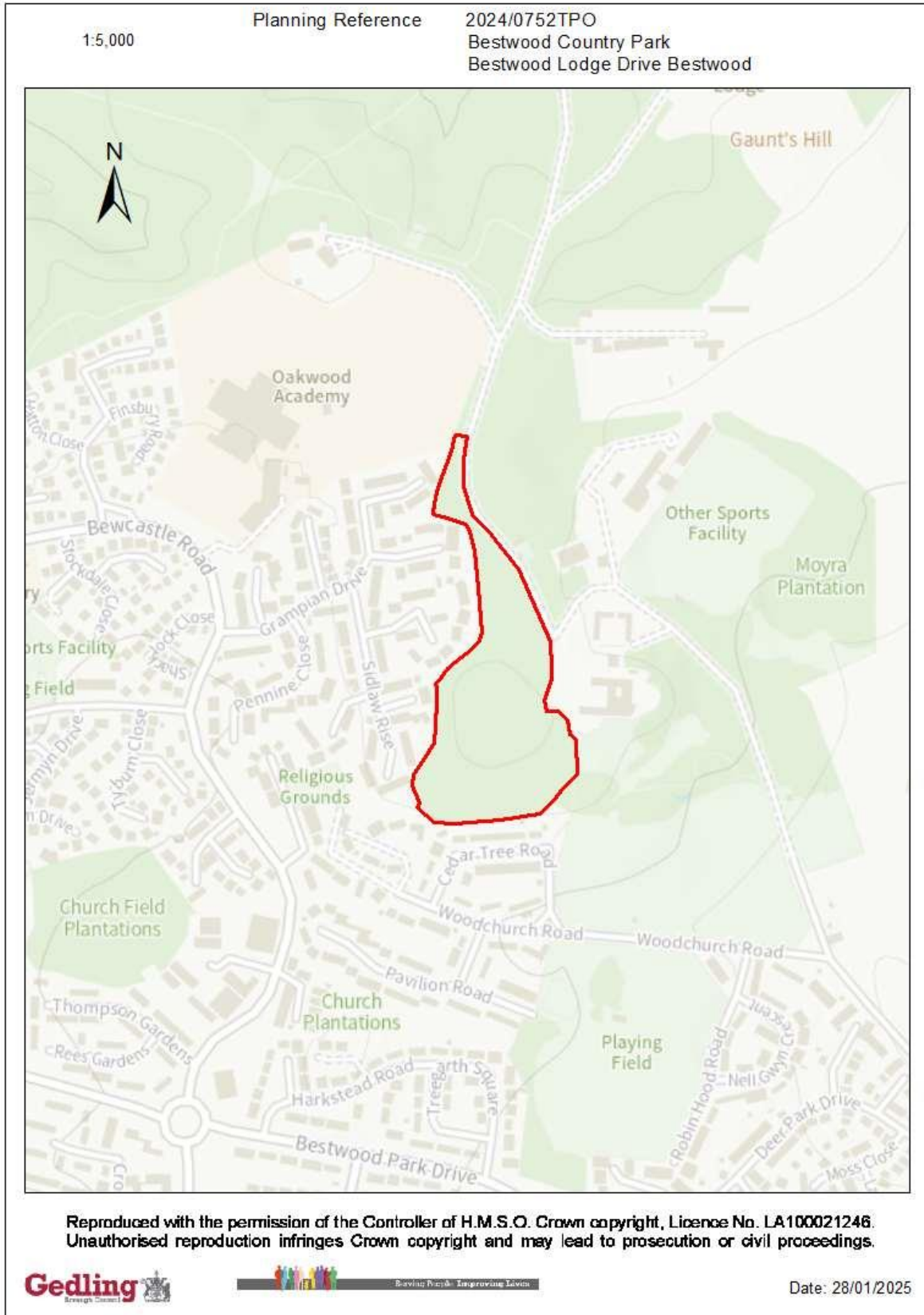




Planning Report for 2024/0752TPO



Report to Planning Committee

Application Number:	2024/0752TPO
Location:	Bestwood Country Park, Bestwood Lodge Drive, Bestwood, Nottinghamshire.
Proposal:	Removal of 14 Sycamore trees (G1)- Remove trees due to poor structural condition and damage caused by squirrels. Removal of trees will benefit adjacent trees within the woodland.
Applicant:	Mr Terry Ball – Gedling Borough Council
Agent:	
Case Officer:	Joe Davies

This application has been referred to Planning Committee to accord with the Constitution as the applicant is Gedling Borough Council and it is on land under the control of Gedling Borough Council

1.0 Site Description

1.1 This application relates to 14 sycamore trees, which are protected by the Group Tree Preservation Order 00048 and dates from 2004.

2.0 Relevant Planning History

2.1 None relevant,

3.0 Proposed Development

3.1 The removal of 14 sycamore trees due to squirrel damage.

4.0 Consultations

4.1 Forestry Officer (Gedling Borough Council) – Trees were in poor structural condition due to squirrel damage within the crown. Such damage may increase the likelihood of branch failure. Works to remove these trees will benefit adjacent trees set further back within the woodland. On undertaking any works, it is recommended these are in accordance with BS3998: 2010 Recommendations for Tree Work. It is expected that all vegetation control is carried out in accordance with best arboricultural practice and care taken not contravene the provisions of legislation protecting plants and wildlife.

4.2 Neighbouring Residents were notified – No comments received.

5.0 Planning Considerations

5.1 The main planning consideration for this application is to consider whether the proposed works are appropriate and whether they would have an adverse effect on the visual amenity of the application site and surrounding locality.

5.2 In accordance with the Forestry Officers comments, the works are considered to be acceptable in that removal of the trees would allow adjacent trees to grow and the trees are at risk of failure given damage to them. Given that removing the trees will allow existing trees to grow, it is not considered necessary to replace the trees that are being removed.

5.3 Having regard to the above, it is recommended that conditional permission be granted.

Recommendation Grant permission subject to the following conditions: -

Conditions

- 1 The works must be carried out within 2 years beginning of the date of this permission.
- 2 The works are to be carried out in accordance with the submitted Site Plan and Application Form received: 18/10/2024
- 3 All works are carried out in accordance with BS 3998 2010 and by good arboriculture practice.

Reasons

- 1 In order to comply with Section 17 2(d) of Part 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 2 For the avoidance of doubt and to define the terms of this permission.
- 3 In the interests of safety and good tree husbandry.

Notes to Applicant

When considering carrying out any work to trees it is important to consider the provisions made in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Conservation (natural habitats) Regulations 1994 and the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000, which mean it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take a bat, Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection by a bat, Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection, damage, destroy or block access to the resting place of any bat, Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take a wild bird, Intentionally or recklessly take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird when it is in use or being built, Intentionally or

recklessly take, damage or destroy the egg of any wild bird. These points outline the main parts of the above legislation. If you are unsure about these issues, it would be advisable to contact an ecological consultant before undertaking any tree work operations.

Planning Statement - The Borough Council has worked positively and proactively with the applicant in accordance with paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019).