

Planting Plan



Key to Plan

Existing retained tree canopy
 Proposed species rich grassland - Emorsgate EM3 or similar approved
 Proposed tree planting
 Proposed tarmac surfacing

Proposed permeable paving - such as Tobermore Hydropave 'Bracken' or similar approved
 Proposed species rich, semi-shade tolerant, grassland - Emorsgate EH1 or similar approved

Proposed Tree Schedule:

Code	Species	Form	Girth	Height cms	Root
CA	Corylus avellana	Regular Standard	8-10	250-300	40+ Litre
IA	Ilex aquifolium	Regular Standard	8-10	250-300	40+ Litre
SA	Sorbus aucuparia	Heavy Standard	12-14	350-425	45-65 Litre
ST	Sorbus torminalis	Heavy Standard	12-14	350-425	45-65 Litre

Notes to planting:

- 1 - All soft landscape works are to be carried out in accordance with BS4478 'Code of Practice for General Landscape Operations' and BS8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - recommendations'.
- 2 - Works should be carried out at the appropriate season and only in appropriate weather conditions.

Notes to drawing:

- 1 - For Planning purposes only.
- 2 - To be read in conjunction with Architect's drawings
- 3 - To be read in conjunction with the latest Drainage Strategy
- 3 - Copyright Briarwood Landscape Architecture Limited

Revisions:

- A - April 2024
B - May 2024



DRAWING Landscape Proposals Plan			
PROJECT Reading Scout and Guides HQ, Reading			
SCALE 1:200@A3	DATE Feb/2024	DRAWN SW	
DRAWING NUMBER BLA348-01		REVISION B	

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Existing trees on or adjacent to site are to be retained shall be protected in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations from commencement to completion of all works on site.
- 1.2 All excavated areas to be backfilled with existing subsoil where possible and supplemented with imported subsoil to BS 8601:2013 'Specification for subsoil and requirements for use' where required. Imported subsoil to be laid on site's existing subsoil profiles and overlaid with topsoil to BS 3882:2015 Specification for topsoil BS 3882 – General purpose grade.
- 1.3 All topsoiled areas to be clear of rocks and rubble larger than 50mm diameter and any other debris that may interfere with the establishment of plants. Grassed area to have a minimum depth of 150mm topsoil. Tree pit soil depth/volume in accordance with BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - recommendations.'
- 1.4 All plants are to be supplied in accordance with Horticultural Trade Association's National Plant Specification and from a HTA certified nursery. Delivery and backfilling of all plant material to be in accordance with BS4428/JCLI/CPSE Code of Practice for 'Handling and Establishing Landscape Plants, Parts I, II and III.
- 1.5 All trees shall be planted in accordance with BS: 8545:2014.
- 1.6 Unless otherwise specified, all planting and grass establishment / maintenance operations to be in accordance with BS 4428:1989 'Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces)'. Trees are to be established / maintained in accordance with BS8545:2014.
- 1.7 Planting will not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frost bound or during periods of cold drying winds.
- 1.8 If the formation level is compacted it should be ripped through before topsoiling.

2. TREE PLANTING

Ground Preparation and Tree Pit Excavation

- 2.1 If the formation level is compacted it will be ripped through before topsoiling.
- 2.2 Where necessary existing weeds will be treated with a suitable soil deactivated herbicide and a suitable period allowed to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
- 2.3 Tree pits will be excavated to at least 75mm wider than the diameter of the root spread and to be planted in accordance with BS 8545:2014. The bottom and sides shall be forked to break up the subsoil. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm diameter in any dimension will be removed from site.

Topsoil Volumes

- 2.4 Trees to be planted in 'Soft landscape area – A' as indicated on the Landscape Proposals Plan. Topsoil depth to be 0.9m throughout planting bed. Total soil volume to be approximately (37.5m x 1.2m x 0.9m) 40.6m³. Minimum total topsoil available to individual trees (7no) – approximately 5.8m³.

Planting

- 2.5 Trees are to be placed into the pits and backfilled with topsoil and subsoil previously excavated from the tree pit. The tree's root system should be wetted prior to planting.
- 2.6 The tree should be planted at the correct depth taking into account the position of the root flare and the finished level. Allowance should be made for settling of the soil after planting.
- 2.7 The rootball or root–stem transition should be level with the existing host soil or surface.
- 2.8 Backfill should be added gradually, in layers of 150 mm depth, ensuring the tree is held upright. At each stage the fill should be firmed in to eliminate all air pockets under and around the root system, but with care being taken not to excessively compact the soil.
- 2.9 The final layer of backfilling should not be consolidated, but should be of a sufficient depth to allow for settlement and mulching. A Tree Planting and Mulching Compost (at the rate of 20 litres/m²) is to be incorporated into the top 150mm of topsoil during backfilling.
- 2.10 Immediately after planting, the tree pit should be saturated to field capacity.
- 2.11 Trees shall be well firmed-in and secured with stakes, proprietary rubber tree ties and spacers as below.

- 2.12 All newly planted trees over 1.5m high will be held so that movement at the root collar is minimised until new roots have developed to anchor the tree. Therefore, low staking (75mm diameter x 1.5m length) will be used and attached to the tree at approximately 600mm above ground level. Stakes will be driven 300mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables. The trees will be staked using proprietary rubber ties and must be firmly fixed with a spacing device used to prevent chafing against the tree.
- 2.13 Trees shall be double staked. Composted bark mulch will be spread to a depth of 75mm across in a 1.0m diameter circle around all individual trees.
- 2.14 All trees shall be watered in at the end of each day of planting. Tree moisture levels are to be monitored in accordance with BS8545 11.3 Irrigation.

Maintenance during first growing season

- 2.15 All dead, dying or diseased trees will be replaced with trees of similar size and species. If the failure of the tree is due to disease and the disease is considered likely to re-occur then an alternative species may be used as replacement if agreed with the LPA.
- 2.16 The site is to be visited as required throughout the year to undertake the following operations:
- 2.17 Weed clearance: All planting areas will be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment.
- 2.18 Checking trees: All tree ties and stakes will be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chafing is occurring. Any broken stakes will be replaced.
- 2.19 Formative pruning: Any damaged shoots/branches will be pruned back to healthy wood. Plants will be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy well-shaped specimens.

Watering during first growing season

- 2.20 Watering shall be normally weekly (in the period April to October) in amount appropriate to the stock size – 20 litres per week for 8-10cm girth trees and 25 litres per week for 12-14cm girth trees. Tree moisture levels are to be monitored in accordance with BS8545 11.3 Irrigation. In periods of heavy rain, moisture levels may be particularly high and watering may need to be temporarily suspended to avoid waterlogging.

3. GRASS

Preparation

- 3.1 The area to be seeded will be cultivated to a depth of 100mm removing all weeds, debris and stones over 25mm diameter. The surface will be raked to smooth flowing contours with a fine tilth.

Seeding

- 3.2 Grass seed will be sown in accordance with BS 4428 (1989), and will be sown from April to May or from September to October, during calm weather and not when the ground is frost bound or waterlogged.

Neutral Grassland - EM3 (or similar approved)

- 3.3 Seed will be sown in two equal sowings in transverse directions at 4g/m² for Emorsgate EM3 or similar approved. After sowing the seed will be lightly rolled or threaded to create intimate contact with the soil.

Composition of EM3 Seed Mix

- 3.4 Emorsgate EM3, or similar approved, is a mix of 20% native wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses:

20% Wild flowers

0.2 *Agrimonia eupatoria* – Agrimony

0.2 *Anthyllis vulneraria* – Kidney Vetch

1.6 *Betonica officinalis* – Betony

0.8 *Carex flacca* – Glaucous Sedge

0.8 *Centurea scabiosa* – Greater Knapweed

0.5 *Chaerophyllum temulum* – Rough Chervil

1.6 *Daucus carota* – Wild Carrot

0.8 *Filipendula ulmaria* – Meadowsweet

0.9 *Filipendula vulgaris* – Dropwort

0.2 *Galium verum* – Lady's Bedstraw

1.3 *Knautia arvensis* – Field Scabious

0.8 *Leontodon hispidus* – Rough Hawkbit

0.8 *Leucanthemum vulgare* – Oxeye Daisy

0.2 *Lotus corniculatus* – Birdsfoot Trefoil

1.6 *Malva moschata* – Musk Mallow

1.2 *Plantago lanceolata* – Ribwort Plantain

0.3 *Primula veris* – Cowslip

2.4 *Ranunculus acris* – Meadow Buttercup

1.6 *Rhinanthus minor* – Yellow Rattle

0.3 *Rumex acetosella* – Sheep's Sorrel

1.3 *Scabiosa columbaria* – Small Scabious

0.3 *Silene latifolia* – White Campion

0.1 *Trifolium pratense* – Wild Red Clover

80% Grasses

8.0 *Agriostis capillaris* – Common Bent

32.0 *Cynosurus cristatus* – Crested Dogstail

24.0 *Festuca Rubra* – Red Fescue

16.0 *Poa pratensis* – Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass

Neutral Grassland - EM3 - First year management

- 3.5 Most of the sown meadow species are perennial and are slow to establish. Soon after sowing there will be a flush of annual weeds arising from the soil seed bank. These weeds can look unsightly but provide shelter for wildflowers and habitat for insects, and they will die before the end of the year. Cut the annual weeds in early August and remove arisings to a compost area. The remaining young meadow can then be kept short by mowing through to the end of March of the following year. All residual perennial weeds such as Docks should be removed by hand digging.

Management once established

- 3.6 Established grassland can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine its character. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn, and possibly spring, mowing.
- 3.7 Meadow grassland is not cut from spring through to late July/August to give sown species an opportunity to flower. After flowering in July or August take a 'hay cut': cut back with a scythe,

petrol strimmer or tractor mower to c 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days then remove to composting area.

- 3.8 Mow the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to c 50mm and again in spring if needed.

Semi-shade Tolerant Grass Mix – EH1 (or similar approved)

- 3.9 Seed will be sown in two equal sowings in transverse directions at 4g/m² for Emorsgate EM3 or similar approved. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. Do not incorporate or cover the seed but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact

Composition of EH1 Seed Mix

- 3.10 Emorsgate EH1 (or similar approved) is a mix of 20% wildflowers and 80% grasses that are tolerant of semi-shade and is suitable for sowing beneath newly planted trees and shrubs. The composition of the mix is as outlined below:

Wild Flowers 20%

0.50% Agrimonia eupatoria – Agrimony

1.00% Alliaria petiolata – Garlic Mustard

0.50% Anthriscus sylvestris – Cow Parsley

1.00% Arctium minus – Lesser Burdock

2.00% Centaurea nigra – Common Knapweed

0.40% Chaerophyllum temulum – Rough Chervil

0.80% Cruciata laevipes – Crosswort

0.80% Daucus carota – Wild Carrot

1.50% Dipsacus fullonum – Wild Teasel

0.40% Filipendula ulmaria – Meadowsweet

1.50% Galium album – Hedge Bedstraw

0.40% Geum urbanum – Wood Avens

0.30% Geranium pratense – Meadow Crane's-bill

1.00% Lathyrus sylvestris – Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea

1.20% Leucanthemum vulgare – Moon Daisy

1.00% Malva moschata – Musk Mallow

0.30% *Origanum vulgare* – Wild Marjoram

0.80% *Plantago lanceolata* – Ribwort Plantain

0.60% *Primula veris* – Cowslip

0.40% *Rumex acetosa* – Common Sorrel

2.00% *Silene dioica* – Red Campion

0.80% *Silene vulgaris* – Bladder Campion

0.80% *Vicia cracca* – Tufted Vetch

Grasses 80%

2.40% *Agrostis capillaris* – Common Bent (w)

1.60% *Anthoxanthum odoratum* – Sweet Vernal-grass (w)

0.80% *Brachypodium sylvaticum* – False Brome (w)

48.00% *Cynosurus cristatus* – Crested Dogstail

1.60% *Deschampsia cespitosa* – Tufted Hair-grass (w)

19.20% *Festuca rubra* – Red Fescue

6.40% *Poa nemoralis* – Wood Meadow-grass

Sem-shade Tolerant Grassland – EH1 - First year management

- 3.11 Most of the sown meadow species are perennial and are slow to establish. Soon after sowing there will be a flush of annual weeds arising from the soil seed bank. These weeds can look unsightly but provide shelter for wildflowers and habitat for insects, and they will die before the end of the year.
- 3.12 Cut the annual weeds in early August and remove arisings to a compost area. The remaining young meadow can then be kept short by mowing through to the end of March of the following year. All residual perennial weeds such as Docks should be removed by hand digging.

Management Once Established

- 3.13 The semi-shaded communities mixture is typically left uncut but will become rough and “tussocky” in character. It can form useful refuge habitat on corners and margins of a site. To control any invasive scrub or bramble development then tussocky areas should be cut every 2-3 years between October and February. For wildlife, such cutting is best done on a rotational basis so that no more than half the area is cut in any one year leaving part as an undisturbed refuge.

- 3.14 If becoming unsightly then the margins of the area can cut regularly can be managed as grassland.

4. WATERING

Trees

- 4.1 Watering is one of the prime keys to successful establishment after planting a tree.
- 4.2 Use a watering can with a rose attachment on the end to water, a hose pipe or other such method that will administer water slowly and at a low pressure, mimicking rainfall.
- 4.3 Water should be applied to the base of the trees, evenly distributed over the entirety of the root-ball to encourage even root development.

Immediately after planting

- 4.4 In spring and summer, water newly planted trees immediately (known as 'watering in').
- 4.5 In autumn and winter, it depends how wet the ground is, or if rain is due. At this time of year, it's only really necessary to water in if we are experiencing a dry spell, to make sure the roots don't dry out.
- 4.6 A newly planted tree should be watered in when planted, and at the point of bud burst in the spring and should be continued throughout the spring and summer until the leaves have fallen in autumn (for deciduous trees).

In the first year after planting

- 4.7 From April until October, water once a week. Increase this regime if we have a particularly hot and dry spell, and vice versa, reduce if the weather is very wet. Bear in mind that rain doesn't necessarily get to where it's needed, if the leaf canopy creates a 'rain shadow'. Dig down a little into the soil if you want to check how moist it is under the surface. Rates of watering should be 20 litres for 8-10cm girth trees and 25 litres for 12-14cm girth trees.
- 4.8 In autumn and winter, watering is not generally necessary, unless we have an un-seasonally warm and dry period.
- 4.9 Watering is advised for the first 2 summers after planting, further to this the tree should be able to access water from the surrounding soil.
- 4.10 Use bark mulch at the base of the tree to help retain water, prevent weed growth and also give you an indication of where you need to water.
- 4.11 Be mindful that newly planted trees do need watering, even if it has been raining. Rain is useful in slowing up the volume of water needed by a newly planted tree, as it is often cooler during such periods, however it is the root-ball of the tree that needs watering and often rainfall will not fall this close to the base of the tree, due to the width of the canopy

- 4.12 Ensure that water is draining well away after 10 minutes of application of water.

2-3 years after planting

- 4.13 After the first year, enough roots may have grown into the soil to allow the plant to drink up enough to support itself, but as a precautionary measure carry on watering during dry spells. Monitor the plants to help you decide whether to water. If they begin to look at all floppy, drench them. Yellowing, dropping leaves, on the other hand, can indicate over watering (but not always).
- 4.14 You can water further away from the stem during this time, as the root zone will have widened out. Watering further away will also encourage roots to spread out.

Peak watering times

- 4.15 Plants need most water when they are in active growth. Deciduous trees which lose their leaves in autumn, are in this state in spring and summer.
- 4.16 It is important that trees do not dry out completely, at any time of year.
- 4.17 Watering in the early morning or in the evening is most efficient.