

## **HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN (V1 – August 2028)**

### **St Paul's Church of England Junior School SEND Resource Base**

**Planning Application Ref: 260425**

#### **Introduction**

This Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) has been prepared in support of the discharge of Condition 7 attached to planning permission reference 260425. The document sets out the long-term management and monitoring measures required to maintain and enhance the biodiversity features associated with the approved development and to secure the biodiversity net gain identified within the approved Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment.

#### **Existing Habitats**

The application site comprises:

- Modified amenity grassland;
- Areas of hardstanding and sealed surfaces;
- A small willow tree.

The site is of relatively low ecological value and contains no priority habitats.

#### **Proposed Habitats**

The approved development includes:

- Retained areas of modified grassland;
- New introduced shrub planting;
- New native planting and wildflower meadow areas;
- Native hedgerow planting;
- Sixteen new trees; and
- Associated biodiversity enhancement measures.

The biodiversity metric demonstrates an increase from approximately 0.29 habitat units to 0.33 habitat units, representing a biodiversity net gain of approximately 13.8%.

#### **Ecological Objectives**

The objectives of this HMMP are to:

- Secure the successful establishment of new planting;
- Maintain the biodiversity enhancements delivered by the development;

- Ensure successful establishment of the sixteen proposed trees;
- Maintain meadow, shrub and hedgerow planting in good condition;
- Provide long-term biodiversity benefits on-site; and
- Secure biodiversity net gain for a minimum period of 30 years.

## **Management Prescriptions**

### **Grassland and Wildflower Areas**

Retained grassland and wildflower meadow areas shall be maintained through routine grounds maintenance.

Management shall comprise:

- Regular mowing in accordance with the approved landscape maintenance schedule;
- Removal of litter and debris;
- Control of invasive and nuisance weeds where necessary;
- Retention of the meadow area and mown path; and
- Prevention of encroachment by storage or other activities.

### **Shrub and Planting Areas**

New shrub and ornamental planting shall be managed to ensure successful establishment.

Management shall comprise:

- Watering during prolonged dry periods;
- Weed control where necessary;
- Replacement of dead or dying specimens;
- Mulching where appropriate; and
- Maintenance in accordance with good horticultural practice.

### **Native Hedgerow**

The approved native hedgerow planting shall be managed to promote healthy growth and structure.

Management shall comprise:

- Watering during establishment;

- Weed control;
- Formative pruning where required; and
- Replacement of failed specimens during the next available planting season.

## **Trees**

The approved sixteen trees shall be managed to ensure successful establishment and long-term growth.

Management shall comprise:

- Watering during the establishment period;
- Inspection of stakes and ties;
- Replacement of failed specimens;
- Mulching where appropriate; and
- Formative pruning where required.

Any tree that dies, becomes diseased, or is removed within the 30-year management period shall be replaced during the next available planting season with a specimen of similar species and size.

## **Monitoring**

Monitoring shall comprise:

- Quarterly inspections during Years 1-3; and
- Annual inspections thereafter.

Monitoring shall confirm:

- The condition and survival of trees, hedgerows and planting areas;
- The retention of approved habitats;
- The successful establishment of wildflower meadow areas;
- Success of replacement planting where required; and
- Any remedial measures necessary to maintain habitat quality.

## **Remedial Measures**

Where monitoring identifies failures, remedial measures shall include:

- Replacement of dead trees, shrubs or hedgerow plants;
- Reinstatement of failed wildflower or grassland areas;

- Additional watering during prolonged dry periods;
- Control of invasive or nuisance vegetation; and
- Any other measures necessary to achieve the objectives of this HMMP.

Remedial works shall be undertaken during the next available planting season following identification of the issue.

### **Delivery Body**

Management and monitoring shall be undertaken by, or on behalf of, Wokingham Borough Council and/or St Paul's Church of England Junior School as the body responsible for maintenance of the site.

### **Funding Mechanism**

Funding for implementation of this HMMP shall be provided through routine grounds maintenance and estate management budgets associated with the operation of St Paul's Church of England Junior School.

### **Summary**

This HMMP secures the long-term management and monitoring of:

- Retained grassland;
- Wildflower meadow areas;
- Native hedgerow planting;
- New shrub and ornamental planting;
- Sixteen new trees; and
- Associated biodiversity enhancements.

The measures set out above will ensure the biodiversity gains delivered by the development are maintained for a minimum period of 30 years.