



Friends of Gedling House Woods

Woodland management plan

Principles

The principles underpinning the management of Gedling House Woods are to:

- provide a natural habitat for plant, animal, bird and insect life throughout the year
- provide a range of light environments, from dense canopy to marginal scrub to encourage diversity
- maintain the woodland structure by felling dead wood and selectively replanting
- ensure a mix of native species, taking into account climate variation
- maintain public access through suitable pathways
- keep the site as natural looking as possible with minimal intrusive works or paths, only to ensure visitor safety through, for example, ensuring the maintenance of appropriately natural earth retention steps on muddy slopes.

Overall long-term vision

The woodland and the adjacent meadow are seen as a continuum from woodland to meadow with:

- dense canopy mixed woodland in the centre of the site, containing mature ash, beech, oak, sycamore, cherry and other native species present, which is maintained and, where necessary as gaps appear, replanted with similar young trees
- marginal areas adjacent to the meadows, with some coppicing as below but mainly hawthorn, elder, rowan, holly and bramble
- marginal areas adjacent to the lane and to properties to the north east, with some marginal as above but mainly coppiced hazel, sycamore and other species present
- at least one glade to provide a relatively open small grassy space, with a range of woodland flowers, including native bluebells, snowdrops, primroses, to complement the wood anemone, bluebells and wild garlic that is present in the woodland area.

Management strategies

To maintain a good balance of mature trees, new trees and a varied undergrowth that provide a wide-ranging wild-life habitat:

- fell any dangerous, dead, dying or diseased trees, including those bordering the meadows
- remove significantly overhanging branches that detract from the management of the meadow
- leave felled wood safely to provide habitats for insects, birds, small mammal and fungus
- identify any unwanted non-native or invasive species, and remove them.

To provide access to pedestrians

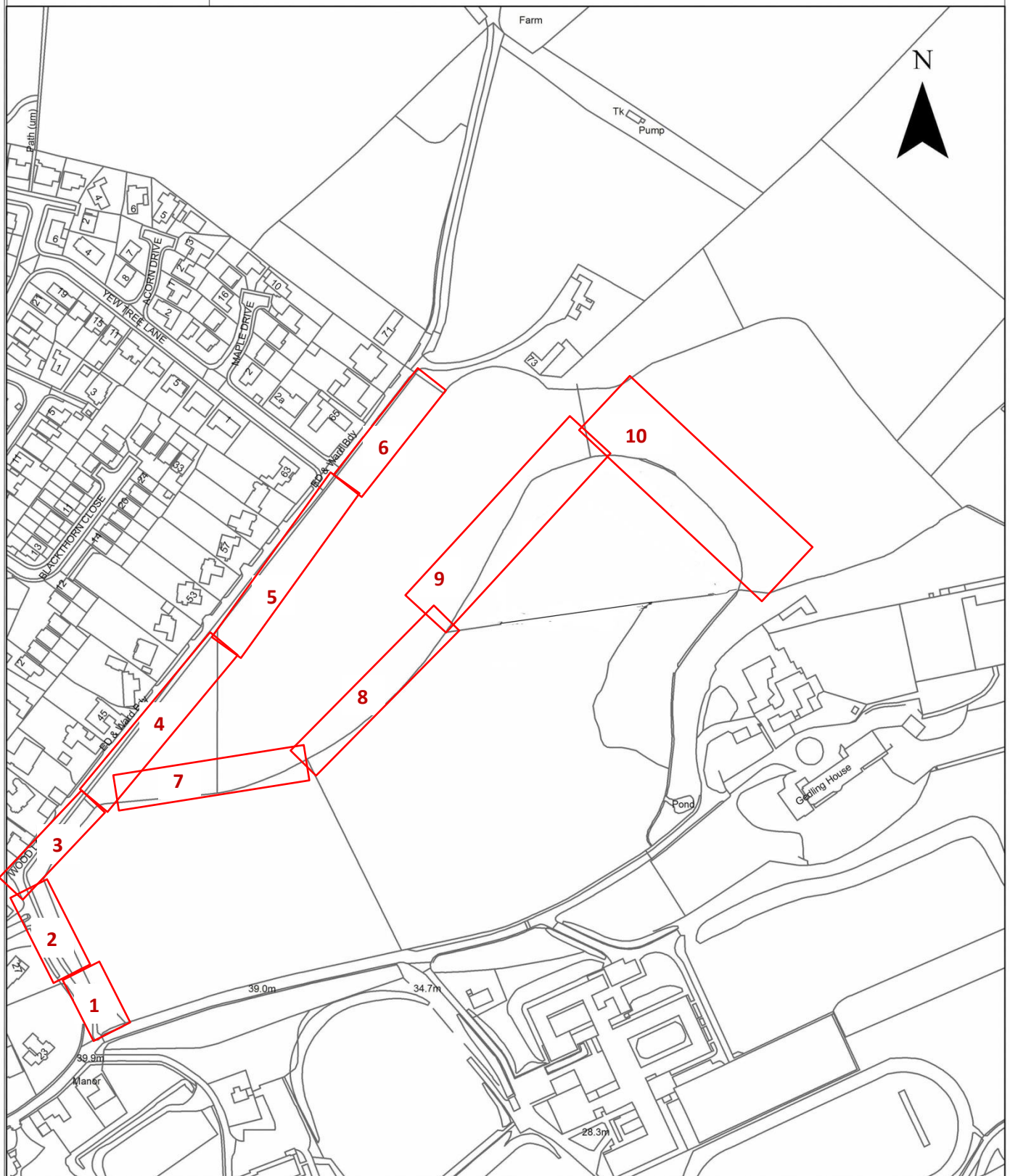
- maintain path surfaces as woodland paths with no special surfaces
- clear main paths of encroaching plants and branches to all allow free access at all times.

To ensure the woodland management plan is followed in a timely manner:

- ensure an annual inspection of tree safety takes place, with any culling taking place in the winter
- use contractors of Gedling Borough Council staff for all tree-climbing and chain-saw work
- use volunteers for low level tree work of all types where possible.

Location:

Gedling House Woods



NOTE This map is provided only for purposes of site location and should not be read as an up to date representation of the area around the site. Reproduced with the permission of the Controller of H.M.S.O. Crown Copyright. Licence No LA100021248. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

Month by month plan

Marginal woodland

Compartment 1	
Timing	Activity
November to March	Annual clearance and hedge cut
2017/2018	Plant sapling with support close to failing tree
All year	Survey woodland species
Autumn 2018	Additional wildflower planting
Compartment 2 and 3	
Timing	Activity
November to March	Annual clearance
November to March	Hedge cutting
November to March	Road side – coppicing
Jan 2018	Check central spine of mature trees for gaps and replant
Compartment 4 and 5	
Timing	Activity
November to March	Hedge cutting
November to March	Road side and wood side of fence– coppicing
Spring 2018 onwards	Remove invasive Spanish bluebells
Spring 2018 onwards	Remove invasive yellow archangel
Compartment 6	
November to March	Clear roadside verge
Jan to March 2018	Clearance and coppicing
Compartment 7 and 8	
Timing	Activity
November to March	Annual clearance
November to March	Thinning, coppicing and replanting

Compartments 9 and 10

Timing	Activity
November to March	Annual clearance
November to March	Scrub and coppiced areas
March to September	Path round outside of meadow cut regularly

Non-marginal woodland

Timing	Activity
January 2018	Annual tree check and removal of dead, dying or diseased wood, and some overhanging branches.

Main glade

Timing	Activity
Jan/Feb	Clear glade and edges / rake residual leaves
March	Additional planting
April through October	Mow grassed area
June / August	Strim grass edges to prevent incursion of weeds, bramble and other woody growth.
July	Trim tree bases
December	Rake dead leaves