

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION TAKEN BY AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER

This form **MUST** be used to record any decision taken by the Elected Mayor or an individual Executive Member (Portfolio Holder).

The form must be completed and passed to the Chief Officer responsible for Legal and Democratic Services no later than NOON on the second working day after the day on which the decision is taken. No action may be taken to implement the decision(s) recorded on this form until 7 working days have passed and the Chief Officer responsible for Legal and Democratic Services has confirmed the decision has not been called in.

1. Description of decision

(1) **That the extension of the Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control across the Borough be approved for a further three-year period, together with the adoption and implementation of the new sites in accordance with Statutory Powers and Processes with effect from 27 July 2025 which will cover:**

- i) **The Dog Exclusion Order;**
- ii) **The Fouling of Land by Dog Order;**
- iii) **The Dogs on Leads Order;**
- iv) **The Dogs on Lead by Direction Order.**

(2) **That the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director for Environment, following consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, be authorised to review the Public Spaces Protection Order at Appendix C, its implementation, development and scope during the period covered by the Order, with any proposed variations/discharge to be approved by the Executive.**

2. Date of decision

14 July 2025

3. Reasons for decision

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. The prohibitions included in the PSPO for Dog Control is proportionate, based on evidence, consultation responses and analysis and are necessary to address the ongoing issues within the specified designated locations.

The Council remains satisfied that activities such as dog fouling will continue to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and those activities will be persistent or continuing in nature as such to justify the restrictions to be imposed in the PSPO.

The Council regularly receives complaints about dog fouling and dogs in areas where they are excluded or must be on a lead. It is important that the council responds to these concerns to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy clean public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.

The new locations to be added to the PSPO were requested by the relevant Parish Councils as part of the consultation process.

The extension of the PSPO for dog control and the adoption of the restrictions in the new locations will allow the Council to continue to take enforcement action for this anti-social behaviour, and by adopting the new locations will also ensure a consistent enforcement approach is taken for similar types of amenity land across the borough.

The existence and enforcement of dog control PSPO's has helped the Council to address the issues that gave rise to the original order but it is clear that members of the public continue to carry out the anti-social activities that the order seek to prevent and will inevitably increase if the extension of the PSPO is not approved.

4. Alternatives considered and rejected

To not extend the PSPO – this is rejected as there remains a need to prohibit these behaviours and have an appropriate enforcement tool to take action against those that commit this anti-social behaviour.

To extend the PSPO but not add the additional new locations – this is rejected as the new locations meet the same criteria as other locations in the Borough that have the same type of dog control restrictions.

5. How decision is to be funded

Any financial implications of the recommendation for a new PSPO for a three-year period will be funded from within existing resources as part of the Regulation, Housing & Customer Contact Service Group.

6. Conflicts of interest

Name of all Executive members who were consulted AND declared a conflict of interest.	Nature of interest	Did Standards Committee give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and date of dispensation)	Did the Chief Executive give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and the date of the dispensation).

The Mayor has been consulted on this decision

Not Applicable

Signed 

Date: 14 July 2025

Name of Decision Taker: Mayor Tom Wootton

This is a public document. A copy of it must be given to the Chief Officer responsible for Legal and Democratic Services as soon as it is completed.

Date decision published:14July2025.....

Date decision can be implemented if not called in:23July2025.....

(Decision to be made exempt from call in – NO)

Bedford Borough Council – Report to Mayor of Bedford Borough

Date of Report: 14 July 2025

Report by: Service Director, Regulation, Housing & Customer Contact

Subject: REVIEW OF PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER FOR DOG CONTROL

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report provides a summary of the proposal to extend the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for Dog Control Orders for an additional three years with the addition of new locations as identified through consultation.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. The Mayor is asked to consider and, if satisfied, to:

- a) Approve the extension of the Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control across the borough for a further three-year period, along with the adoption and implementation of the new sites in accordance with Statutory Powers and Processes with effect from 27 July 2025 which will cover:
- i) The Dog Exclusion Order
 - ii) The Fouling of Land by Dog Order
 - iii) The Dogs on Leads Order
 - iv) The Dogs on Lead by Direction Order
- b) Agree that the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director for Environment, following consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, be authorised to review the Public Spaces Protection Order at Appendix C, its implementation, development and scope during the period covered by the Order, with any proposed variations/discharge to be approved by the Executive.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 PSPOs are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. The prohibitions included in the PSPO for Dog Control is proportionate, based on evidence, consultation responses and analysis and are necessary to address the ongoing issues within the specified designated locations.
- 3.2 The Council remains satisfied that activities such as dog fouling will continue to have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and those activities will be persistent or continuing in nature as such to justify the restrictions to be imposed in the PSPO.
- 3.3 The Council regularly receives complaints about dog fouling and dogs in areas where they are excluded or must be on a lead. It is important that the council responds to these concerns to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy clean public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 3.4 The new locations to be added to the PSPO were requested by the relevant Parish Councils as part of the consultation process.
- 3.5 The extension of the PSPO for dog control and the adoption of the restrictions in the new locations will allow the Council to continue to take enforcement action for this anti-social behaviour, and by adopting the new locations will also ensure a consistent enforcement approach is taken for similar types of amenity land across the borough.
- 3.6 The existence and enforcement of dog control PSPO's has helped the Council to address the issues that gave rise to the original order but it is clear that members of the public continue to carry out the anti-social activities that the order seek to prevent and will inevitably increase if the extension of the PSPO is not approved.

4. THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The Council first introduced a PSPO for dog control in July 2016 and this order was extended in 2019 and again 2022 for a further three years ending on 26 July 2025. The current PSPO has four elements:
 - The Dogs on Leads by Direction Order
 - The Fouling of Land by Dogs Order
 - The Dogs Exclusion Order
 - The Dogs on Leads Order
- 4.2 The enforcement of the current PSPO is primarily undertaken by the Council's Enviro Crime team, including an enforcement contractor of uniformed patrolling officers. This contract provision compliments the enforcement work of the Council and is cost neutral to base budgeting.

4.3 Currently there are over 150 areas within the Borough that have either a 'dog excluded' or 'dog on lead' restriction under the PSPO.

5. **DETAILS**

5.1 The PSPO for dog control has four elements:

- The Dogs Exclusion Order
The effect of the Order is to make it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to permit the dog to enter or remain on any land to which this Order applies.
- The Dogs on Leads Order:
The effect of the Order is to make it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to ensure that a dog is kept on a lead on any land to which the Order applies.
- The Dogs on Leads by Direction Order:
The effect of the Order is to make it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to put that dog on a lead under the direction of an authorised officer on any land to which the Order applies.
- The Fouling of Land by Dogs Order:
The effect of this Order is to make it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to remove faeces forthwith from any land to which the Order applies.

5.2 The PSPO for 'dog fouling' and 'dog on lead' by direction covers any place in the Borough to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

5.3 The areas where a 'dog is excluded' are primarily play areas and enclosed sports pitches, areas where a 'dog must be on a lead' are Bedford town centre plus other open spaces/parks that have mixed use areas that include more open sports pitches and some churches and graveyards.

5.4 Enforcement of a PSPO is either by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or Prosecution via the magistrates Court, a FPN is issued as an alternative to prosecution and if paid a person discharges their liability for that offence.

5.5 Since June 2019 the Council has received 968 dog fouling complaints and 90 FPNs have been issued for dog control offences.

5.6 When consideration is given to extend the PSPO for dog control it is necessary to consider if new locations need to be added to the order, often this will be as a result of new housing developments or because locations have experienced the detrimental effects of irresponsible dog owners since the original order was introduced.

- 5.7 In December 2024 all of the Borough's Parish Councils were contacted to request details of any new locations to be considered for adding to the PSPO. The new requests were reviewed to determine if they were appropriate, in line with restrictions elsewhere within the Borough and if they were enforceable. The locations requested that meet these criteria are detailed below:

Dog Exclusion

Area	Location	Street
Bedford (Brickhill)	Play Area	Calder Rise
Bedford (Brickhill)	Play Area (Opp 74)	Crispin Drive
Biddenham	Play Area - St Mary's playground	St James way
Biddenham	Play Area - St Mary's playground 2	Pintail Circle
Biddenham	Play Area Saxon Park play area	Peacock lane
Biddenham	St Mary's MUGA	St James Way
Cotton End	Play Area	Village Hall
Felmersham	Play Area	The Old Road
Kempston	Play Area (Hilton Close)	Wilkinson Road
Kempston	Play Area adjacent Noah Walk	Wilkinson Road
Roxton	Play Area / sport pitch	Park Road
Shortstown	Play Area (next to 61 Conder Boulevard)	Conder Boulevard
Shortstown	Play Area (Next to 4 Shawbury Street)	Shawbury Street
Shortstown	Play Area	Holbeach Avenue
Shortstown	Play Area (next to the field)	Aviation Way
Shortstown	Play Area	Coningsby Lane
Shortstown	Play Area	Cranwell Circle
Shortstown	Play Area (next to number 3)	Potter Meadows
Shortstown	Play Area (only the area enclosed with a fence)	Hastings Crescent
Shortstown	Play Area	Blackburn Close

Shortstown	Play Area	Sopwith Way
Shortstown	MUGA	Cosford Drive
Shortstown	MUGA	Newton Street
Thurleigh	Village Garden	High Street
Turvey	Tennis Courts	Grove Road
Wymington	Play Area	Church Lane

Dogs on Lead

Area	Location	Street
Bedford	Embankment - swan nesting area	Duck Mill Walk
Bletsoe	New Parish Field	Village Hall
Biddenham	Conservation Area 1	Duck End Lane
Cotton End	Playing Field	Village Hall
Turvey	Recreation Ground	Grove Road

Maps for the above areas can be found in **Appendices A and B**.

5.8 Section 60 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 allows a local authority to extend an existing order providing the extension is necessary in order to prevent:

- occurrence or recurrence of activities identified in the order from taking place after the expiry of the existing order, or
- the frequency or seriousness of those activities increasing after the expiry of the existing order.

5.9 The evidence available to the Council demonstrates that there is such a need. When the Council previously introduced the order for dog control, the Council was satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities that were being carried out or likely to be carried out in the identified public space:

- has had, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality
- is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature
- is, or is likely to be, unreasonable and
- justifies the restrictions

- 5.10 It is likely that such activities will continue and will inevitably increase if the PSPO is not in place. In the circumstances, there is justification to extend the existing order and incorporate the new locations requested.

6. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 6.1 To not extend the PSPO – this is rejected as there remains a need to prohibit these behaviours and have an appropriate enforcement tool to take action against those that commit this anti-social behaviour.
- 6.2 To extend the PSPO but not add the additional new locations – this is rejected as the new locations meet the same criteria as other locations in the Borough that have the same type of dog control restrictions.

7. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Legal Issues

- 7.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 was enacted on 20 October 2014. The Act introduced changes to how local authorities can deal with anti-social behaviour (ASB) and are designed to put victims first and give greater transparency and accountability.
- 7.2 The Act introduced PSPOs as a replacement to Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO), Gating Orders and Dog Control Orders. PSPOs are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area which is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, the Order imposes conditions on the use of that area which apply to all who use it. PSPOs are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 7.3 On receiving approval of the Order(s) from the Executive, the draft Order(s) will be published in accordance with regulations published by the Secretary of State, these being:
- Publish the Public Spaces Protection Order(s) as made, on the Bedford Borough Council website
- 7.4 The final set of restrictions that forms the Order(s) will then be published in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State (published on the Bedford Borough Council website, together with the erection of signage sufficient to draw the public's attention to Order(s) and its effect) and will:
- Identify the activities having the detrimental effect
 - Explain the potential sanctions available on breach
 - Specify the period for which the PSPO has effect

- 7.5 The PSPO will remain in place for three years from the date of commencement and there is flexibility to review and vary the terms of the Order(s) during that time if a new issue arises in the area where the Order(s) are in force. As well as varying the PSPO, the Council can also seek to discharge it at any time.

Policy Issues

- 7.6 The Bedford Borough Corporate Plan 2024/5 - 2027/8 focuses on four strategic priorities of:

- Supporting Individuals and Families
- Protecting the Environment
- Stimulating Economic Growth in Bedford Borough
- Promoting Health and Wellbeing

- 7.7 The PSPO is relevant to all goals, but particularly 'Protecting the Environment' to deliver cleaner, greener and safer places.

Resource Issues

- 7.8 Any financial implications of the recommendation for a new PSPO for a three-year period will be funded from within existing resources as part of the Regulation, Housing & Customer Contact Service Group.

Risks

- 7.9 Whilst the vast majority of the dog owners are responsible with their dogs, a small minority are not. Dog fouling and nuisance behaviour of dogs are regularly identified as one of the top concerns and risks of residents. Residents are concerned about dog fouling in particular and are worried about the amount of dog fouling, not just because of the mess it causes, but because it can also be linked to health risks, especially with children who play in the parks and open spaces.
- 7.10 These orders make it easier to deal with this type of anti-social behaviour, while at the same time encouraging responsible behaviour, thus reducing the risks as identified above.

Environmental Implications

- 7.11 There are no negative environmental impacts associated with recommendations in this report. Actions to reduce behaviours associated with irresponsible dog ownership will have a positive impact on our parks and open spaces.

Equalities Impact

- 7.12 In preparing this report, due consideration has been given to the Council's statutory Equality Duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations, as set out in Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. Separate Equalities Impact Assessments are detailed in **Appendix D**.

Impact on Families

- 7.13 Taking measures to reduce anti-social behaviour associated with irresponsible dog ownership will contribute to ensuring that children, young people and families are able to enjoy public spaces and the benefits that brings in terms of wellbeing and reducing isolation.

Community Safety and Resilience

- 7.14 The PSPO looks to address issues that impact on residents' ability to enjoy our parks and open spaces. It will contribute to the Bedford Borough Community Safety Partnership aims of tackling anti-social behaviour and increasing public confidence in the delivery of community safety.

Impact on Health and Wellbeing

- 7.15 The restrictions that prohibit behaviours regarding irresponsible dog ownership in our parks and open spaces will contribute to the residents of the Borough being able to enjoy those spaces which bring benefits in terms of their overall health and wellbeing and physical activity.

8. SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS AND OUTCOME

- 8.1 The following Councillors, Council units, Officers and/or other organisations have been consulted in preparing this report:

- Cllr Phillippa Martin-Moran-Bryant, Portfolio Holder for Housing & Regulatory Services
- Craig Austin, Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director for Environment
- David Doorne, Manager for Legal (GPPL)
- Bedfordshire Police
- Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners Office
- Bedford Borough Parish Councils
- BPHA
- The Dog Trust
- Orbit Housing

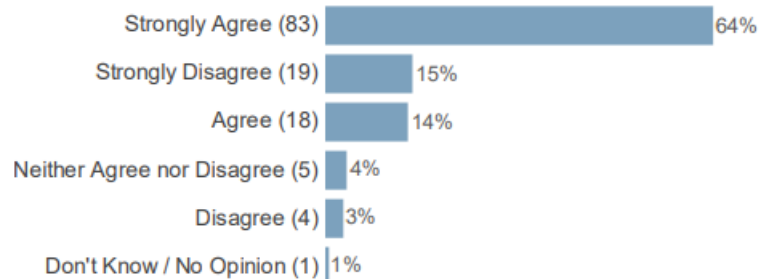
- 8.2 No adverse comments have been received from Councillors, Council units, Officers and/or other organisations.

- 8.3 A public consultation exercise was carried out by Bedford Borough Council between 8 April and 27 April 2025 via the Council website with copies made available in the Council Libraries.

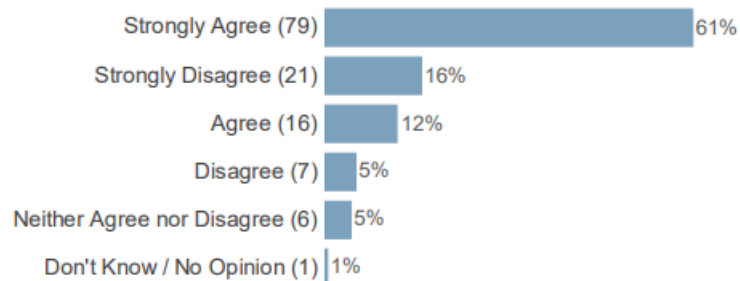
- 8.4 The following organisations were contacted directly providing them with an opportunity to comment on the PSPO, these were Bedfordshire Police, Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Bedford Borough Parish Councils, BPHA, The Dog Trust and Orbit Housing.

- 8.5 The consultation asked the following two questions and received 130 responses – see below:

Question 1 - *To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to extend the current PSPO for Dog Control for a further 3 years?*



Question 2 - *To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add new designated areas to PSPO for Dog Control?*



8.6 In summary:

- **79% of responders** either **strongly agreed or agreed** with **extending** the PSPO for dog control for a further three years, and
- **77% of responders** either **strongly agreed or agreed** with adding the **additional areas** to the PSPO.

9. WARD COUNCILLOR VIEWS

9.1 This report is not relevant to an individual ward.

10. **CONTACTS AND REFERENCES**

<i>Report Contact Officer:</i>	John Molyneux, Service Director Regulation, Housing & Customer Contact John.molyneux@bedford.gov.uk Andy Cooper - Team Leader Enviro Crime & Pest Control Andy.cooper@bedford.gov.uk
<i>Declarations of Interest by the Report Author:</i>	Not Applicable
<i>File Reference:</i>	PSPO_DC_Exec_2025_SDRH&CC
<i>Previous Relevant Minutes:</i>	Executive Committee 2 nd March 2022, Agenda item 8 - Review of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO)
<i>Background Papers:</i>	https://www.gov.uk/control-dog-public/public-spaces-protection-orders
<i>Appendices:</i>	Appendix A – New locations maps Dog Excluded Appendix B – New locations maps Dog on Lead Appendix C – PSPO Draft Order Appendix D – Equalities Analysis Report



Bedford - Calder Rise Mowsbury Walk Play Area

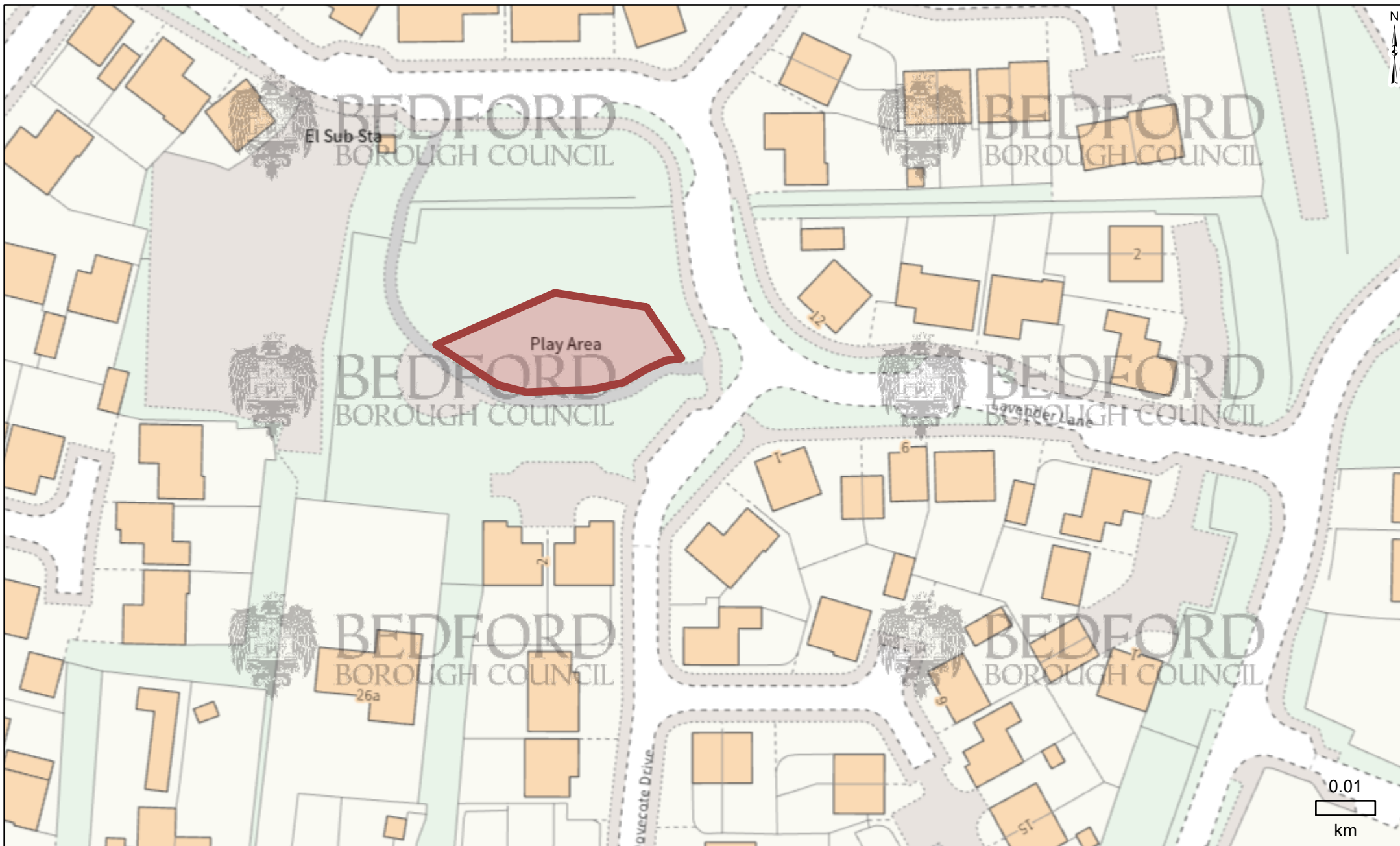
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Dogs Excluded

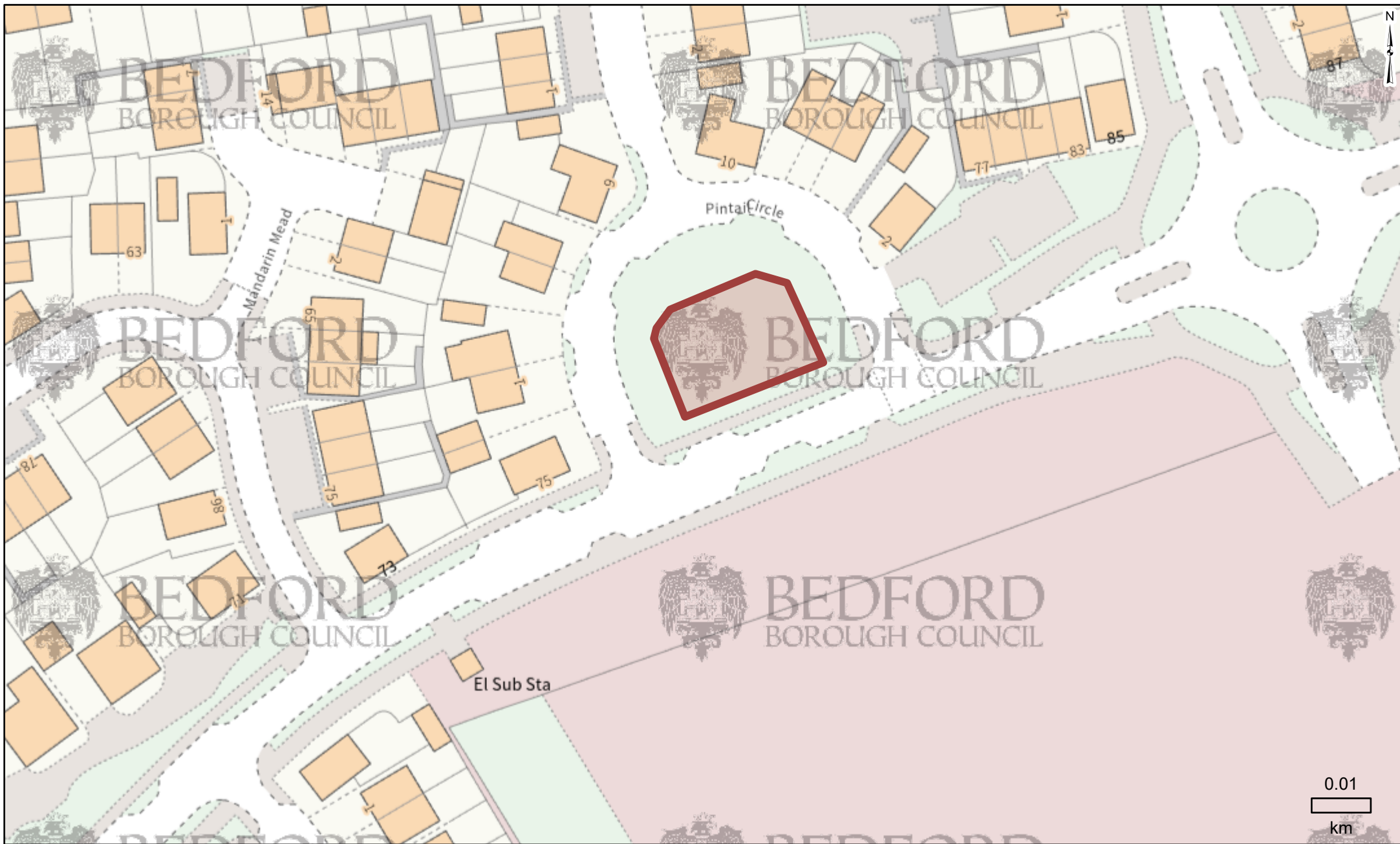




Biddenham - Peacock Lane Play Area

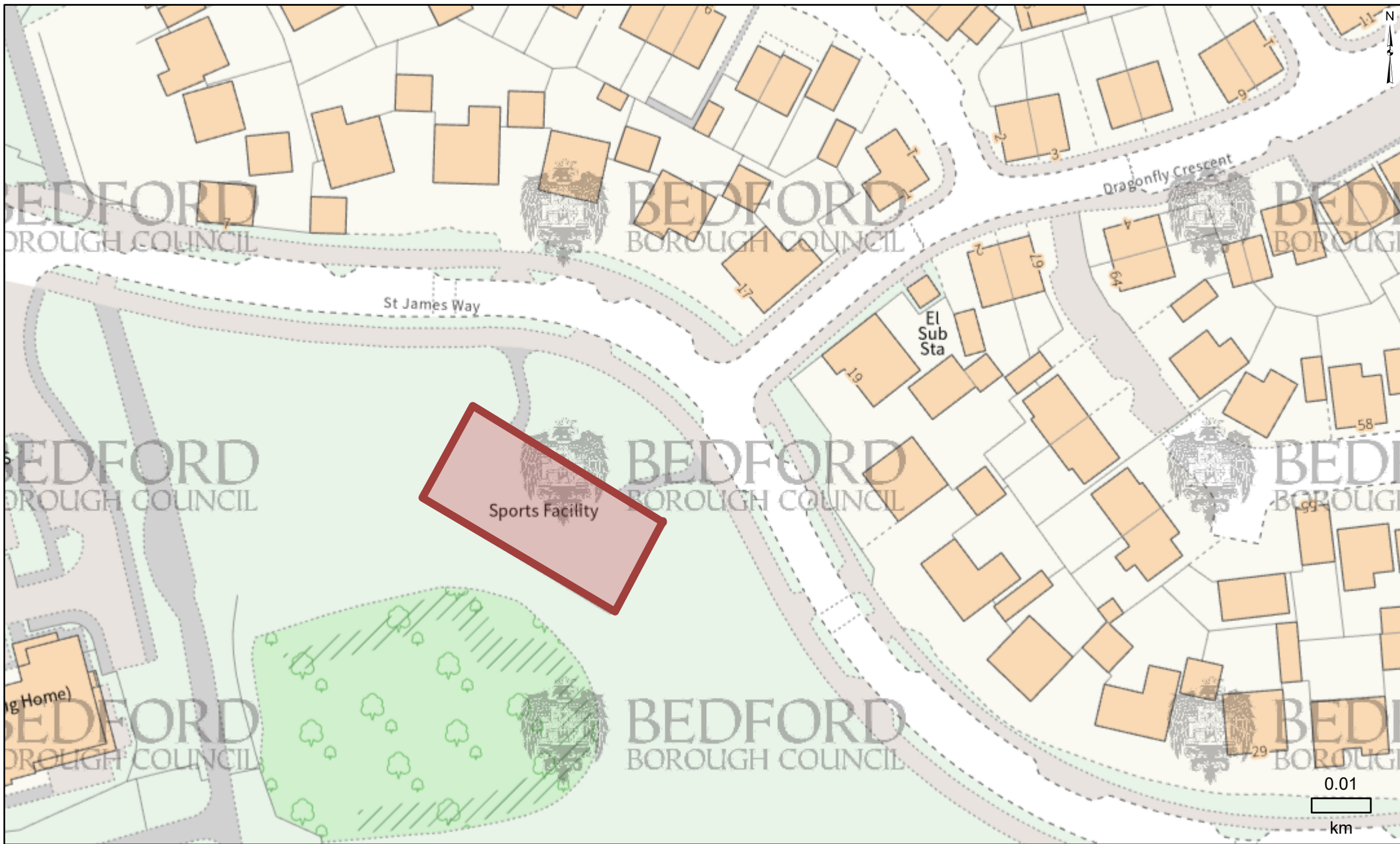
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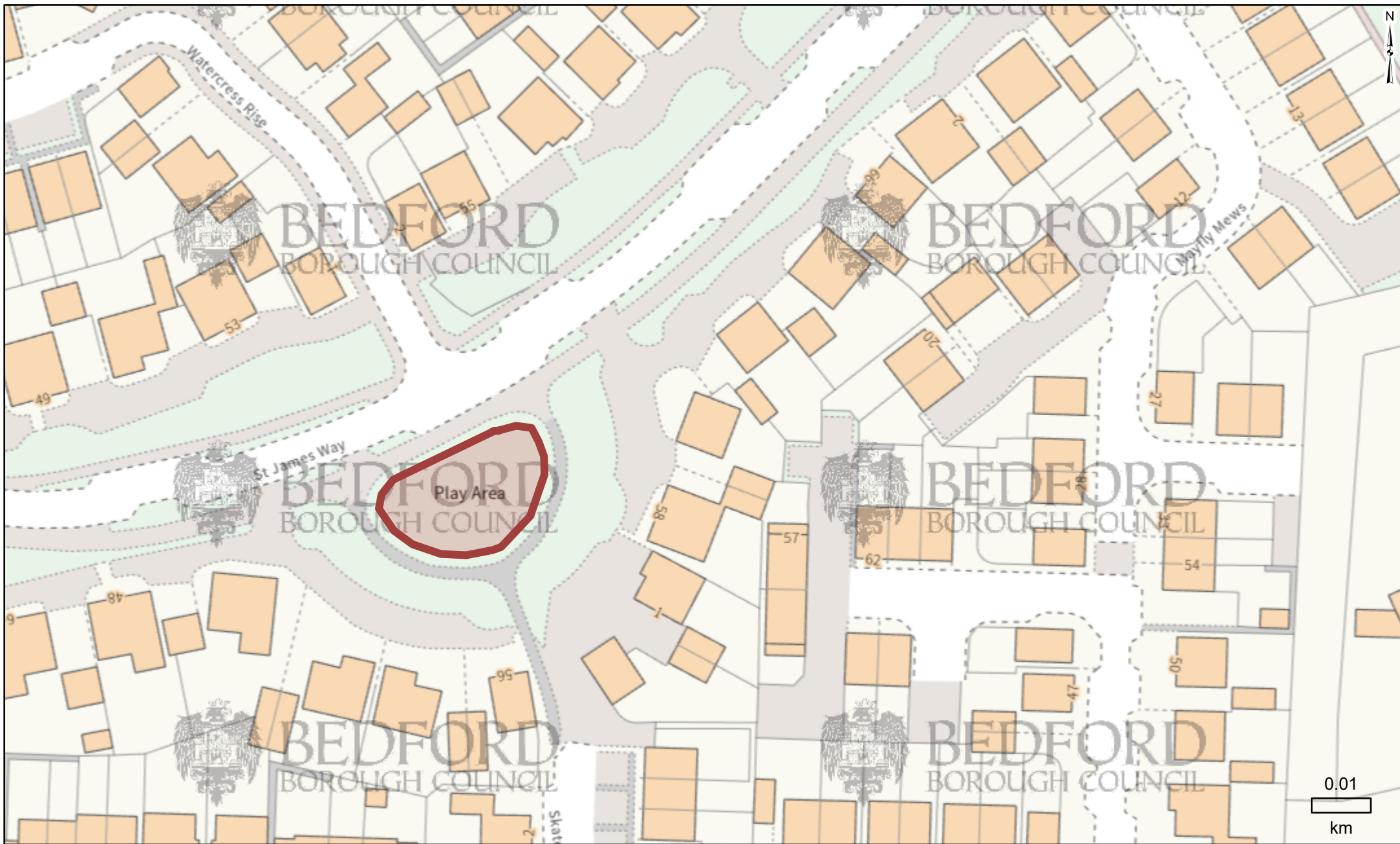
Biddenham - Pintail Circle Play Area

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Biddenham - St James Way MUGA

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Biddenham - St James Way Play Area

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Dogs Excluded





Bedford - Crispin Drive Play Area

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Dogs Excluded





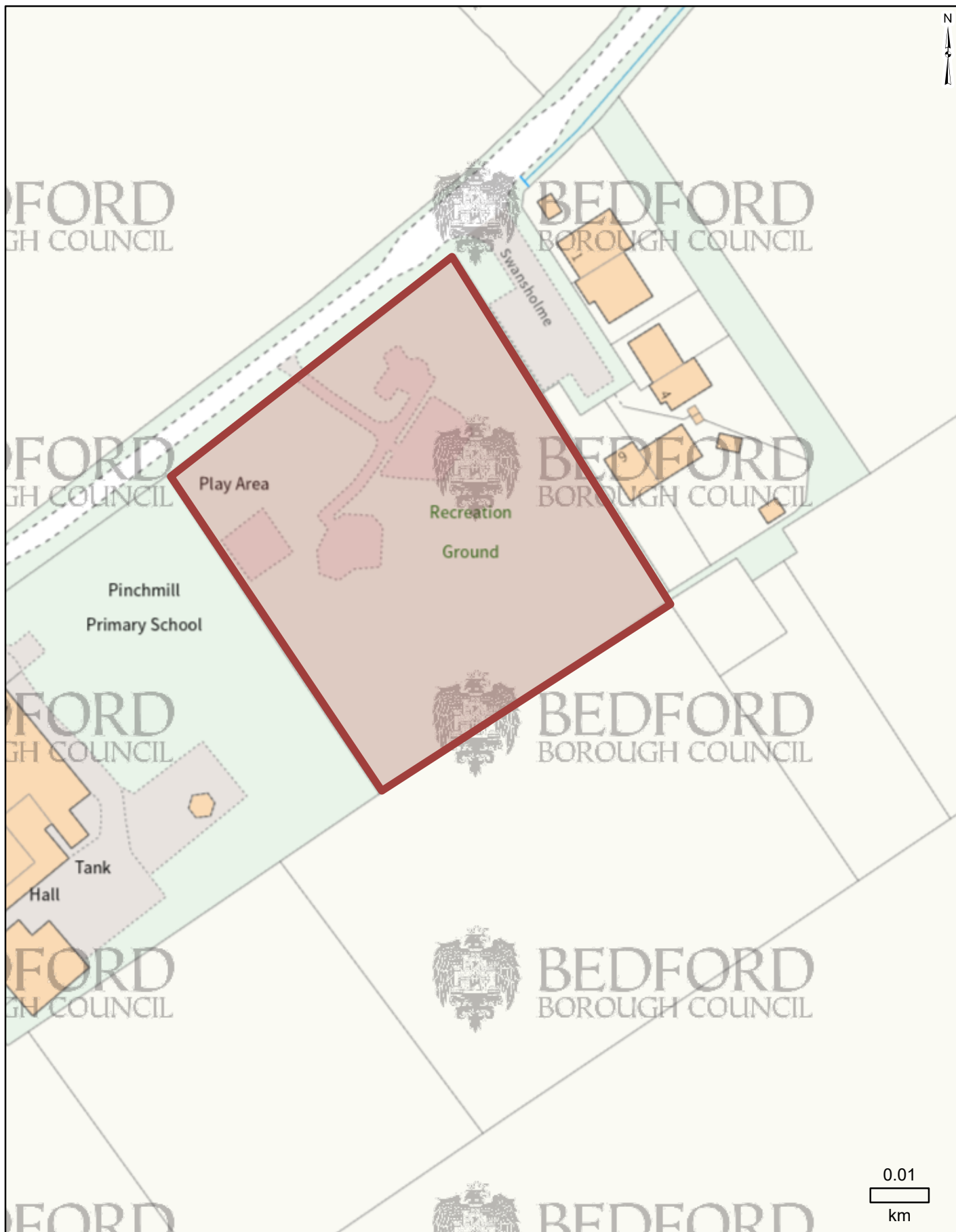
Cotton End - Village Hall Play Area

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BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Felmersham - The Old Road Recreation Ground

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Dogs Excluded

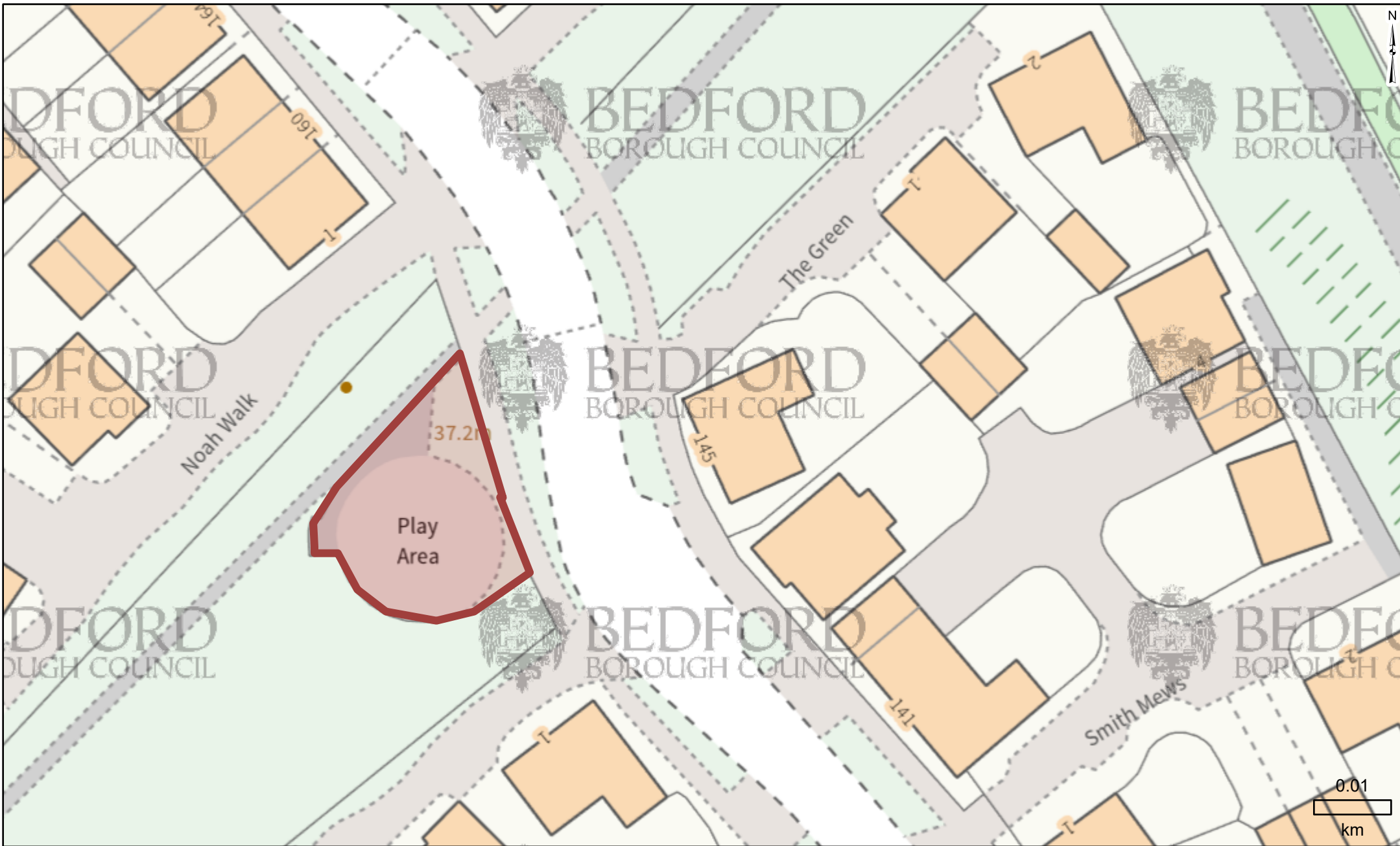




Kempston - Wilkinson Road Play Area (Hilton Close)

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Kempston - Wilkinson Road Play Area (Noah Walk)

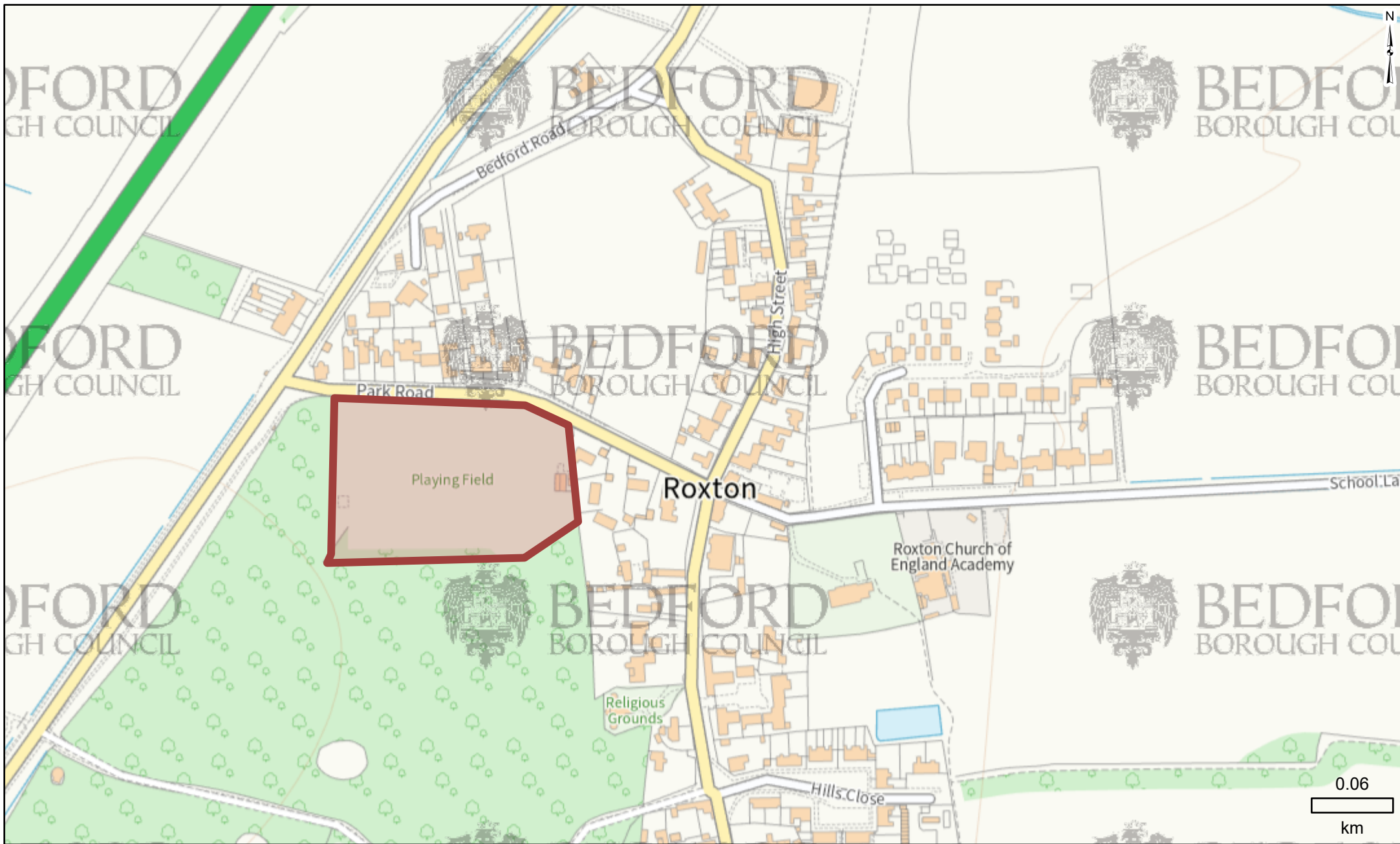
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Dogs Excluded





Roxton - Park Road Playing Field

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Shortstown - Aviation Way Play Area

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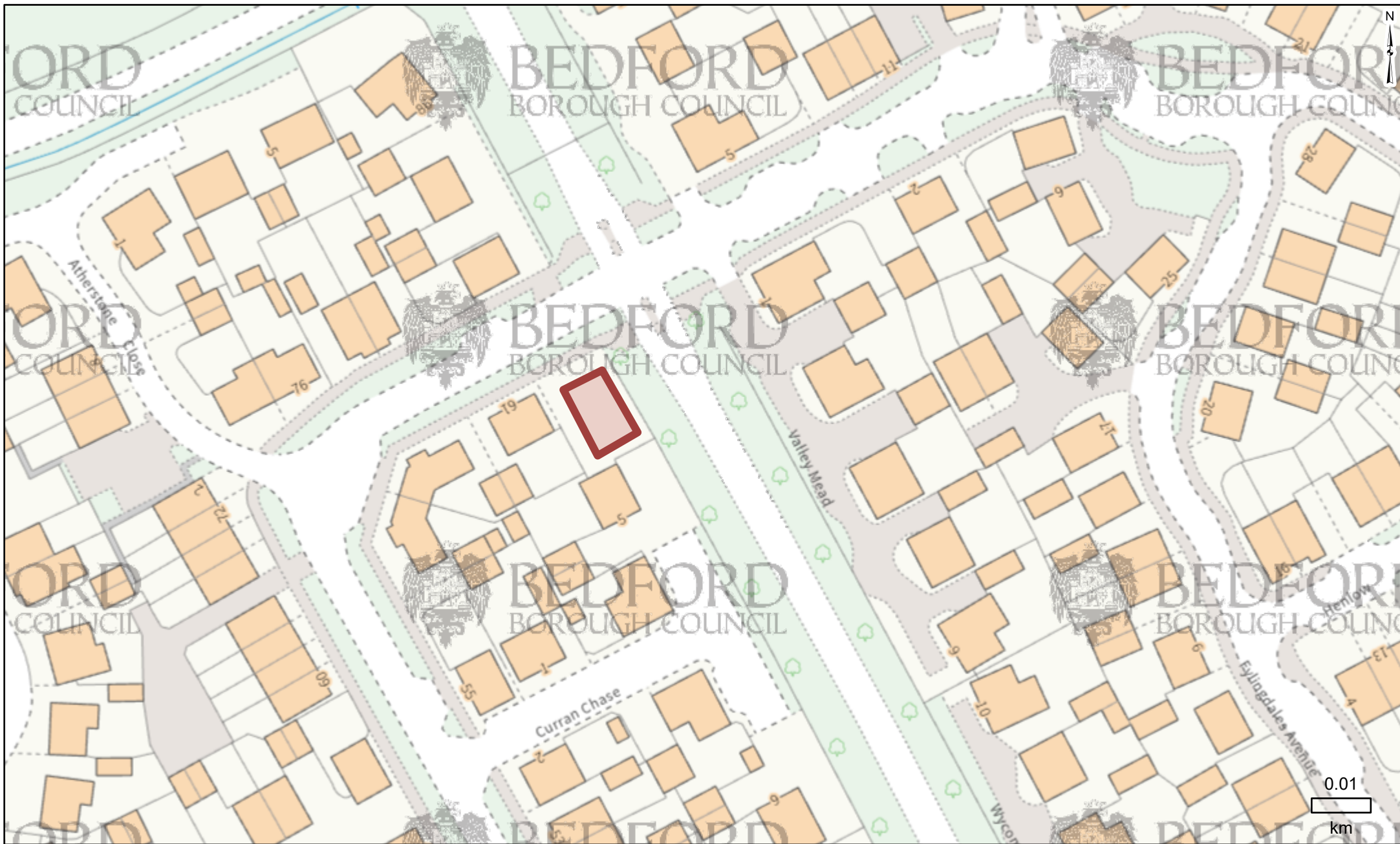
Dogs Excluded





Shortstown - Blackburn Close Play Area

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Shortstown - Conder Boulevard Play Area

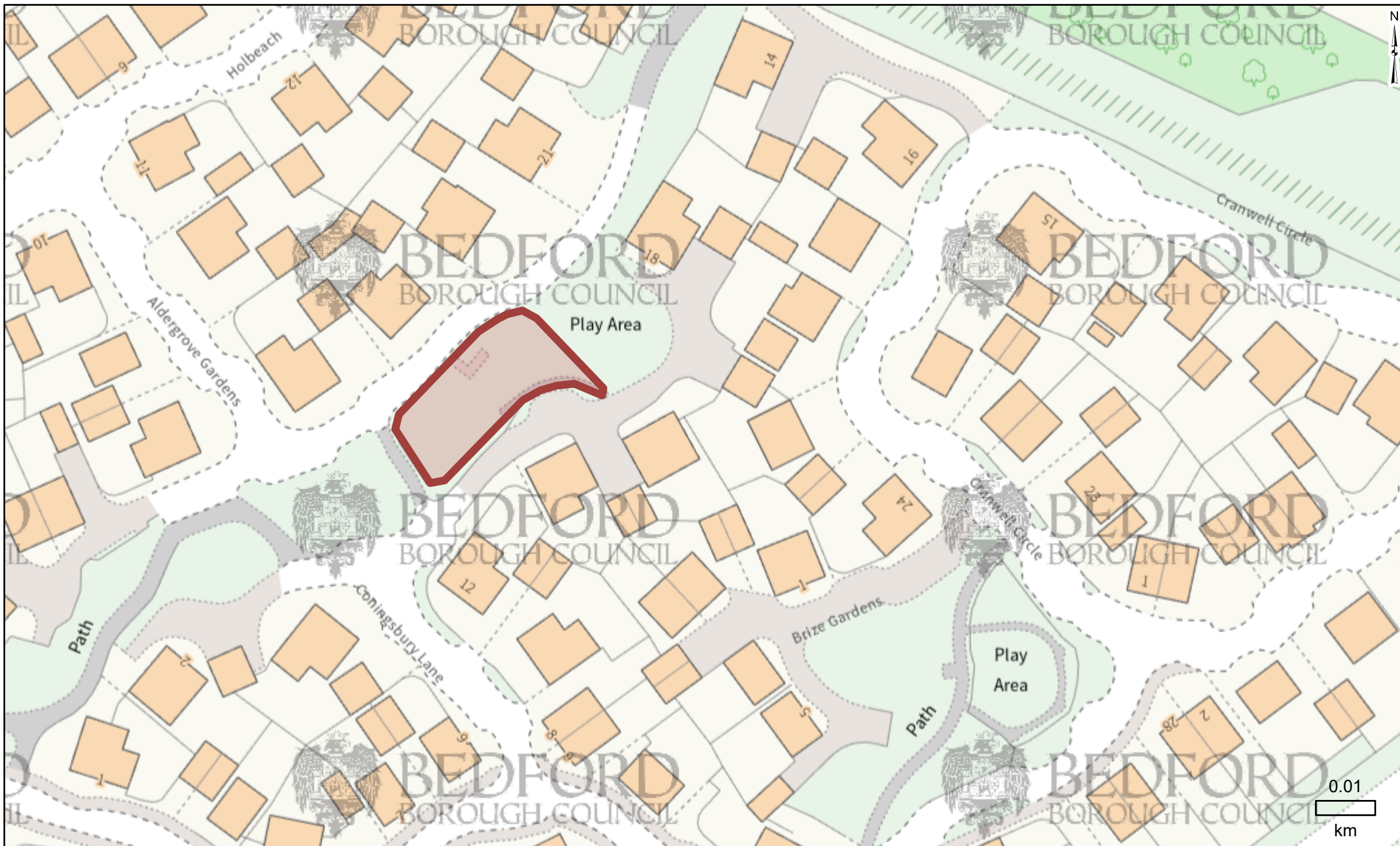
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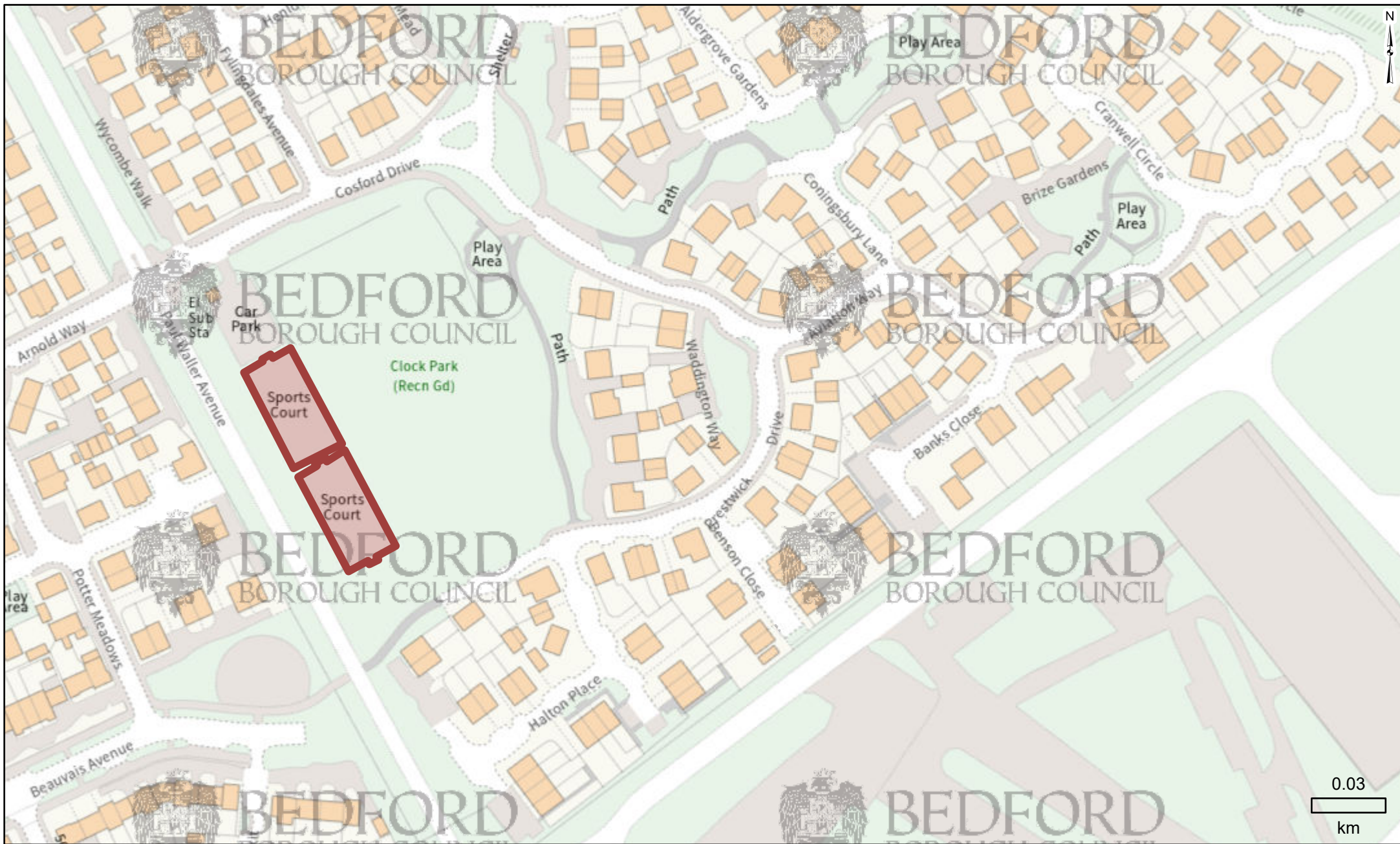




Shortstown - Coningsbury Lane Play Area

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Shortstown - Cosford Drive MUGA

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Shortstown - Cranwell Circle Play Area

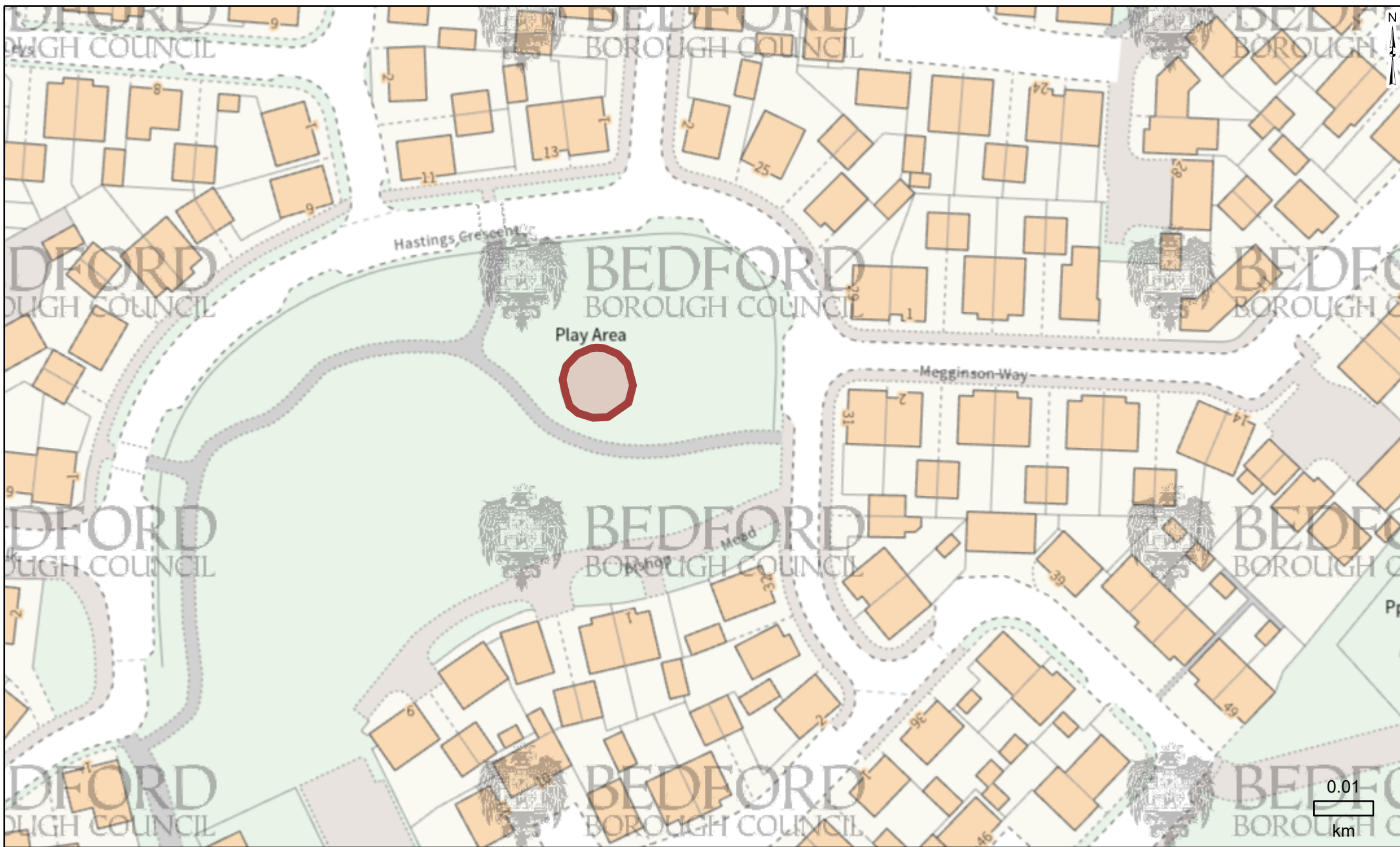
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Dogs Excluded





Shortstown - Hastings Crescent Play area

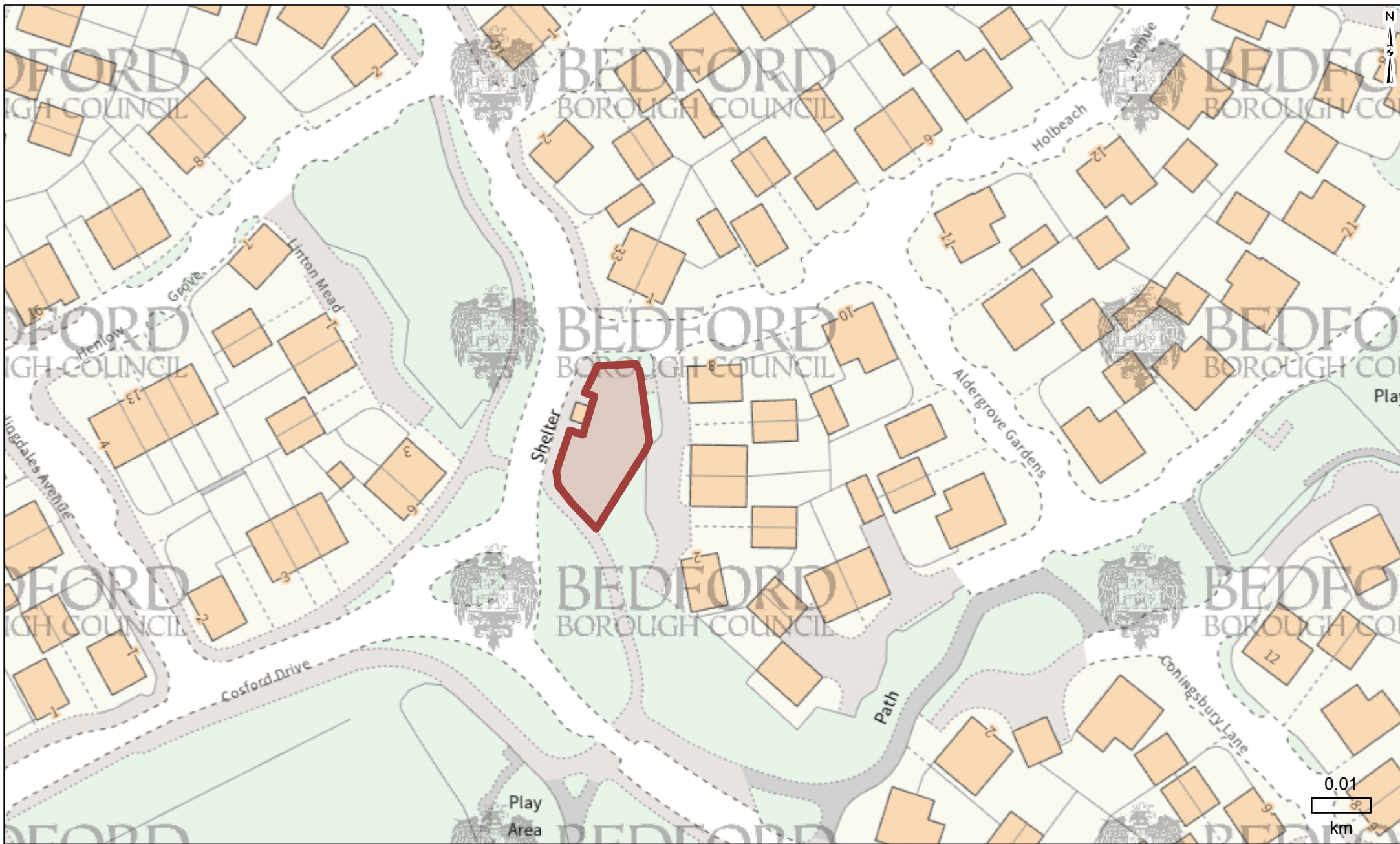
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Dogs Excluded





Shortstown - Holbeach Avenue Play Area

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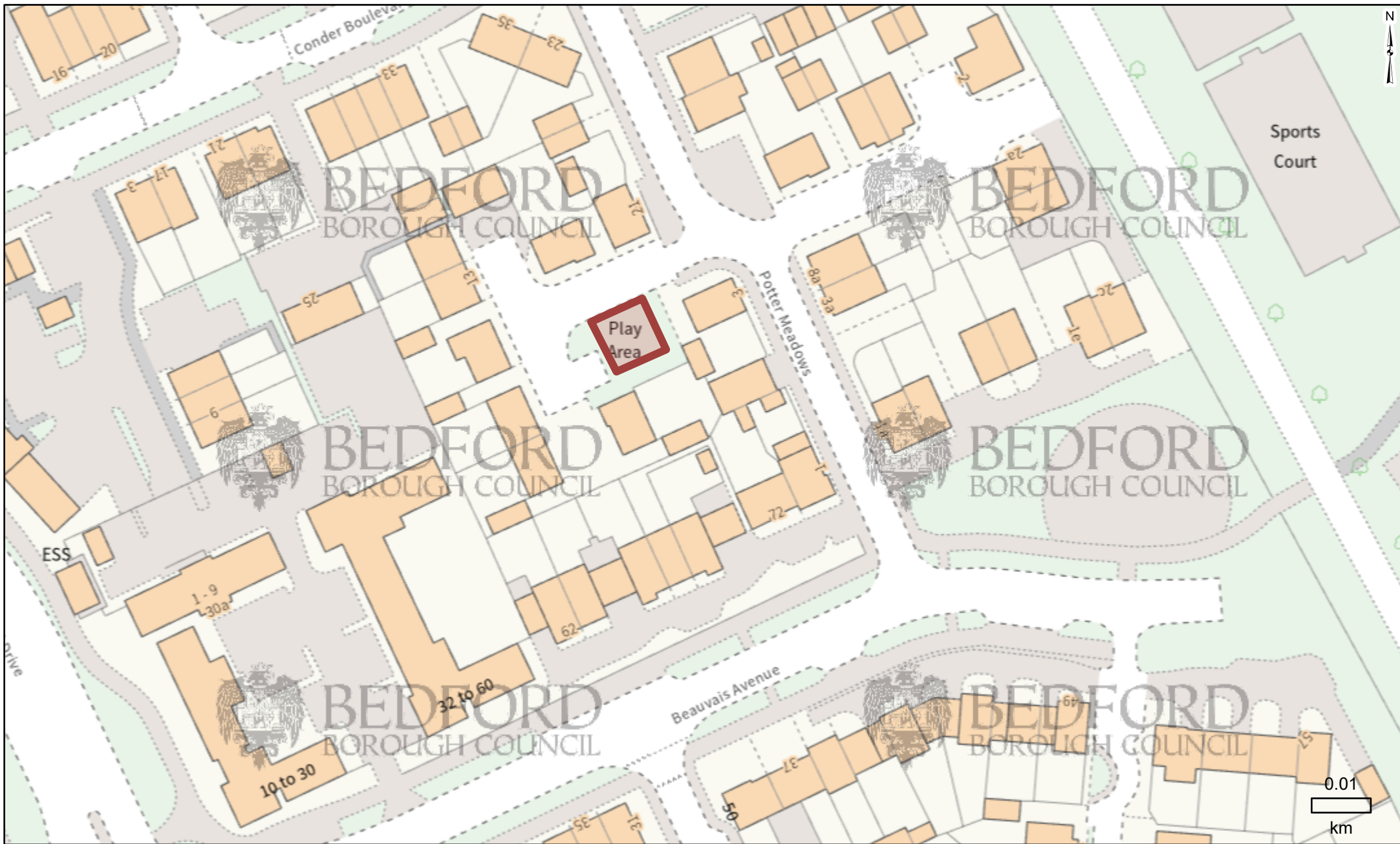


Shortstown - Newton Street MUGA

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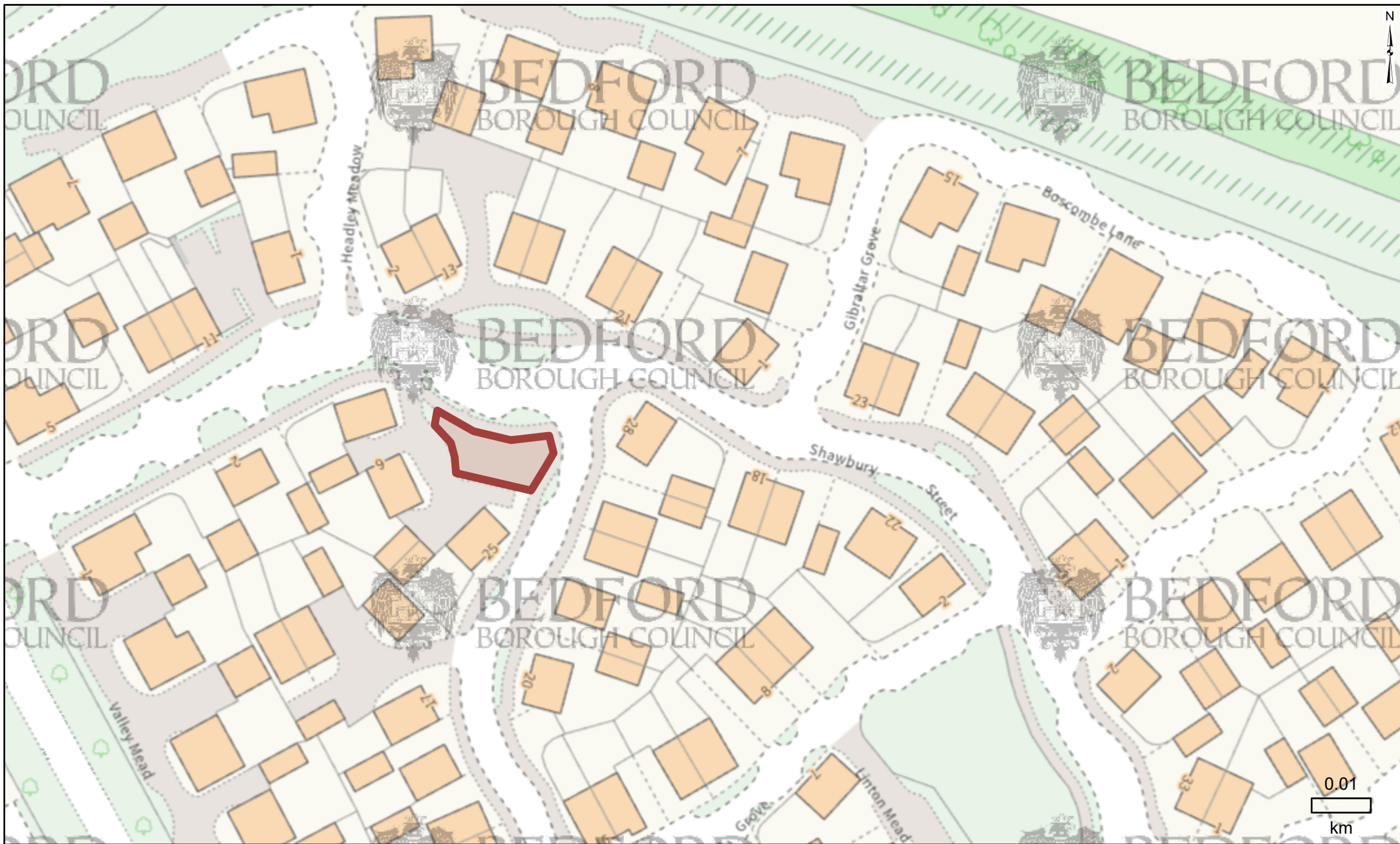
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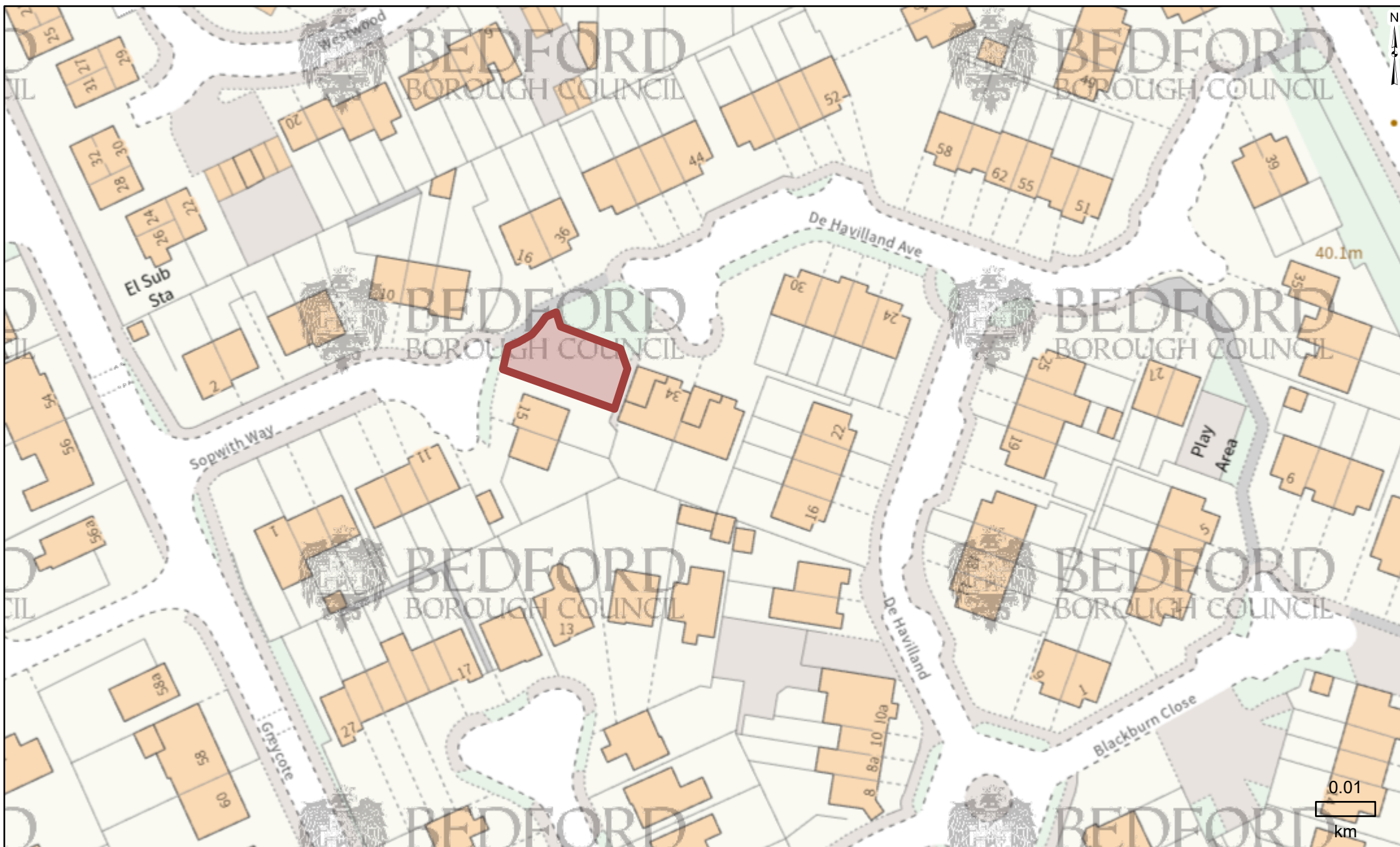
Shortstown - Potter Meadows Play Area

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Shortstown - Shawbury Street Play Area

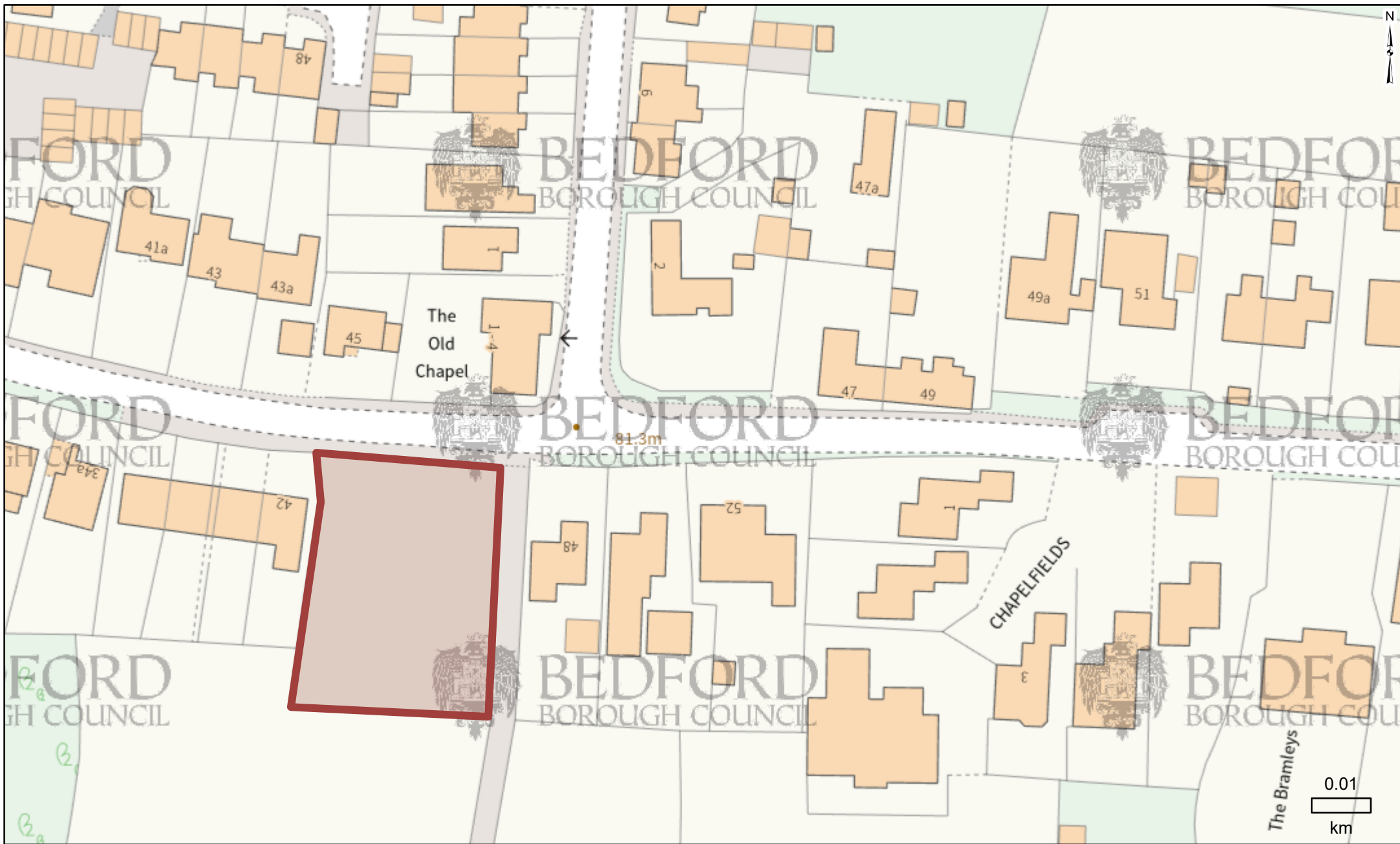
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Shortstown - Sopwith Way Play Area

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Thurleigh - Village Garden

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Dogs Excluded





Turvey Recreation Ground Tennis Courts

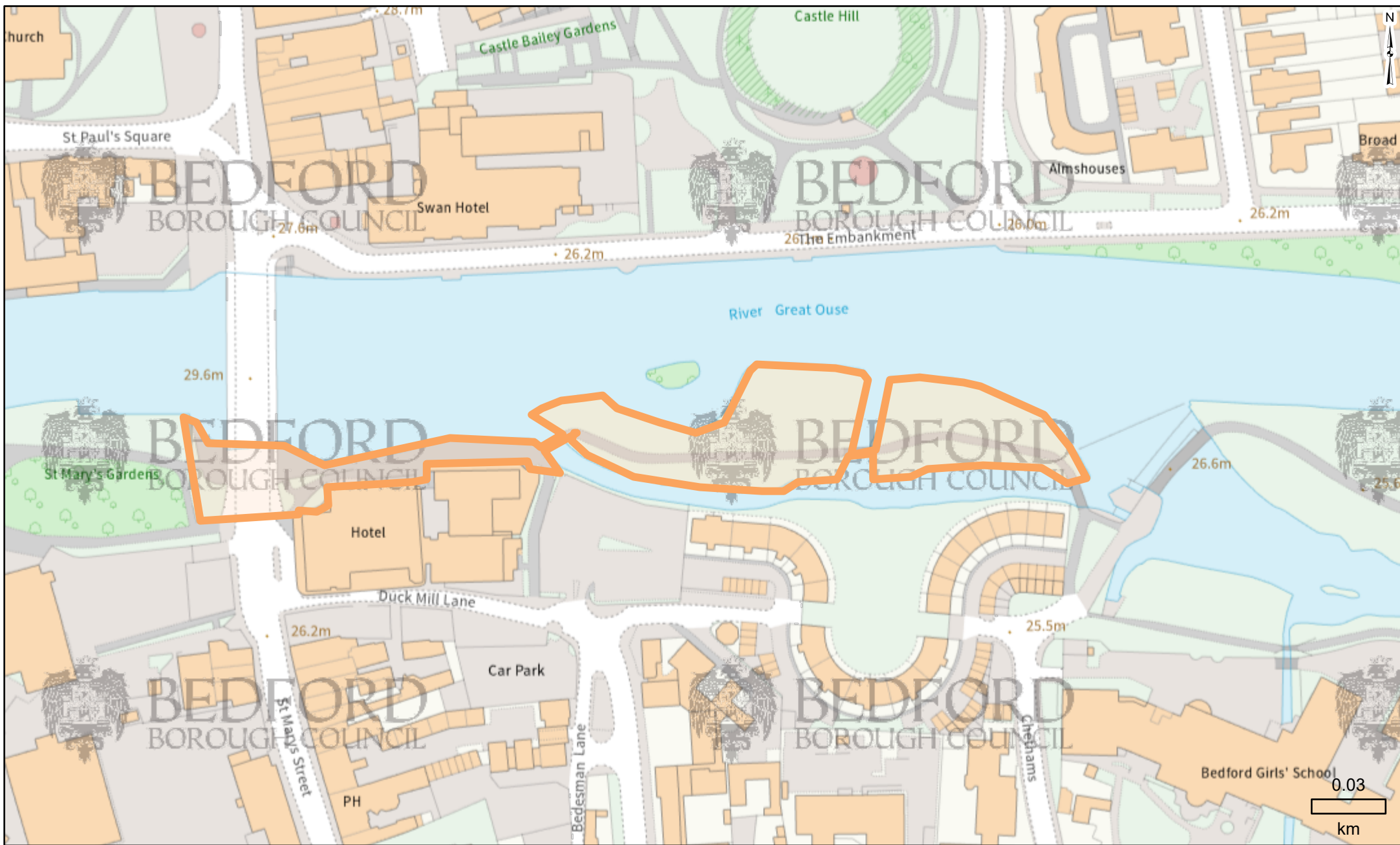
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Wymington - Church Lane Play Area

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Bedford -Embankment Duck Mill Walk (under Town Bridge)

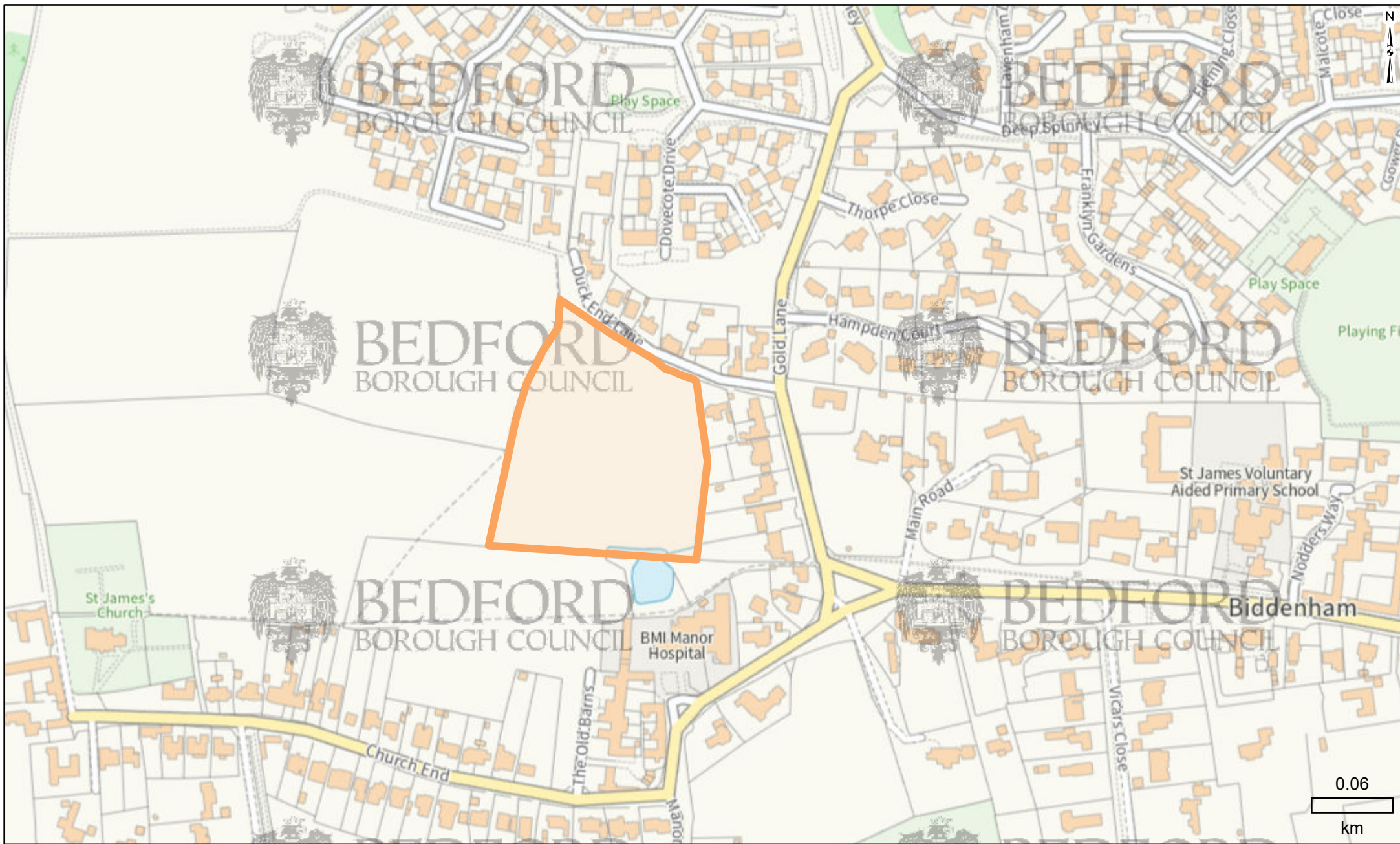
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**Dogs must be
kept on a lead**





Biddenham - Duck End Lane Conservation Area

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Bletsoe - New Parish Field

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**Dogs must be
kept on a lead**





Cotton End - Village Hall Playing Field

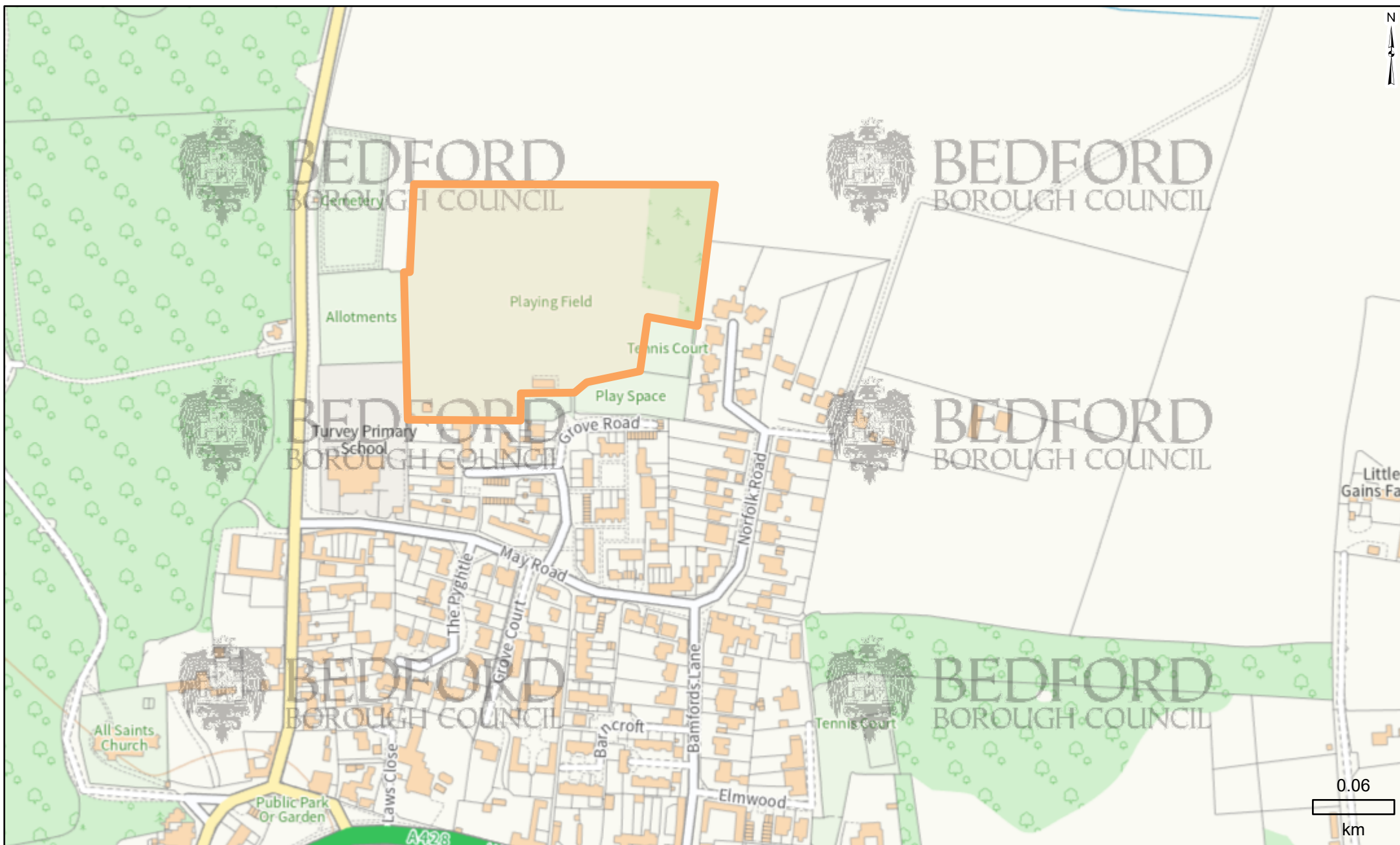
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**Dogs must be
kept on a lead**





Turvey - Recreation Ground Playing Field

1:3,307



ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

**SECTION 59
PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER**

THE BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

**EXTENSION OF THE
DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2016
AS VARIED**

The Bedford Borough Council Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 ("the 2016 Order") was made by the Bedford Borough Council ("the Council") on 27th July 2016 and was varied as follows:

1. from 22nd November 2017 to add restricted areas; and
2. from 20th April 2018 to remove any discount for early payment of a fixed penalty notice.
3. from 27th July 2019 to extend the term of the order to 26th July 2022.
4. from 27th July 2022 to add restricted areas and extend the term of the order to 26th July 2025

The 2016 Order, as varied, is hereby further varied by

- (a) adding further areas detailed in part 3 of Schedule 1 and part 3 of Schedule 2 which are subject to the restrictions detailed below; and
- (b) extending the term of the 2016 Order, as varied from 27th July 2025 to 26th July 2028; and
- (c) removing the amount of the fixed Penalty Notice as £75

in each case because the Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that activities of the nature specified in the restrictions below have been carried out, or are likely to be carried out in a public place in the administrative area of the Council and:

- Are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
- It is likely that those activities will be carried out in a public place within that area that will have such an effect
- The effect or likely effect of those activities is or will be persistent or continuing in nature, and
- Are such as to justify the restrictions to be imposed.

THE DOG CONTROL AREAS

The 2016 Order came into force from 27th July 2016 and, as varied, applies the restrictions listed below to:

- (i) all land in a public place within the administrative area of the Council as specified below in respect of restrictions a)iii and a)iv; and
- (ii) those sites detailed in parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 1 in respect of restriction a) i; and
- (iii) those sites detailed in parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 2 of this Order in respect of restriction a) ii

a) RESTRICTIONS

i. Dogs Exclusion: (applies to those sites listed in Schedule 1)

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on, any land detailed in Schedule 1 below.

ii. Dogs on Leads: (applies to those sites listed in Schedule 2)

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, (during the period specified in the schedule if stated), on land detailed in Schedule 2 below he does not keep the dog on a lead.

iii. Dogs on Leads by Direction: (applies to any part of the administrative area of the Borough)

A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on land in a public place within the administrative area of the Council he does not comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer to put and keep the dog on a lead, for such duration and in such manner as specified by the authorised officer.

iv. Fouling of Land by Dogs: (applies to any part of the administrative area of the Borough)

If a dog defecates at any time on land in a public place within the administrative area of the Council and a person who is in charge of the dog at the time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless

- a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so;
or
- b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Nothing in the restrictions set out at (i), (ii) (iii) and (iv) above shall apply to a person who:

- a) Is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948, where the offence is in relation to a dog upon which that person relies and which has been trained by a prescribed charity for assistance.

or:

- b) A person with a disability affecting their mobility, manual dexterity or ability to lift, carry or move everyday objects in relation to a dog upon which that person relies and which has been trained by a prescribed charity for assistance.

For the purpose of this Order –

- “Public place” means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission
- A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
- Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land;
- Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces
- “Authorised officer” means an employee, partnership agency or contractor of the Council who is authorised in writing by the Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order.
- Each of the following is a "prescribed charity" -
 - Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454)
 - Support Dogs Limited (registered charity number 1088281)
 - Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number (803680)

b) PERIOD FOR WHICH THE ORDER HAS EFFECT

The 2016 Order, as varied, is extended from 27th July 2025 to 26th July 2028.

At any point before the expiry of the aforementioned extended period the Council can review and vary the terms of the Order. As well as varying the Order the Council can also seek to discharge it at any time, subject to there being reasonable grounds to support such a decision.

c) WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER?

Section 67 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 states:

- 1) It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse:
 - a) To do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
 - b) To fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject under a public spaces protection order.
- 2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- 3) A person does not commit an offence under this section by failing to comply with a prohibition or requirement that the local authority did not have power to include in the public spaces protection order.

FIXED PENALTY

An authorised officer of the Council may issue a fixed penalty notice as an alternative to prosecution to anyone in contravention of the order. If you do not pay the fixed penalty notice you may be prosecuted.

APPEALS

Any challenge to this Order must be made in the High Court by an interested person within six weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in, or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the power to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

Interested persons can challenge the validity of this Order on two grounds, (i) that the Council does not have the power to make the Order or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or (ii) that one of the requirements of the legislation has not been complied with.

When an application is made the High Court can decide to suspend the operation of the Order pending the Court's decision, in part or in totality. The High Court has the ability to uphold the Order, quash it, or vary it.

Dated:

The Common Seal of
Bedford Borough Council
was hereto affixed in the presence of

[seal]

Signed:

Authorised Officer

SCHEDULE 1

(EXCLUSION OF DOGS)

PART 1 (EXISTING RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2022 to 26th July 2025 the restriction in paragraph a) i of this Order continues to apply to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Location	Area	Ward/Parish
Memorial Lane	Play Area	Bletsoe
Francis Groves Close	Play Area	Brickhill
Tyne Crescent Play Area	Play Area	Brickhill
Markham Rise	Play Area	Brickhill
Owls Park, Ashmead Road	Play Area	Brickhill
Toddler park, Grenadier Close	Play Area	Brickhill
Tydemans Close	Play Area	Brickhill
Crispin Drive	Play Area	Brickhill
Browning Close	Play Area	Bromham & Biddenham
Howkin Close	Play Area	Bromham & Biddenham
Chestnut Avenue	Play Area	Bromham & Biddenham
Molivers Lane	Play Area	Bromham & Biddenham
Holt Row	Play Area	Castle
Priory (Greyfriars)	Play Area	Castle
Russell Park	Play Area	Castle
Sovereign's Quay	Play Area	Castle
St Leonards Multi use games Area	Multi Use Games Area	Cauldwell
Althorpe Street	Play Area	Cauldwell
Dorsey Drive	Multi Use Games Area	Cauldwell
Faraday Square	Play Area	Cauldwell
Faraday Square	Multi Use Games Area	Cauldwell
Mowbray Road	Play Area	Cauldwell
Moor Lane	Games Area and Skate park	Cauldwell
Offa Road	Play Area	Cauldwell
Offa Road	Multi Use Games Area	Cauldwell
Clapham Folly	Play Area	Clapham
Clapham Folly	Multi Use Games Area	Clapham
Clapham Folly (The Glebe)	Play Area	Clapham
Clapham Folly (Fox Close)	Play Area	Clapham
King George Playing Field	Playing Field	Clapham
Bedford Park (West)	Play Area	De Parys
Bedford Park (East)	Play Area	De Parys
Bedford Park	Youth Zone	De Parys
Beauvais Square, New Cardington	Play Area	Eastcotts
Chamberlain Way, New Cardington	Play Area	Eastcotts
Miller Road	Play Area	Elstow
Titchfield Drive	Play Area	Elstow
Whitby Way	Play Area	Elstow
Birse Green	Play Area	Goldington
Ettrick Drive	Play Area	Goldington
Downside	Play Area	Goldington

Goldington Green	Senior Play Area	Goldington
Goldington Green	Junior Play Area	Goldington
Goldington Green	Multi Use Games Area	Goldington
Milburn Road	Play Area	Goldington
Saxon Grange	Multi Use Games Area	Goldington
Saxon Grange	Senior Play Area	Goldington
Saxon Grange	Play Area (1)	Goldington
Saxon Grange	Junior Play Area	Goldington
Saxon Grange	Play Area (2)	Goldington
Poppyfields	Play Area (1)	Goldington
Poppyfields	Play Area (2)	Goldington
Joyce Close	Play Area	Goldington
Fiona Way	Play Area	Goldington
Primrose Fields (opposite number 15)	Play Area	Goldington
Primrose Fields Area 3	Play Area	Goldington
Asgard Drive	Play Area (1)	Great Barford
Asgard Drive	Play Area (2)	Great Barford
Asgard Drive	Basket Ball Court	Great Barford
Tolkien Close	Play Area	Great Barford
Embla Close	Play Area	Great Barford
Great Barford Playing Field	Playing Field	Great Barford
Jubilee	Play Area	Great Barford
Clapham Road	Play Area	Harpur
Harrold Odell Country Park	Play Area (near café)	Harrold
Harrold Odell Country Park	Play Area	Harrold
Malakand Road	Play Area	Kempston Central East
Redwald Close	Play Area	Kempston Central East
The Pitts Junior	Play Area	Kempston Central East
St John's Street	Play Area	Kempston Central East
Hillgrounds Road	Play Area	Kempston North
Addison Howard Park	Basketball Area	Kempston North
Addison Howard Park	Play Area	Kempston North
Oak Croft	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Great Portway	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Little Portway	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Greenkeepers Park (near Saxon Way Way)	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Greenkeepers Park (near River Great Ouse)	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Watford Grove, Kempston	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Forvague Mead, Kempston	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Wood End Road, Kempston	Play Area	Kempston Rural
Lovat Walk	Play Area	Kempston South
Beech Walk	Play Area	Kempston South
The Almonds	Play Area	Kempston South
Southfields	Play Area	Kempston South
Southfields	Multi Use Games Area &	Kempston South
Balliol Road	Multi Use Games Area	Kempston West
Balliol Road	Play Area	Kempston West
Alburgh Close	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Duchess Road	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Jubilee Park	Multi Use Games Area	Kingsbrook
Jubilee Park	Play Area (1)	Kingsbrook
Jubilee Park	Play Area (2)	Kingsbrook
Jubilee Park	Basketball Area	Kingsbrook

Jubilee Park (Cottril Way)	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Lily Close	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Kathie Road	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Acord Way	Play Area	Kingsbrook
Radwell Road, Milton Ernest	Playing Field	Milton Ernest
Aylesbury Road	Play Area	Newnham
Cartmel Priory	Play Area	Newnham
Priory Park Country Park	Play Area	Newnham
Belvoir Walk	Play Area	Putnoe
Mowsbury Park	Basketball Area	Putnoe
Mowsbury Park	Play Area (1)	Putnoe
Mowsbury Park	BMX Area	Putnoe
Mowsbury Park	Play Area (2)	Putnoe
Mowsbury Park	Play Area (2)	Putnoe
Allens Park	Play and Multi Use	Queens Park
The Snipe	BMX Area	Queens Park
The Snipe	Multi Use Games Area	Queens Park
Westbourne Gardens	Play Area	Queens Park
Westbourne Gardens	Multi Use Games Area	Queens Park
Henley Road	Play Area x 3	Queens Park
Playing Field, Stevington	Play Area	Stevington
Recreation Ground, Turvey	Play Area	Turvey
Priory Close, Turvey	Play Area	Turvey
Jubilee Field	Playing Field	Wilshamstead
Kingfisher	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Whitworth	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Wixams Village Lake	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Kingfisher Road, Wixams (additional area)	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Green Lane, Wixams	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Green Lane, Wixams	3G Sports Pitch	Wilshamstead
The Waterfront, Lakeside Way, Wixams	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Dane Lane, Wixams	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Pheasant Grove, Wixams	Play Area	Wilshamstead
Wootton Recreation Ground	Recreation Ground	Wootton
Memorial Hall	Play Area	Wootton

SCHEDULE 1

(EXCLUSION OF DOGS)

PART 2 (ADDITIONAL RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2022 to 26th July 2025, and in addition to those areas set out in Part 1 of this Schedule, the restriction in paragraph a) i of this Order also applies to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Location	Area	Ward/Parish
Kingsfield	Playing Field	Bromham & Biddenham
Queen Eleanor Drive, Great Denham	MUGA	Kempston Rural
North of Country Park, Great Denham	Play area	Kempston Rural
Terrington Place, Great Denham	Play area	Kempston Rural
Queen Eleanor Drive, Great Denham	Play Hub	Kempston Rural
Ryder Close Great, Denham	Play area	Kempston Rural
Concorde Close, Shortstown	Play Area	Eastcotts
Southcote, Shortstown	Play Area	Eastcotts
Southcote, Shortstown	MUGA	Eastcotts
Park Crescent, Stewartby	Play Area	Elstow & Stewartby

SCHEDULE 1

(EXCLUSION OF DOGS)

PART 3 (ADDITIONAL RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2025 to 26th July 2028 the restriction in paragraph a) i of this Order continues to apply to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Area	Location	Street
Bedford (Brickhill)	Play Area	Calder Rise
Bedford (Brickhill)	Play Area (Opp 74)	Crispin Drive
Biddenham	Play Area - St Mary's playground	St James way
Biddenham	Play Area - St Mary's playground 2	Pintail Circle
Biddenham	Play Area Saxon Park play area	Peacock lane
Biddenham	St Mary's MUGA	St James Way
Cotton End	Play Area	Village Hall
Felmersham	Play Area	The Old Road
Kempston	Play Area (Hilton Close)	Wilkinson Road
Kempston	Play Area adjacent Noah Walk	Wilkinson Road
Roxton	Play Area / sport pitch	Park Road
Shortstown	Play Area (next to 61 Conder Boulevard)	Conder Boulevard
Shortstown	Play Area (Next to 4 Shawbury Street)	Shawbury Street
Shortstown	Play Area	Holbeach Avenue
Shortstown	Play Area(next to the field)	Aviation Way
Shortstown	Play Area	Coningsby Lane
Shortstown	Play Area	Cranwell Circle
Shortstown	Play Area (next to number 3)	Potter Meadows
Shortstown	Play Area (only the area enclosed with a fence)	Hastings Crescent
Shortstown	Play Area	Blackburn Close
Shortstown	Play Area	Sopwith Way
Shortstown	MUGA	Cosford Drive
Shortstown	MUGA	Newton Street
Thurleigh	Village Garden	High Street
Turvey	Tennis Courts	Grove Road
Wymington	Play Area	Church Lane

SCHEDULE 2

(THE KEEPING OF DOGS ON LEADS)

PART 1 (EXISTING RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2022 to 26th July 2025 the restriction in paragraph a) ii of this Order continues to apply to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Location	Area	Ward/Parish
Biddenham Pavilion	Sports Field and Grounds	Bromham & Biddenham
Bedford Town Centre	Town Centre	Castle
Foster Hill Road Cemetery	Cemetery	De Parys
Chapel Field	Open Space	Great Barford
Dothans Close	Open Space	Great Barford
Pyms Close	Open Space	Great Barford
Willoughby Close	Open Space (1)	Great Barford
Willoughby Close	Open Space (2)	Great Barford
Land known as Village Green No.27	Village Green	Great Barford
All Saints Church & Cemetery	Church & Cemetery	Great Barford
Norse Road Cemetery	Cemetery	Great Barford
High Road Cemetery	Cemetery	Kempston Rural
Pavenham	Playing Field	Oakley
St Peters Church, Pavenham	Churchyard	Oakley
St Mary the Virgin Church, Stevington	Churchyard	Oakley
Wilstead Allotments	Allotments	Wilshamstead
All Saints Church & Grounds	Church & Grounds	Wilshamstead

SCHEDULE 2

(THE KEEPING OF DOGS ON LEADS)

PART 2 (ADDITIONAL RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2022 to 26th July 2025, and in addition to those areas set out in Part 1 of this Schedule, the restriction in paragraph a) ii of this Order also applies to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Location	Area	Ward/Parish
St James Church Burial Ground extension	Cemetery	Bromham & Biddenham
Village Hall Sport Pitches, Bromham	Playing Fields	Bromham & Biddenham
Bromham Mill Woodland Walk	Woodland Walk	Bromham & Biddenham
Village Green (extend existing area)	Village Green	Great Barford
Grave Yard footpath (extend existing area)	Cemetery	Great Barford
Ravensden School Playing Field	Playing Field	Great Barford
Park Crescent, Stewartby	Playing Field	Elstow & Stewartby

SCHEDULE 2

(THE KEEPING OF DOGS ON LEADS)

PART 3 (ADDITIONAL RESTRICTED AREAS)

From 27th July 2025 to 26th July 2028 the restriction in paragraph a) ii of this Order continues to apply to all land described below and detailed on the plans attached in relation to each of those areas:

Area	Location	Street
Bedford	Embankment - swan nesting area	Duck Mill Walk
Bletsoe	New Parish Field	Village Hall
Biddenham	Conservation Area 1	Duck End Lane
Cotton End	Playing Field	Village Hall
Turvey	Recreation Ground	Grove Road

Equality Analysis Report
(V.11.2023)

Part 1

Title of activity / budget proposal title and number: <i>Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control</i>	Committee meeting (decision maker) and date: <i>Mayoral Decision July 2025</i>
Service area: Community Safety & Envirocrime	Is this activity: <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review </div> <i>Refer to section 2 of the Equality Assessment Guidance (EAG)</i>
Lead Officer Name and Title: Sarah Stevens Manager for Community Safety, Resilience & Flood Risk	Other Officer name(s) and title(s) supporting in carrying out the Equality Analysis, undertaking any review or actions: (If applicable) Andy Cooper Team Leader Enviro Criem & Pest Control
Approved by: (Director) John Molyneux Service Director Regulation, Housing & Customer Contact	Date of approval: July 2025

Policy/Procedure/Functions details

Please refer to the Equality Analysis Guidance (EAG)

Description of activity: *Briefly give an outline of the key objectives and intended outcomes*

a) To approve the extension of the Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control across the borough for a further three year period, and the adoption and implementation of the new sites in accordance with Statutory Powers and Processes with effect from 27th July 2025 which will cover:

- i) The Dog Exclusion Order;*
- ii) The Fouling of Land By Dog Order;*
- iii) The Dogs on Leads Order;*
- iv) The Dogs on Lead by Direction Order.*

b) Agree that the Director for Environment, following consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, be authorised to review the PSPO, its implementation, development and scope as required by the legislation

Who is/will be impacted by the activity's aims and outcome:

A PSPO is a tool that can be used to address anti-social behaviours that are regularly reported to partners and have a detrimental impact upon their quality of life.

The PSPO is relevant to the priorities set out in Bedford Borough's Corporate Plan, which focuses on achieving social and economic growth. Whilst it related to all priorities the PSPO is particularly relevant to 'Protecting the Environment' to deliver cleaner, greener and safer places for all persons that visit the areas designated in the order.

As such the PSPO will affect all persons that have reason to be in the designated areas, which may include those from protected groups. However, it should be noted that PSPOs are designed to address negative behaviours and are not targeted at specific persons.

Screening Test

Consider carrying out the activity stated in the EAG, Section 4 (Questions to ask) that can help you with the screening test. The screening questions will help you decide if an equality analysis is needed. Also, look at your responses to the above Policy/Procedure/Functions Section to help you answer the following questions:

1. The activity relates to one or more of the three aims of the Council's Equality Duty. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation</i> • <i>Advance equality of opportunity</i> • <i>Foster good relations</i> 	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. The activity sets out proposals for significant changes to services, policies etc. and / or significantly affects how services are delivered or presents a high risk to the Council's reputation	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The activity could / does affect one or more of the protected characteristics or other relevant groups <i>(Please refer to the EAG, Section 1 for further information)</i>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. The activity could / does affect protected characteristics or other relevant groups differently	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. The activity relates to an area where there are known inequalities.	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. One or more protected characteristics or other relevant group could be disadvantaged, adversely affected or are at risk of discrimination as a result of the activity.	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. The activity can affect relations between certain protected characteristics and other relevant groups?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If you have ticked YES to one or more of the above questions, then you need to complete an equality analysis. Please continue to complete Part 2 of the form				

8. If you ticked NO to ALL of the above questions then an equality analysis is not needed and briefly explain how the activity has no relevance to the Council's equality duties.

Please refer to section 6 of the EAG for guidance.

There is no evidence that the proposal to extend the existing PSPO for dog control and include new locations will impact upon any protected group and has no equality implications.

Nothing in the restrictions in the PSPO shall apply to a person who:

a) Is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948, where the offence is in relation to a dog upon which that person relies and which has been trained by a prescribed charity for assistance.

or:

b) A person with a disability affecting their mobility, manual dexterity or ability to lift, carry or move everyday objects in relation to a dog upon which that person relies and which has been trained by a prescribed charity for assistance.

Part 2 [SECTION 2 NOT APPLICABLE – SEE SCREENING TEST ABOVE]

Evidence, data, information and consultation

Please refer to Section 5 of the EAG.

What evidence have you used to analyse the effects on equality?	
What consultation did you carry out with protected equality groups to identify your activity's effect on equality?	

What does this evidence tell you about the different protected groups?	
What further research or data do you need to fill any gaps in your understanding of the potential or known effects of the activity?	

General Equality Duty

Which parts of the general equality duty is the activity relevant to?			
	Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Advance equality of opportunity	Foster good relations
Age			
Disability			
Gender reassignment			
Pregnancy and maternity			
Race			
Religion or belief			
Sex			
Sexual orientation			
Marriage & civil partnership			

Other Relevant Groups			
Social-economic			
Care experienced people			
Carers			
Rural residents			

Impact on Protected Characteristic and Other Relevant Groups

Based on the evidence presented what positive and negative impact will your activity have on equality?				
	Positive impact	Negative impact	No or neutral impact	Explanation
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Other Relevant Groups

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No or neutral Impact	Explanation
Social-economic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Care experienced people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Carers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Commissioned services

Only complete if the activity is being commissioned. Please refer to Section 7 of the Equality Assessment Guidance

What equality measures will be included in Contracts to help meet the three aims of the general equality duty?	
What steps will be taken throughout the commissioning cycle to meet the different needs of protected equality groups?	

Actions

	What will be done?	By who?	By when?	What will be the outcome?
Actions to lessen negative impact				
Actions to increase positive impact				
Actions to develop equality evidence, information and data				
Actions to improve equality in procurement / commissioning				
Other relevant actions				

Recommendation

No major change required <i>The evidence shows no negative effect or potential for discrimination.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adjustments required <i>The evidence shows your activity requires changes or adjustments to ensure it does not negatively affect any protected equality groups or miss opportunities to affect them positively. Explain the reasons for the steps you are taking in the 'Summary of analysis' section below.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Justification to continue the activity: <i>Negative impact on equality has been identified, however your activity can continue because the activity does not unlawfully discriminate as there are reasonable factors that make it objectively justified (looking at legal facts only) to do so. If unsure, please seek guidance from EDI Officer</i> <i>You will need to explain your justification in the 'Summary of analysis'</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stop the activity- <i>The equality analysis identified that your activity unlawfully discriminates and cannot be mitigated. This also cannot be objectively justified and your activity must stop.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary of analysis

Please refer to Section 8 of the Equality Analysis Guidance.

In preparing this report, due consideration has been given to the Borough Council's statutory Equality Duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations, as set out in Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010.

[Insert a summary of your equality analysis and explain your recommendation].

Monitoring and review

Monitoring and review	Review date
------------------------------	--------------------

It is the responsibility of the service area to hold a copy of the final version of this Equality Analysis and to ensure that it is accessible upon request.