

APPLICATION NO PA/2014/1024

APPLICANT Mrs C Wallace

DEVELOPMENT Application to remove a sycamore tree identified as T178 in the Lincoln Gardens No 1 1989 Tree Preservation Order

LOCATION 21 Revesby Avenue, Scunthorpe

PARISH SCUNTHORPE

WARD Kingsway and Lincoln Gardens

CASE OFFICER Andrea Brocklebank

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION Refuse consent

REASONS FOR REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE Third party request to address the committee

POLICIES

North Lincolnshire Local Plan: Policy LC12

CONSULTATIONS

Highways: No objections subject to informative HW2.

PUBLICITY

Neighbouring properties have been notified and a site notice posted. The neighbour at 19 Revesby Avenue supports the removal of the tree.

ASSESSMENT

The tree is T178 of the Lincoln Gardens No 1 Order 1989.

The applicant has requested that this matter be discussed at planning committee.

She wishes to fell the tree because she is concerned that the tree is very large, may fail or lose branches in high winds or by lightning, that it may cause damage to property, that it would damage any materials used for a drive, bird droppings and honeydew from the tree.

The tree is a mature tree that is in good condition, with no poor pruning having been undertaken and has high visual amenity in the street scene. It is a well-proportioned tree with a good open habit and has no signs of disease or decay. There is no dead wood visible within the canopy.

Using Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) (the adopted method the council uses to determine the risk of failure in trees) the tree is considered to have an extremely low risk with regard to failure of parts or the whole of the tree.

There is no evidence or information given to suggest roots are causing any damage and this is not a known area of risk for subsidence.

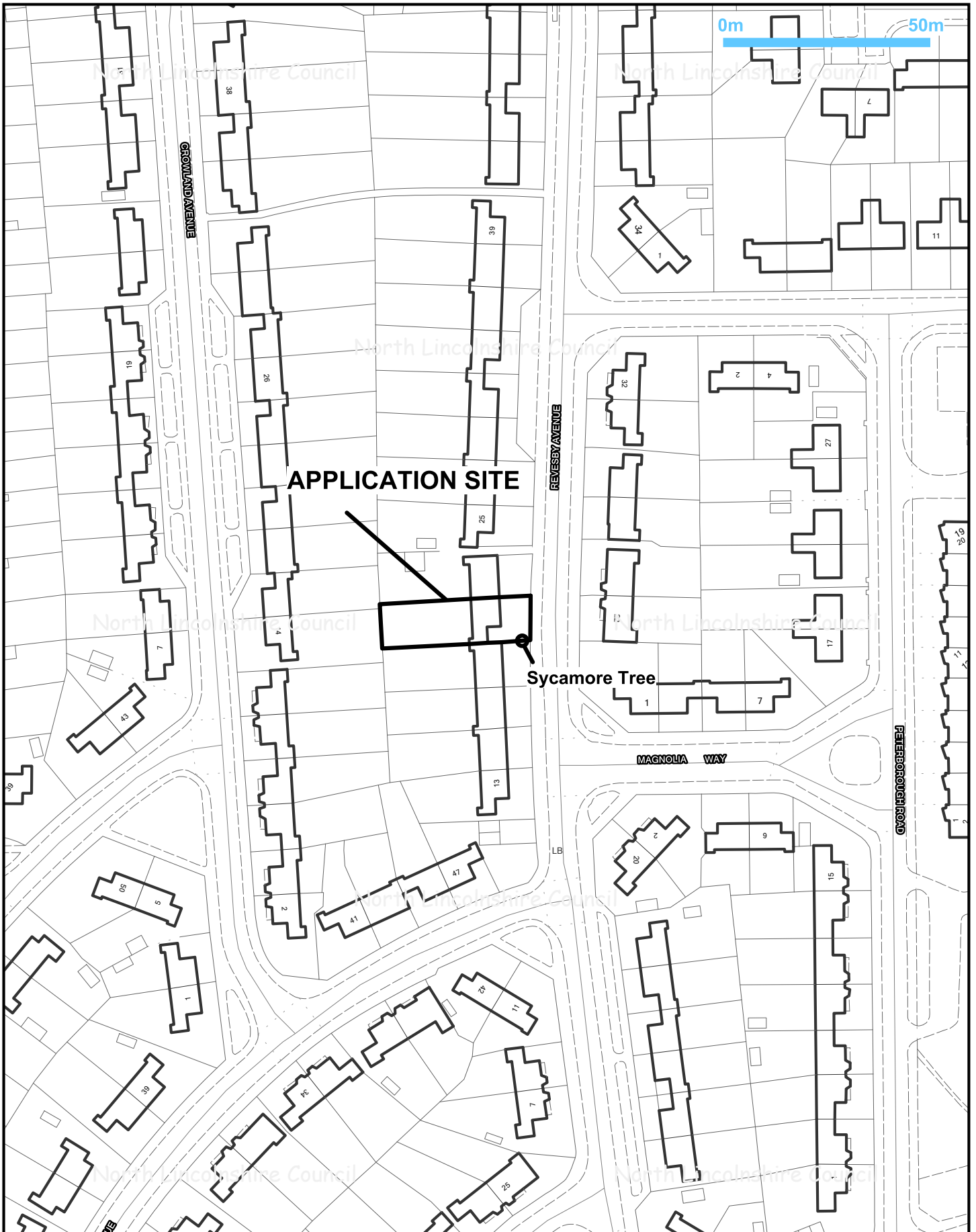
Matters such as birds and honeydew are not considered sufficient cause for tree removal and this has been clarified by applications in Scunthorpe for the felling of trees for these reasons that have been decided previously on appeal by the Planning Inspectorate. The open habit of the tree would suggest that birds would not use this tree for nesting.

This tree is in good condition, with high amenity value being significant within the street scene and with no concerns over its safety.

The applicant has indicated that if she is not allowed to remove the tree she would like to cut it down to a more manageable size.

RECOMMENDATION Refuse consent for the following reasons:

The tree identified on the application form as T178 is not dead or in a dangerous condition. Inspection of the tree does not indicate there are any existing safety issues sufficient to justify the proposed works; the tree appears to be in reasonable condition and should be retained because it makes a positive contribution to the visual amenity and character of the local landscape.



Title: PA/2014/1024

Drawn by: Sue Barden

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Scale 1:1250



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