

## **STRENSALL**

### **Conservation Area No.23 (21.90ha)**

#### **Introduction**

Strensall Conservation Area was originally designated in 1979, and included The Village (and Main Street) and Church Lane which make up the linear street character of the historic village. In November 2001 following public consultation the Conservation Area was extended to the north and north-west from Bone Dike (to the rear of Netherwood) including Strensall Bridge and the riverside pastureland and paddocks to Strensall New Bridge, both these bridges are Listed structures, and to the west following West End to include No.34 and then to the south which is a mixture of Edwardian properties and more recent housing as far as No. 25 Princess Road. On 24 March 2011 following public consultation a Conservation Area Character Appraisal was approved and the Conservation Area was extended to include housing to the north of Southfields Road (formerly Back Lane) to define the rear boundaries of the properties along Main Street, some properties associated with the railway along Princess Road and Moor Lane, and the former towpath north of the River Foss between Strensall New Bridge and Strensall Bridge.

#### **History**

The name Strensall may have originated from "Streonaeshalch". "Streona", an ancient personal name and "halch" being Anglo Saxon for a corner or nook of land. At The Domesday Survey (1066) Strensall was listed as being among the estates of the Archbishop of York, Prebendaries of Strensall are recorded from the 12<sup>th</sup> Century onwards. A typical medieval pattern developed with the narrow fronted plots of land extending back from the street frontage. Interestingly, Strensall Common remained an open common, after other such areas were enclosed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Subsequently its acquisition as a military training ground in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century was, of course, to influence the future of the Strensall area. Strensall remained basically an agricultural village until well into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, though it also had a brick and tile works, and the Tannery.

#### **Important Buildings**

St Mary's Church (1865-6) was designed by JB and W Atkinson and built in sandstone and roofed in Westmoreland slate. The Manor House Farmhouse is built upon an ancient moated site; the present building being late 17<sup>th</sup> Century in origin, substantially altered in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and 20<sup>th</sup> Century. These buildings and the 18<sup>th</sup> Century house of 59 The Village and 3 Church Lane are listed. The Methodist Church of 1895 was built upon the site of the village pinfold.

#### **Character**

Strensall is a typical linear street village. Indeed, before the narrow lane (Duck Lane) was widened to create the main entry from York, Church Lane and The Village would have looked more like one continuous street than they do today.

The Village has an attractive and informal mixture of well proportioned 18<sup>th</sup> Century and 19<sup>th</sup> Century detached houses and vernacular cottages. A sense of unity arises from their shared scale, height (2 storey) and use of traditional materials – mostly pinkish-brown brickwork with pantile or Welsh slate roofing. Buildings are positioned at slightly varying distances and angles to the street frontage, some gable end on to the street and most traditionally with small fronted gardens enclosed by walls, railings or hedges.

The east section of the Village is rather more intimate because the street curves and undulates gently, with subtle variations in carriageway width and some buildings huddling closer to the street frontage. Trees and hedges add to the feeling of enclosure and 'protection', with St Mary's Church spire beckoning ahead. West of Sherriff Hutton Road, The Village is more formal and straight, though building frontages are still grouped informally. Unfortunately several open forecourts have been created along this section, together with unsympathetic elevation alterations and some recent infill of neutral character. However, the street maintains a sense of continuity between the areas of more traditional village character.

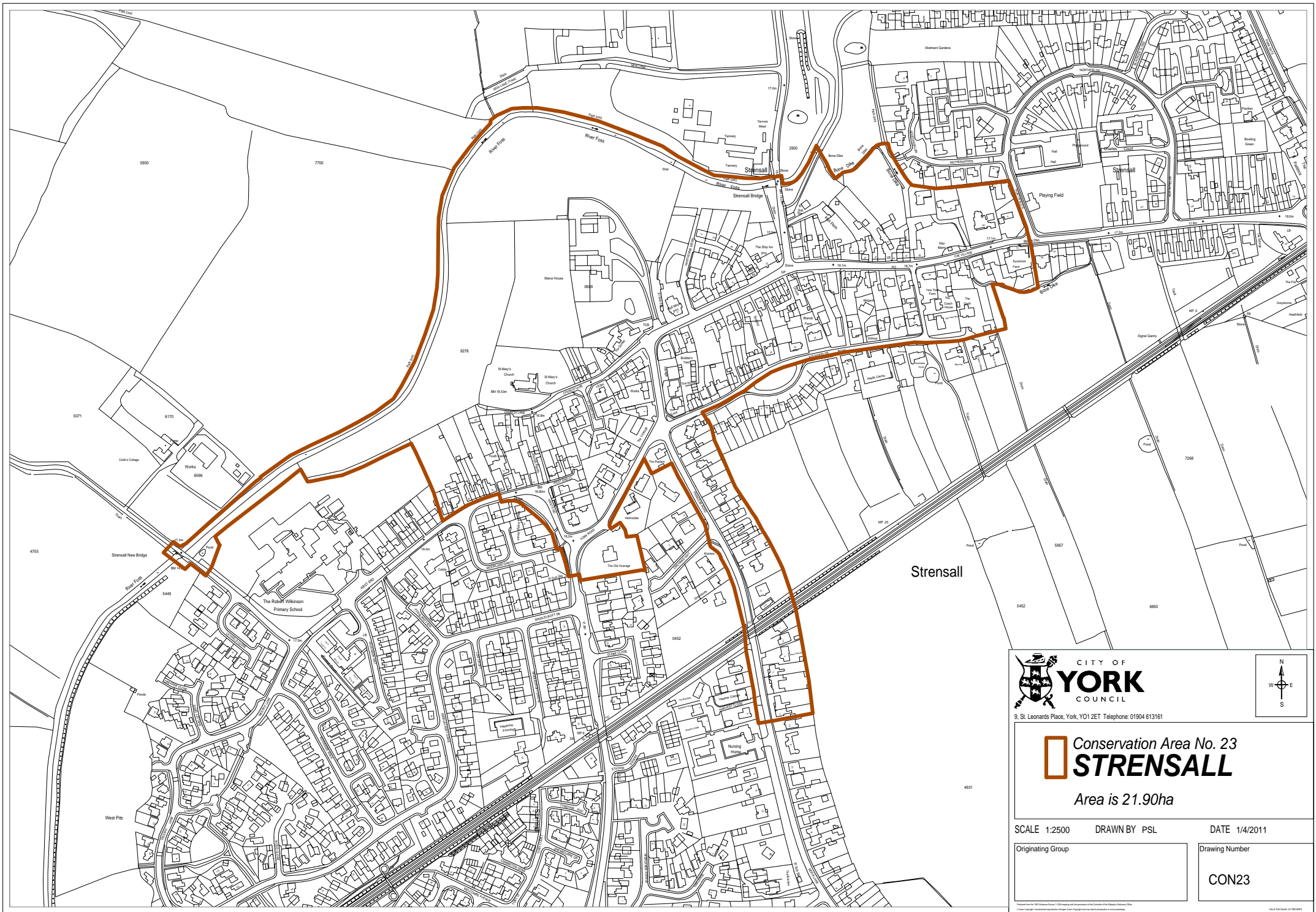
Many traditional side lanes and yards survive along the Village, a legacy of the medieval street pattern. Adjoining the River Foss, Strensall has retained its traditional outer edge: an interesting haphazard arrangement of boundary walls, outbuildings and small irregularly-shaped fields.

The line of Church Lane is important historically, though 'suburbanisation' of its character has resulted from inappropriate infill development. The redeeming features of the sudden view of open landscape beyond St Mary's Churchyard trees, the contrast of the small scale enclaves of buildings going through to Church View, retain a valuable rural quality. Trees are also important to the setting of The Manor House.

The Main elements of the character and appearance of the are ;

- (1) The linear street village character, arising from the combination of buildings, front boundaries, trees and the line of the street.


(2) The survival, in places , of the traditional outer edges of the village form, its side lanes with vernacular farm buildings, and the relationship with the open countryside at St Mary's Churchyard.





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Area is 21.90ha

SCALE 1:2500	DRAWN BY PSL	DATE 1/4/2011
Originating Group	Drawing Number	<b>CON23</b>