed above.

Local or community value: Yes – includes much-used footpath from Lynwood Close to Middlecroft Drive. The space is owned and maintained by the parish council indicating its local value.

Landscape value: Yes – attractive natural area consisting of mature trees and hedgerows with the exception of a number of small areas of grass that are well maintained/cut short.

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: some small flat green areas, 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.

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 it's local community importance.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

CF2- 21: Amenity Greenspace Off York Road (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 743)

Location: west of York Road – north of 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.

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- 22: Amenity Greenspace at Hollis Crescent (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 747)

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

Size: 0.131 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 associated with 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: Yes - associations with military Strensall Camp from circa 1930.

Recreational value: Yes - used as recreational area by local residents, including informal ball games.

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- 23: Amenity Greenspace at Strensall Park (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 753)

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

Size: 0.193 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties? Yes - Surrounded on all sides by residential properties.

Local or community value: Yes - provides green area for use by community.

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: Yes - associations with military Strensall Camp since circa 1930.

Recreational value: Yes - used as recreational area by local residents.

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 as well as retaining valued historical associations with the military Strensall Camp.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

CF2- 24: Amenity Greenspace off Littlethorpe Close (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 805)

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

Size: 0.269 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 associated formal play area – CF2-26), 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 (NB see separate assessment CF2-26).

Historical value: None known.

Recreational value: Yes – important informal recreational area for local residents, allied to CF2-26.

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 to the north. The two together constitute a large area of local green infrastructure connecting north, across Heath Ride, to the proposed LGS at 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 play activities.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.

CF2- 29: Children's Play Area in Strensall Park Amenity Greenspace (CoYC Local Plan Evidence Identity 804)

Location: Situated more or less centrally within the Strensall Park AGS (see separate assessment for site CF2-23) in north-east corner of the Strensall Park residential area.

Size: 0.064 Ha.

Adjacent to existing properties?: Yes – surrounded and overlooked on all sides by residential properties.

Local or community value: Yes – 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 CF2-28).

Landscape value: No.

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

Recreational value: Yes – good range of play equipment provided and only area locally available to the Strensall Park children.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value: No.

Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation: The site is a key local play resource for the Strensall Park local community in an area with no other easily accessible play facility. It also has valued historical associations with the military Strensall Camp.

Recommendation: Designate as Local Green Space.