



DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

9 December 2008

REPORT OF HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT & DELIVERY

SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 48 of 2008 AT FORMER BEECHDALE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, REMINGTON ROAD, WALSALL.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the authority to make Tree Preservation Order No 48 of 2008.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Authorise the making of Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 48 of 2008. A plan showing the proposed Tree Preservation Order is attached to this report.
- (ii) Support the reason for making the Tree Preservation Order set out in paragraph 2 of the detailed report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Within budget. In general, new Tree Preservation Orders generate additional applications for consent and increase officers' workload.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Within Council policy – YES

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The owners and future owners of this site will be required to apply for Council permission if they wish to fell or prune any tree protected by the Tree Preservation Order. Failure to do this renders anyone carrying out unauthorised works to trees liable to criminal proceedings.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

NOT APPLICABLE

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The management of Walsall's tree cover through the administration of the Tree Preservation Order system has positive implications in protecting trees for their visual and environmental benefits. Removal of protected trees is often necessary because trees have a finite lifespan and may also cause nuisance or damage. In these instances the Council has to decide whether the removal of protected trees is justified. In the event that felling a tree is permitted, the Council can secure replacement planting to maintain tree cover.

8. **WARD(S) AFFECTED**

The proposed Tree Preservation Order 48 of 2008 is located within the Birchills Leamore Ward.

9. **CONSULTEES**

Owners and near neighbours will be sent copies of the Tree Preservation Order and invited to make representations to the Council in both opposition and support of this Tree Preservation Order. Any responses will be described within the future report for the confirmation of this order.

10. **CONTACT OFFICER**

Cameron Gibson - Extension: 2453

11. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

N/A

Simon Tranter
HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT & DELIVERY

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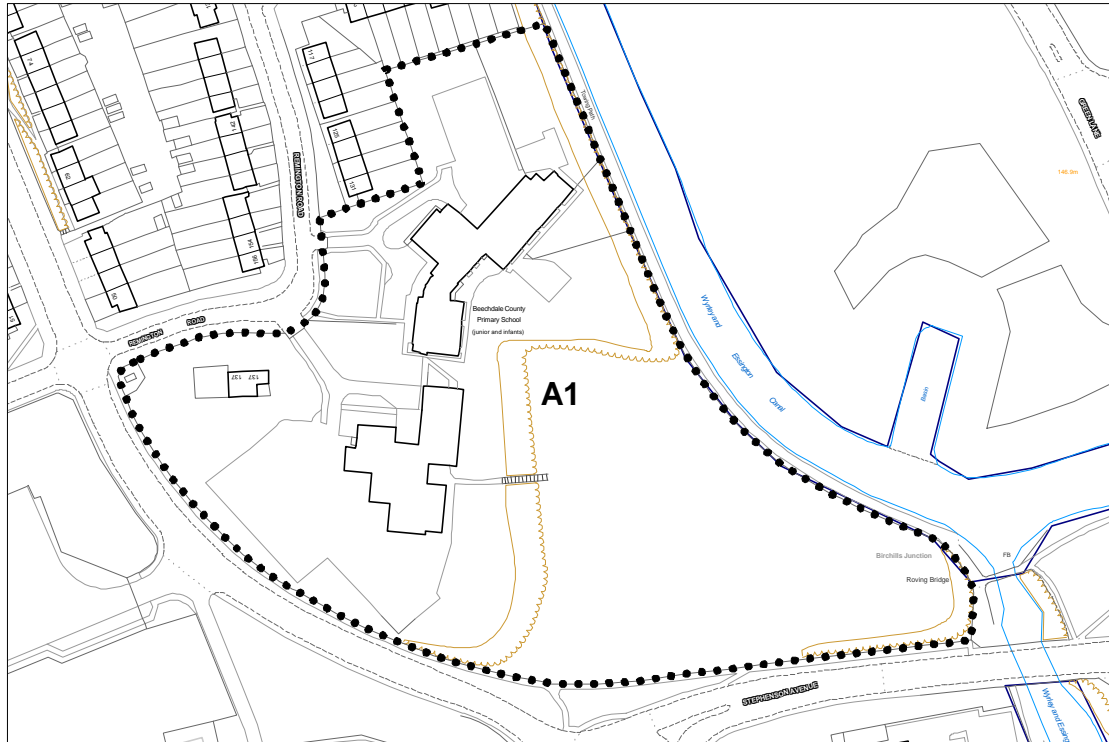
SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 48 OF 2008 AT FORMER BEECHDALE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, REMINGTON ROAD, WALSALL.

REPORT DETAIL.

1. The trees, the subject of this proposed Order, are situated on land that once was Beechdale County Primary School. The school has since been demolished, leaving a barren site, bar the trees. The site is intended for development although no formal application has been received in this respect to date. The TPO will ensure a significant level of amenity be retained in the locality and provide a sufficient level of screening to future development from neighbouring uses. It will also ensure that trees are not lost prior to any planning application being received.
2. The trees selected for continued protection under TPO 48 of 2008 are protected for the following reasons:
 - *They form a prominent landscape feature in the local area and will continue to contribute to landscape quality in the future.*
 - *They add to the amenity and visual diversity of the immediate area.*
 - *They are potentially at risk from future development and making a Tree Preservation Order will discourage the premature removal of important trees.*
 - *The Council's Unitary Development Plan identifies policies for protection of the trees and green spaces.*
3. The trees in question are worthy of protection for their contribution to the local landscape, and are a component part of the quality of the local landscape. They will, in the future, also provide a mature visual amenity feature that will add quality directly to the local area along with other trees. It is therefore considered expedient in the interests of the long-term amenity of the area to ensure the continued retention of the trees by making TPO 48 of 2008.



TPO 48 of 2008, Former Beechdale County Primary School, Walsall



Not to Scale Date 21 November 2008 Centre 400086E 300143N Cameron Gibson

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