

Aberford Road (south side), Oak Road, Oak Place, Oak Drive, Oak Ave, Oak Crescent, Oak Royd ,Oak Grove, Church Lane (north side), Pinfold Lane, Brunswick Gardens and Fields, Wakefield Road, Station Close, Marlowe Court, Church Approach, Bar Lane, Station Court, Saxton Court, White Rose Ave, White Rose Way, Bar Mount, Meadow Road, ,Montague Cres, Sturton Ave.

***Character Assessment Area 6: Moor Garforth***



**Area 6**: Bounded on the north by A642 Aberford Road from Oak Road to Sturton Lane, on the east by Firthfields, on the south by the railway line, Bar Lane and Church Lane and on the west by Oak Road.

**Sturton Avenue, The Crescent/Oval**

This group of dwellings was built circa 1922 and was originally social housing rented from the Council. For the time, the standard of accommodation was high and (relatively) affordable. The Crescent is a mixture of semi-detached houses, terraced houses and semi-detached bungalows, all with bathrooms, indoor toilets and a garden. There are some differences in the design of the houses but all are of red brick with red or grey tiled roofs. The front gardens have walls, fences or hedges. The dwellings in Sturton Avenue are all bungalows and have been substantially up-dated with new roofs, doors and windows. All the front gardens are walled the same as each other and some have the addition of a hedge. The roads in The Crescent and Sturton Avenue are wide, tarmacked, and have a wide footpath on either side.

**Bar Lane**

Bar Lane is an ancient road, was part of the link between the two Turnpike Roads passing through Garforth and still carries a heavy flow of traffic between Selby Road and Aberford Road, as well as serving all the local estates. The name is due to its association with the Toll Bar across Aberford Road in days gone by. The road runs uphill to the single-lane bridge over the Leeds/Selby Railway and then on to join Ninelands Lane and Church Lane. It is flanked on either side by semi-detached houses and bungalows of 1970 style, red brick with grey roofs. The houses have bay windows up and down. Garages are detached and the gardens have low walls. Approaching the bridge the gardens on the left have high hedges. Apart from over the bridge, the road is wide enough for two cars and has a footpath either side. Traffic over the bridge is not controlled, drivers having to use care and rely on the courtesy of other users. Coming off Bar Lane are several side-roads which form parts of later developments.

**White Rose Way, Avenue and Mead**

This group of roads, on the west of Bar Lane, form a small estate of circa 1980 style houses of various types. There are semi-detached houses of red and buff brick with bay windows on the ground floor and buff brick detached houses with dormer windows upstairs and bay windows downstairs**. White Rose Mead** is a cul-de-sac with 5 blocks of semi-detached chalet-type houses, having dormer windows. Garages are detached, some sited at the front but set well back with a long driveway. The front gardens are well-established with trees and shrubs and most have low grey walls. At the entrance to **White Rose Way** there are 4 shops with a spacious area for parking.

**Montague Crescent**

On the east of Bar Lane, this is a long road that is straight at first before adopting the crescent shape suggested by its name. Along the straight are semi-detached houses of red brick, red or grey tiled roofs, bay windows up and down and with canopied front doors. Semi-detached bungalows also, of red brick, with fronts which are stone-faced over the bottom half and rendered white above, form groups among the houses. At the end of the straight section, the road crosses Meadow Road and begins to form the crescent curving round to meet Meadow Road once more. Along the crescent the style changes to become various chalet-type houses with dormer windows and of red brick with grey tiled roofs. The bungalow style also changes to red brick fronts. Coming off the crescent is a cul-de-sac called **Montague Place** which is a group of chalet-type houses with dormer windows. Eight of the houses are semi-detached and two are detached.

**Bar Mount**

Just before the railway bridge, Bar Mount is a turning off Bar Lane. It is a very short street with, on the left, 2 semi-detached houses with bay windows up and down and, on the right, 2 chalet-type houses with dormer windows. All are in red brick and have large front gardens with low walls, trees and shrubs. The road leads into Montague Crescent.

**Meadow Road**

A short distance down Montague Crescent after the junction with Bar Mount there is a triangular grassed area around which a junction with Meadow Road is formed. Meadow Road leads off due east and at first, on both sides, has semi-detached chalet-type houses with dormer windows. Later, This changes and the southern side includes some semi-detached bungalows. All are of a circa 1980 style, similar to those in Montague Crescent. Part way down Meadow Road, on the south side, is **The Garth**, a cul-de-sac of 8 dwellings, 6 being semi-detached houses and 2 being detached. All are chalet-type with dormer windows, similar to those in Meadow Road. Much further to the east on the opposite side is a drive-way which is blocked by 2 sets of bollards. This is a way for pedestrians to pass into Firthfields and was once the end of Meadow Way. Now, there is a sharp bend and the road continues with a much later, circa 2002, development of houses of quite a different character. These houses are all detached and of various designs, each of a striking character compared with others on the estate. They are large, 2/3 or 4/5 bedroomed, of mixed light and dark red brick, some with gable windows, others with long sloping roofs. The window- and door-frames are brown. Garages are integral and at the front of the houses. Front gardens are large, with lawns and car space. The street is well provided with trees and shrubs throughout. At the new end of the road is **James Close**, an even more recent development of 9 detached 3/4 bedroomed houses, all of the same design, set around a fully-paved area with mature trees and shrubs. A footpath leads off the complex to Inverness Road, an open green space, and to East Garforth Station.

**Aberford Road**

This road is the northern boundary of the area and provides links to the various groups of houses. From the entrance to Sturton Lane in the east there are semi-detached 2-storey houses of a 1930s style and at the entrance to The Crescent are a general store and café and a fish and chip shop with a parking area and a bus shelter nearby. The road continues with more houses of the same type but with long front gardens. The road has wide grassed verges and tall hedges obscure the houses from view until approaching Bar Lane. After Bar Lane, the high hedge continues and behind it are two large properties standing in their own grounds with separate entrances onto Aberford Road. There follows the entrance to **Saxon Court**, a circa 2010 development of 11 large 4/5 bedroom detached houses of red and buff brick with grey tiled roofs and bay windows on the ground floor. The designs are all individual, some with integral garages, others with detached garages, car ports, car spaces, short and long driveways. Some have half-gabled windows as a decorative feature. The entrance is walled on both sides and paved with nominal footpaths. There are grassed areas, trees and shrubs throughout the development which is altogether an attractive cul-de-sac. A short distance further on is **Station Close**, another very recent development but of a different character. There are 9 semi-detached houses, arranged in 6 blocks, one block being separate and the others joined in an irregular fashion. The houses are 3-, 4- and 5-bedroomed, 2-storey, of red brick with parts rendered white and with multi-paned windows. The area is spacious and provided with trees, shrubs and inter-connecting pathways.

Aberford Road continues, hedged on both sides, rising slightly and then makes an ‘S’ bend over the railway bridge. A tubular metal fence separates it from Station Road, which runs parallel for some distance and then merges over a long junction.

To the south at this point stands **St Benedict’s R.C. Church**, Church Hall and School. The complex is fronted by a large car park. This is the third church to be erected on this site. The first building blew down in 1954, one week before opening; the replacement building was declared unsafe and demolished in 1994 and the present church was opened in 1988. The next building on the south is **The Lord Gascoigne**, a public house/restaurant. The previous name of this pub was The Gascoigne Arms; although there were clearly pretentions, there never was a Lord Gascoigne. On the left, facing the entrance to Oak Road, is the **Diamond Jubilee Garden** created in 2012 and maintained by Garforth in Bloom. It is an attractive stoned-paved area with trees, shrubs and floral beds and a decorative metal arch, together with metal seating. Beyond the Oak Road entrance is **The Miners**, another public house which existed under various names. It was originally the Black Bull, then the Colliers Arm, the Jolly Collier and, until recently, The Miners’ Arms. Further on is a Victorian building with sash windows and decorative brackets under the eaves. It has now been painted white and given a shop front and side entrance to become a business premises. This is followed by a large 3-storey modern red-brick apartment block which extends to the corner with Main Street. The building is fronted by a low wall topped with railings.

**The Oak Estate**

In the 1930s, it was decided to build an estate of social housing; that is houses owned by the local authority and offered for rent at affordable rates. These houses can be seen in **Oak Road, Oak Avenue, Oak Drive, Oak Place, Oak Royd, Oak Crescent and Oak Grove** and are 2/3 bedroom 2-storey houses in red brick. Some of the houses have a bay window downstairs and many have been improved by the addition of a porch or replacement windows and doors and roofs. At the beginning of Oak Road are some bungalows which were included in the original development.

**Station Fields** is not a through road but contains a barrier separating the southern section from the northern part; pedestrian access is possible. Within the northern section are semi-detached houses of a similar design but of later construction. On the eastern side there is also a group of 2/3 bedroom terraced houses in 3 blocks of 4 and 1 block of 2. Their construction is red brick with the top half of the front tiled with light grey tiles. Terraced houses of a similar style and construction are to be found in **Marlowe Court,** a cul-de-sac on the eastern side**,** but these are of buff brick with red or grey tiled fronts. On the western side is St. Benedict’s Primary School, which is separated from the road by a footpath and a fence of metal railings that continues round the corner along Oak Drive. The school buildings, which are single-storey, are set back from the road and stand surrounded by a grassed area with many large trees and a car park. Behind the school is a large surfaced playground. Along the road, after the school, are 2 detached houses of different design, one similar to the 1960 houses on the Wimpy Estate and the other with a large central gabled front porch. Both have large grassed front gardens. These are followed by the entrance to **Station Close**, a cul-de-sac of 12 semi-detached 2-storey houses of 1980 style in red brick. Some of the houses have a bay window to the ground floor and some are arranged in a semi-circle around a turning area at the end of the road. Opposite Station Close is an entrance to an un-named drive which leads to the rear of the terraced houses and gives access to 36 garages arranged in 2 blocks. Station Fields continues with semi-detached houses on the west and grass, trees and a hedge on the east, screening the station car park, towards Garforth Station, at which point it bends sharply to the west and becomes **Station Road.** On the southern side of Station Road are 4 semi-detached houses, like those in Station Fields, and then a large open space with grass, part of the St. Benedict’s complex. This space is separated from the road by a hedge with trees. The other side of the road is bounded by a high retaining stone wall alongside which parking is allowed.

**Church Approach**

On the south side of the area, coming off Church Lane, is a group of dwellings entered via Church Approach. At first the road has semi-detached bungalows on both sides. They appear to be 1950s style or even earlier, with medium-size front gardens and wooden picket fences. The dwellings are of buff brick and some have front porches of an unusual design. At the junction with Church Place and Church Square, the road bends and has blocks of terraced houses on both sides. The houses are 2-storey, 3-bedroom and are in blocks of 6, 5 or 3, of buff brick with some white rendering; the window arrangement is unusual. In front of each pair of houses is a small utility building. The garages are detached and are to be found in rows at the ends of the terraces.

**Church Square and Church Place**

These two cul-de-sacs peel off from Church Approach and contain similar dwellings. Church Square is all houses, 2 pairs of semi-detached, a terrace of 6 and another 2 pairs of semi-detached; all are 2-storey, 3-bedroom and of buff brick. The garages are remote in a row at the end of the cul-de-sac. Church Place has 4 semi-detached bungalows similar to those at the entrance to Church Approach. There follows two blocks of terraced houses, 8 houses in all, of the same type as in the Square and Approach. The houses look across a grassed square towards the backs of houses in Church Square. The garages are also remote and are to be found in 2 rows at the entrance to Church Place. A number of dwellings in this development cannot be reached with a vehicle.

**Pinfold Lane and Brunswick Gardens**

Pinfold Lane is old-established. It is shown on an 1890 map as an un-named lane leading to the pinfold, now the end of Oak Royd. Today it is a narrow road, coming off Church Lane, and with a high hedge on one side separating it from the Cricket Ground. On the other side is a mixture of semi-detached houses, detached and semi-detached bungalows, all of red brick and 1930s style. The gardens are mature with walls fences and hedges. There are a number of well-established trees. On each side of the road is a narrow footpath. Towards its end the lane has a double bend and then finishes at a barrier of bollards, allowing access, for pedestrians but not vehicles, to Oak Royd and the Oak Estate. At this point there is also a footpath leading between the Cricket Ground fence and a high hedge to Fidler Close. Part-way into Pinfold Lane, a road leads off to the left. This is **Brunswick Gardens**, a circa 1930s development of some 30 dwellings, including 3-4 bedroom 2-storey semi-detached houses of red brick with bay windows up and down. There are tiles on the front door canopies and between the upper and lower bay windows. There are also large semi-detached bungalows and 1 detached bungalow with a distinctive stone chimney. The road turns on itself in a sweeping curve and finishes in a semi-circle of semi-detached houses and 1 detached house. All the dwellings have well-kept mature gardens with low walls, hedges and shrubs. The road is wider than Pinfold Lane with a wide footpath on both sides. The lamp-posts are of tall modern design and there are several telegraph poles which are taller than the lamp-posts

**Topography and Appearance**

In general the area slopes significantly from east to west and from north to south but there are exceptions; for example, Bar Lane rises as it runs to the south to travel over the railway. This area has a great variety of styles and types of construction to be found in the groups of dwellings that make up the different settlements that have been developed over the years. Although red brick predominates, the use of other materials can be seen in both older developments such as Church Approach and in recent complexes such as Saxon Court. Front gardens usually have low walls and/or hedges but in The Crescent and in Church Approach some still retain the original wooden picket fences. The area is almost completely residential but there are some important non-residential buildings which serve the whole community.

**Amenities**

**St. Benedict’s R.C. Church and Hall**

**St. Benedict’s Junior School**

**Garforth Railway Station**

**Garforth Cricket Club Cricket Ground**

**The Miners Public House/Restaurant**

**The Lord Gascoigne Public House/Restaurant**

**Fish and Chip Shop, Aberford Road opposite Ash Lane**

**Café and Shop, Aberford Road opposite Ash Lane**

**4 Shops and Parking Area, White Rose Way**

**Bus Routes :- Aberford Road, 1 Bus Shelter and 1 Bus Stop westward, 2 Bus Stops eastward**

 **Church Lane, 2 Bus Shelters and 1 Bus Stop westward, 3 Bus Stops eastward**