

Thamesfield Village

Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

November 2024



Landscape Strategy

Turley Design were commissioned by Retirement Villages Group (RVG) to provide landscape proposals to support a full application for the part demolition of existing building and replacement with a three-storey extension to provide extra-care units (Use Class C2), with associated soft and hard landscaping works; provision of additional vehicle parking, bin stores and ancillary structures; and alterations to existing basement at Thamesfield Retirement Village, Henley-on-Thames.

Objectives

The landscape proposals have been informed and shaped by RVG's Landscape Design Code and Vision. The overarching themes of the Vision is to create a sense of place, promote physical and mental well-being, and implement climate resilience. These themes will be achieved within the landscape proposals by meeting the following objectives:

- Integrate with the existing surrounding landscape setting, including cultural, social and historical characteristics;
- Provide an inspiring and inviting first impression to visitors by aiming to uplift the quality of the public realm;
- Identify opportunities for the enhancement of biodiversity and participation by residents in caring for the planet;
- Encourage residents and staff to exercise and experience the outdoors;
- Promote locally sourced, organic fruit and vegetables for healthy eating options;

- Provide a safe and secure environment for a community to live, work and play, reducing anxiety levels and stress;
- Providing means and spaces for social interaction between residents;
- Implement spaces for a wide range of intellectually stimulating processes, such as bird watching or bee keeping;
- Make spaces and settings for rest and relaxation, promoting physical well-being;
- Provide habitat enhancements by connecting planted systems, integrating with adjacent habitats, and maximising green spaces; and
- Maximise daylight gain in winter, shade in summer and wind protection throughout the year by strategically placing trees.

Proposals

The adjacent Illustrative Landscape Masterplan sets out the landscape proposals for Thamesfield Village. Alongside the redevelopment of extra care units, the courtyard will undergo a transformation to create a high-quality communal outdoor space which has the potential to become the heart of the village.

The courtyard will be a scenic walk between destinations with interest along the route. The courtyard will be fully accessible for all users.

The design creates outdoor rooms within the courtyard, separated by a flowering pergola, which residents would journey through. A Kitchen Garden to one end and a Residents Garden to the other. This series of social spaces would promote impromptu conversations and meetings as well as organised activities which promote mental and physical well-being.

The courtyard will be a vibrant, stimulating, inclusive and beautiful place for residents, staff and their visitors to enjoy.

The western boundary woodland walk will connect the courtyard with the wider outdoor facilities whilst providing ecological enhancements to support wildlife.

The proposals support resident engagement and participation in outdoor activities. Residents will be able to help make decisions on the gardens and be involved in it's evolution, help with gardening, grow their own food , fruit veg and herbs and share their produce from the garden as well as organise events in the gardens. This will promote a sense of ownership and encouraging participation serves to promote wellness and a healthy sociable community.

The courtyard proposals have been designed to accommodate fire vehicle access and turning. Fire vehicles will be able to overrun the hard surfaced areas as well as the grassed areas which will be reinforced with pavers to accommodate their loading capacity requirements. There are no raised kerbs or built elements, ensuring a flush surface for the extent of the turning head.



- 1 Resin bound gravel
- 2 Raised beds
- 3 Allotment beds
- 4 Greenhouse
- 5 Garden shed
- 6 Bin store (inc. fence screen)
- 7 Circular tree bench
- 8 Benches, tables and chairs
- 9 Freestanding planters
- 10 Steps to basement
- 11 Patio over basement
- 12 Private balcony/ garden
- 13 Existing trees
- 14 Proposed trees
- 15 Ornamental shrub planting
- 16 Garden mix planting
- 17 Hedgerow planting
- 18 Meadow mix planting
- 19 Native shrub mix planting
- 20 Mown grass with protection mesh for fire vehicle access
- 21 Vertical bike shed

Kitchen Garden

- Provision for growing fruit, vegetables and herbs. Raised, robust allotment beds which are sufficiently spaced for comfortable access for all to use.
- Research in environmental psychology and horticulture demonstrates that the act of gardening has a positive psychological and therapeutic effect on people. Horticulture therapy for those with dementia focuses on positive reminiscence, re-connecting with others and gentle appropriate physical exercise and stimulation of a great number of cognitive processes which reduces the anxiety of living with dementia.
- A community Kitchen Garden Team consisting of interested residents and restaurant/ RVG management staff will ensure a thriving, productive kitchen garden. A Kitchen Garden Annual Management Plan will define activities and responsibilities throughout the year.
- Enabling equipment would be required – a greenhouse (to broaden the growing season/plant propagation) and a shed (for equipment storage) as well as outdoor taps, rainwater harvesting tank, electricity points and composting bins.



Resident's Garden

- The proposed terrace will offer a vibrant space for social interaction between residents. Dementia patients with a lower mental capacity enjoy emotional participation - they take interest in their social surroundings, observe people, are friendly and talk to others but do not have the strength to actively take part or integrate in busy social situation. Dementia patients appreciate a sense of concealment and protection, yet open views of their surrounding environment.
- The Resident's Garden will offer an attractive and inviting space to linger where residents will feel encouraged to spend time outdoors, feel safe and relaxed without it being overstimulated.
- A central feature would create a focal point, this may be a large ornamental tree, a water sculpture or a piece of art.
- Seating with back and arm rests have been arranged strategically to offer sunshine and shade opportunities throughout the day.
- Planting will incorporate species of flowering and sensory interest, providing seasonal variety and change throughout the year.



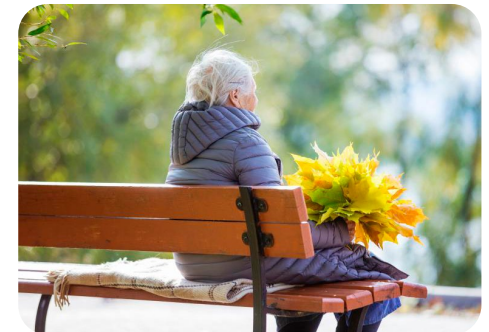
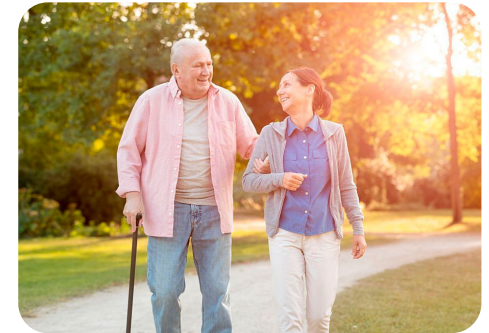
Private Outdoor Space

- Patio terraces to ground floor apartments. Extending 2m from the building and providing residents with c.16-20sqm of private amenity space. Paved spaces which provide residents an outdoor place they can make their own and personalise.
- To offer a degree of separation and enclosure between ground level private amenity space and the public courtyard, a 1.1m high balustrade would define their patio with hedgerow planting for greening and visual screening. Where space permits, further planting to the communal space would separate private boundaries from communal routes.



Woodland Walk

- Ecological enhancements to boundary vegetation will establish a wildlife corridor including supplementary tree and native shrub planting. Bird and bat boxes will provide nesting and roosting opportunities, whereas bird feeders will allow residents to bird watch from their apartments.
- Provision of a continuous and looped footpath network, set entirely outdoors, to offer diverse and interesting routes to explore and promote physical well-being. This will be informal surfacing of self-binding aggregate to enhance parkland setting, avoiding steps where possible.
- Structured locations of fixed furnishings create destinations, landmarks and circulation cues that encourage movement into and through the garden. Seating will be strategically located to provide places to rest.
- Movable furnishings allow an adaptable environment, creating places for both social interaction and also private contemplation for those not wishing to be sociable at that time.

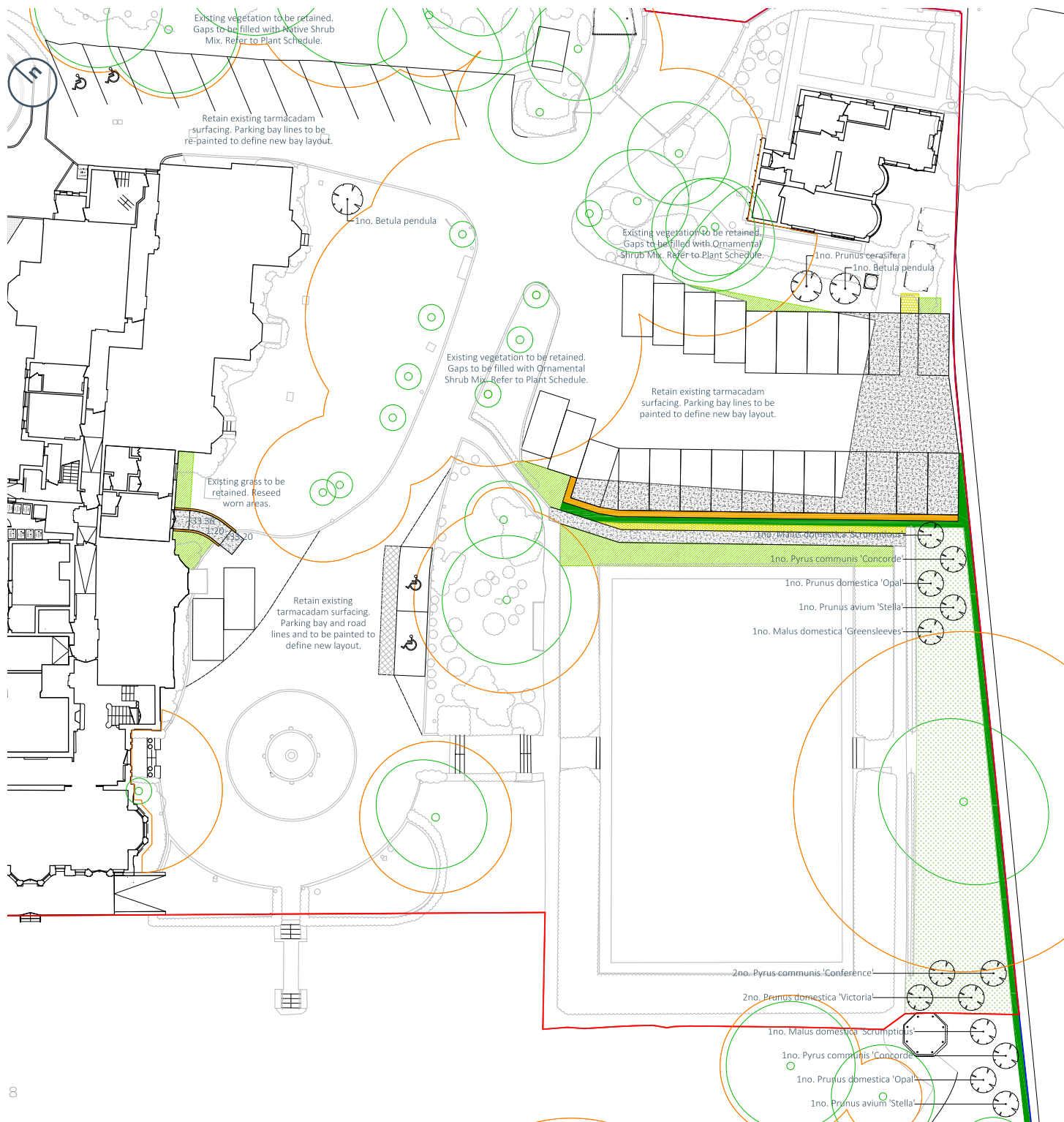




-  Application boundary
-  Ownership boundary
-  Resin Bound Gravel
Buff Colour. Permeable. Installed to product specification. Setts edging to courtyard. Aluminum edging to paths beyond courtyard and patio.
-  Setts
Single row of 100 x 100mm setts. Buff Colour. Laid flush to adjacent surfaces. Installation to engineers specification.
-  Suregreen PP40 Porous Paver Grass Finish
Or similar approved, suitable for Fire Engine overrun. Laid flush to adjacent hard surfaces. Installed to product specification.
-  Raised Beds
Height 60cm inc coping. Brick finish same as bricks to new building.
-  Allotment Beds
Height 60cm inc coping. Brick finish same as bricks to new building. To be filled with a soil/compost mix.
-  Retaining wall
Height min 1.1m above step level inc coping. Brick finish same as bricks to new building.
-  Greenhouse
6ft x 8ft. Timber or aluminum frame, apex. Concrete base. RVG product choice.
-  Garden Shed
6ft x 8ft. Pressure treated timber, tongue and groove, apex. Concrete base. RVG product choice.
-  Garden Bench
Hardwood timber. With back and arm rests. Freestanding. RVG product choice.
-  Circular Tree Bench
D.2m approx. Hardwood timber. With back rest. RVG product choice.
-  Table and Chairs
Freestanding. RVG product choice.
-  Large Planters
Freestanding. RVG product choice.
-  Small Planters
Freestanding. RVG product choice.
-  Vertical Bike Locker
Galvanised steel. RVG product choice. Installed to manufacturers specifications.
-  Fence Screen to Bin Store
6ft horizontal double slatted panels (slats mounted alternately on the front and back of the panel). Pressure treated timber. Timber or concrete posts.
-  Balustrade to patio
To match balustrades to terrace or to balconies.
-  Existing tree retained
-  Combined root protection area

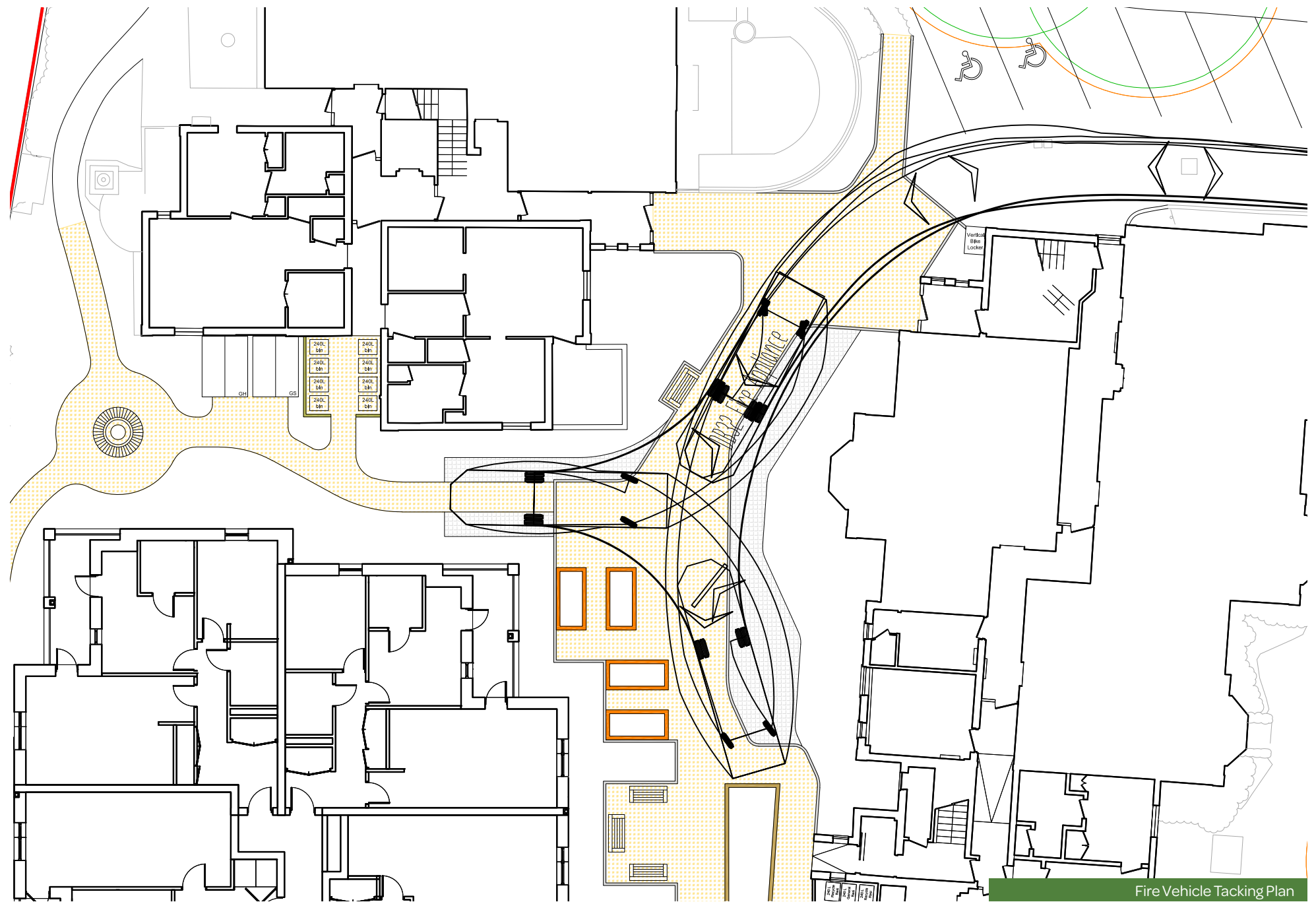


- Application boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Existing tree retained
- Combined root protection area
- Proposed tree
- Ornamental hedgerow
Planted in a single row, at 3no. plants per linear metre
- Garden Mix 1
Interspersed with Infills and Bedding Mix
- Garden Mix 2
Interspersed with Infills and Bedding Mix
- Garden Mix 3
Interspersed with Infills and Bedding Mix
- Infills and Bedding Mix
- Ornamental Shrub Mix
Interspersed with Infills and Bedding Mix
- Native Shrub Mix
Retain existing vegetation where possible and add additional plants where needed.
- Meadow Mix
- Close Mown Grass
- Close Mown Grass with Suregreen
PP40 Porous Paver Grass Finish
Product: Suregreen PP40 Pourous Pavers or similar approved. Installed to product specification.
- Allotment Bed
To be filled with a soil/compost mix. Planted contents to be decided by residents and Kitchen Garden Team.



- Application boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Tarmacadam
Continuation of existing surface materials.
Installed to product specification.
- Extent of existing tarmacadam to be retained
- Relocated garden path
New area of path to use the same or similar approved product as existing garden paths.
Installed to engineers specification.
- Retaining wall
Height min.50cm above floor level of car park inc coping. Brick finish same as bricks to new building.
- Existing tree retained
- Combined root protection area
- Proposed tree
- Native hedgerow
Planted in a double staggered row, 400mm between rows, at 5no. plants per linear metre
- Ornamental shrub mix
In areas of existing vegetation, retain existing vegetation where possible and add additional plants where needed.
- Meadow mix
- Infill and bedding mix

Hard and Soft Car Park Landscape Plan



Hard Materials

Hard materials across the proposals will look to complement or match the proposed new architecture. Colours look to be soft and neutral to create a calming environment, allowing the natural colouring of plants to animate the spaces.

High-quality surface materials have been chosen for their suitability for elderly residents. Surfaces will be smooth yet with anti-slip properties and there will be no loose stone or uneven surfaces. Small kerbs have not been used to avoid trip hazards.

Furniture with back and arm-rests for this will be provided to reflect the resident demographic. High quality, robust hardwood timber will be used to maximise lifespan and reduce maintenance costs. All timber to be FSC certified and sustainably sourced.

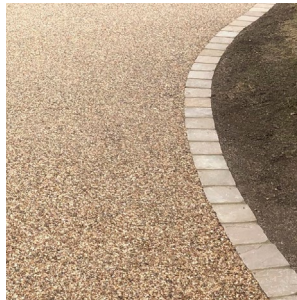
Surface Materials



Resin bound gravel



Aluminium edging to resin bound gravel



Setts edging to resin bound gravel



SureGreen PP40 Lawn Protection Mesh

Built Elements



Raised beds and allotments



Balustrade to patio



Fence screen to bin store

Furniture



Benches



Circular Bench



Tables and Chairs



Greenhouse



Shed



Vertical bike shed

Plant Schedule

This Planting Schedule sets out an indicative species list for the garden mixes, climbers, infill and bedding plants, wildflower grassland areas, hedgerows and trees.

Plant species have been chosen for their suitability to site conditions, in particular partial shade due to the courtyard setting, and for their seasonal interest and sensory properties. Colour, form and scent have all been important considerations as well as using more traditional varieties which residents will recognise. A mix of both evergreen and deciduous species have been chosen alongside species which are pollinators and bee-friendly or have other wildlife-benefitting properties.

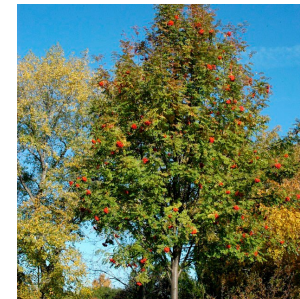
Orchard & Car Park Trees	
Rootballed or container grown. Select Standard.	
Tree pit size: 900 x 900 x 750mm, backfilled with topsoil.	
Underground tree anchoring system. 0.6m dia. bark surface to pits.	
10-12cm stem girth. 3-3.5m height. Min 2m clear stem.	
Species	Common Name
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Malus domestica</i> 'Scrumptious'	Apple 'Scrumptious'
<i>Malus domestica</i> 'Greensleeves'	Apple 'Greensleeves'
<i>Pyrus communis</i> 'Concorde'	Pear 'Concord'
<i>Pyrus communis</i> 'Conference'	Pear 'Conference'
<i>Prunus domestica</i> 'Opal'	Plum 'Opal'
<i>Prunus domestica</i> 'Victoria'	Plum 'Victoria'
<i>Prunus avium</i> 'Stella'	Cherry 'Stella'
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Cherry Plum

Courtyard Trees	
Rootballed or container grown. Select Standard.	
Tree pit size: 900 x 900 x 750mm, backfilled with topsoil.	
Underground tree anchoring system. 0.6m dia. bark surface to pits.	
10-12cm stem girth. 3-3.5m height. Min 2m clear stem.	
Species	Common Name
<i>Acer griseum</i>	Paperbark Maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Emerald Queen'	Norway Maple
<i>Betula utilis</i> var. <i>Jacquemontii</i>	Himalayan Birch 'Jacquemontii' (multi-stem)
<i>Prunus</i> 'Amanogawa'	Cherry 'Amanogawa'
<i>Prunus</i> 'Royal Burgandy'	Cherry 'Royal Burgandy'
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
<i>Sorbus aria</i> 'Lutescens'	Whitebeam

Trees



Acer griseum (Paperbark Maple)



Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan)



Betula utilis var. *Jacquemontii* (Birch)



Malus domestica 'Scrumptious' (Apple)



Prunus avium 'Stella' (Cherry)



Pyrus communis 'Conference' (Pear)

Ornamental Plant Mixes		
Garden Mix 1		
Planted at 4/m ² , except specimens planted as individuals		
Species marked * to be located to the front of beds		
groups of 3, 5 and 7no.		
Species	Stock	Size
Choisya 'Aztec Pearl' (Specimen)	C10L	40-50cm
Hebe 'White Gem'*	C5L	30-40cm
Hauchera micrantha 'Palace Purple'*	C3L	-
Kniphofia 'Royal Standard'	C3L	30-40cm
Lavandula angustifolium 'Hidcote'	C2L	20-30cm
Lobelia cardinalis 'Queen Victoria'	C3L	30-40cm
Pittosporum tenifolium 'Tom Thumb'*	C3L	20-30cm
Santolina virens*	C3L	20-30cm
Salvia officinalis 'Purpurascens'	C5L	-
Spiraea japonica 'Gold Mound'*	C3L	30-40cm
Stipa tenuissima	C2L	-

Garden Mix 2		
Planted at 4/m ² , except specimens planted as individuals		
Species marked * to be located to the front of beds		
To be planted in single species staggered informal groups of 3, 5 and 7no.		
Species	Stock	Size
Artemisia ludoviciana 'Valerie Finnis'	C2L	40-60cm
Bergenia cordifolia 'Purpurea'	C2L	20-30cm
Hebe 'White Gem'*	C5L	30-40cm
Choisya 'Aztec Pearl'	C3L	30-40cm
Philadelphus 'Belle Etoile'	C10L	Specimen
Phormium tenax 'Purpureum'	C10L	Specimen
Polystichum setiferum	C2L	30-40cm
Rosmarinus 'Miss Jessop's Upright'	C2L	40-60cm
Salvia verticillata 'Purple Rain'	C3L	30-40cm
Skimmia 'Kew Green'*	C3L	30-40cm
Spiraea japonica 'Firelight'	C3L	30-40cm

Garden Mix 3		
To be planted at 3/m ² and in single species groups of 3, 5 and 7no.		
Species marked * to be located to the front of beds		
In small beds, select species marked **, specimens as groups of 1, 3 or 5no.		
Species	Stock	Size
Bergenia cordifolia 'Purpurea'	C2L	20-30cm
Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Forester'	C10L	Specimen
Cornus alba 'Sibirica'	C10L	Specimen
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'	C2L	20-30cm
Geranium macrorrhizum 'Johnson's Blue'	C2L	20-30cm
Hebe 'Champagne'	C2L	20-30cm
Hebe 'White Gem'**	C5L	30-40cm
Hydrangea macrophylla 'Lanarth's White'	C3L	30-40cm
Lavandula angustifolium	C2L	20-30cm
Perovskia 'Blue Spire'	C; 9cm	-
Stipa gigantea	C10L	Specimen
Vinca minor 'Atropurpurea'	C3L	30-40cm

Garden Mixes



Kniphofia 'Royal Standard'



Lavandula angustifolium 'Hidcote'



Artemisia ludoviciana 'Valerie Finnis'



Phormium tenax 'Purpureum'



Stipa gigantea



Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'

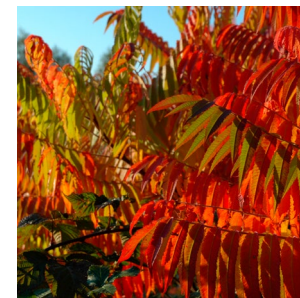
Ornamental Shrub Mix		
300mm depth of topsoil onto 300mm depth subsoil		
Ultimate plant height is above 1m. All evergreens.		
Species	Supply size	Pot size
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	90-120cm	15L
<i>Choisya ternata</i> 'Sundance'	40-60cm	3L
<i>Cornus alba</i> 'Elegantissima'	90-120cm	15L
<i>Cornus alba</i> 'Sibirica'	40-60cm	3L
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> 'Emerald Gaiety'	40-60cm	3L
<i>Photinia × fraseri</i> 'Red Robin'	40-60cm	3L
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	100-125mm	20L
<i>Skimmia × confusa</i> 'Kew Green'	40-60cm	3L
<i>Viburnum davidii</i>	20-30cm	3L
<i>Viburnum tinus</i> 'Eve Price'	30-40cm	3L

Native Shrub Mix		
Typically planted as a density of 3/m ²		
Plant Name	Common Name	Height
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	40-60cm
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	40-60cm
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	40-60cm
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	40-60cm
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat willow	40-60cm
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Common gorse	40-60cm
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder rose	40-60cm

Native Hedgerows			
Planted in a double staggered row, 450mm between rows, at 5no. plants per linear metre.			
300mm depth of topsoil onto 600mm depth subsoil			
To be maintained at a maximum height of 2.0m			
%	Plant Name	Common Name	Height
30	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	40-60cm
45	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	40-60cm
5	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	40-60cm
5	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	40-60cm
10	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	40-60cm
5	<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	40-60cm

Ornamental Hedgerow			
To perimeter of balconies on ground floor. Select single species.			
Planted in a single row, at 3no. plants per linear metre.			
%	Plant Name	Common Name	Height
100	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Privet	60-90cm
100	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> 'Aureum'	Golden Privet	60-90cm
100	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> 'Rotundifolia'	Chery Laurel	60-90cm

Shrubs & Hedgerows



Rhus typhina



Photinia × fraseri 'Red Robin'



Skimmia × confusa 'Kew Green'



Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'



Native mixed-species hedgerow



Ligustrum ovalifolium 'Aureum'

Infills and Bedding		
Used throughout planting areas and in containers to add initial colour and interest		
Species	Stock	Size
Campanula portenschlagiana	1L	Clump
Carex 'Ice Dance'	1L	Clump
Festuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'	1L	Clump
Geranium 'Rozanne'	2L	Clump
Narcissus - mixed	Bag	
Nepeta 'Junior Walker'	1L	Clump
Osteospermum jucundum 'Compactum'	1L	Clump
Pachysandra terminalis	1L	Clump
Phlomis russeliana	2L	5 per metre
Rudbeckia hirta 'Indian Summer'	1L	Clump
Sedum spectabile	1L	Clump
Stachys byzantina 'Silver Carpet'	1L	Clump
Verbena bonariensis 'Buenos Aires'	1L	Clump
Vinca minor mixed	1L	Clump

Meadow	
To be sown on nutrient poor soil to BS3882:2015 'Low Fertility Specification', or cultivated and screened subsoil	
Mix	Specification
Basic General Purpose Meadow Mix	Emorsgate Seeds, Mix EM1. Sown at 4g/m². 20% wildflower and 80% grasses.
Grass	
150mm depth of topsoil onto 150mm depth subsoil	
Location	Specification
Close Mown Grass Areas	Germinal Seeds, Mix A22 (Low Maintenance). Sown at 50g/m².

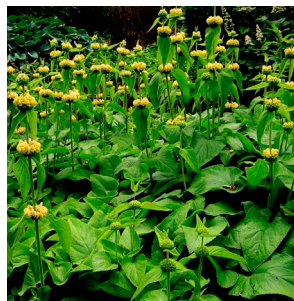
Infills & Bedding



Festuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'



Stachys byzantina 'Silver Carpet'



Phlomis russeliana



Verbena bonariensis 'Buenos Aires'

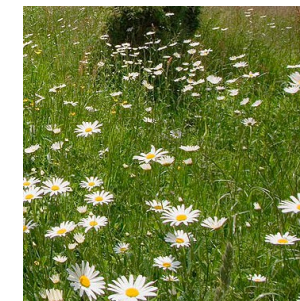


Rudbeckia hirta 'Indian Summer'



Sedum spectabile

Meadow



Basic General Purpose Meadow Mix

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