OMC Associates

Landscape Strategy

CLIENT:	Lowden Construction
SITE:	Audley Barns, East Road, Great Gransden, SG19 3AB
OUR REF:	2308SLcj0106
DATE OF REPORT:	24 October 2025

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1.0 BACKGROUND

APPENDICES

A. Plant Schedule

B. Soft landscape plan

C. Landscape management strategy

D. Tree planting specification

E. Photos

1.0 BACKGROUND

- This document has been prepared by OMC Associates on instruction from Lowden Construction to discharge Condition 6 attached to planning consent 22/00390/FUL.

- The document includes:

  a detailed soft landscape plan

  a plant schedule

  a landscape management plan

- The key objective of this landscape strategy is to introduce a natural setting for the new conversion of Audley Barns to residential use and to ensure successful establishment and development of the specified planting.

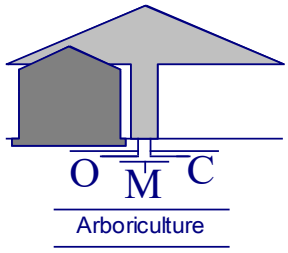
- Planting shall be carried out in the first planting (and seeding) season following completion of the development.

- The planting specifications will be fully compliant with the attached landscape plan and planting schedule.

- All soft landscape operations will be carried out by fully qualified horticulturists to ensure successful establishment and strong plant development and will comply from the start with BS 4428: 1989, Code of practice for general landscape operations.

- Landscape operatives will be cognizant of and comply with the guidelines BS 8545: 2012, Trees, from nursery to independence in the landscape. Plant stock must comply with British Standards 3936, 4043 & 5236 and soils with British Standards 3882 and 4428.

- Anyone carrying out landscaping and garden maintenance should be fully cognizant of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended by the Countryside & Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994.



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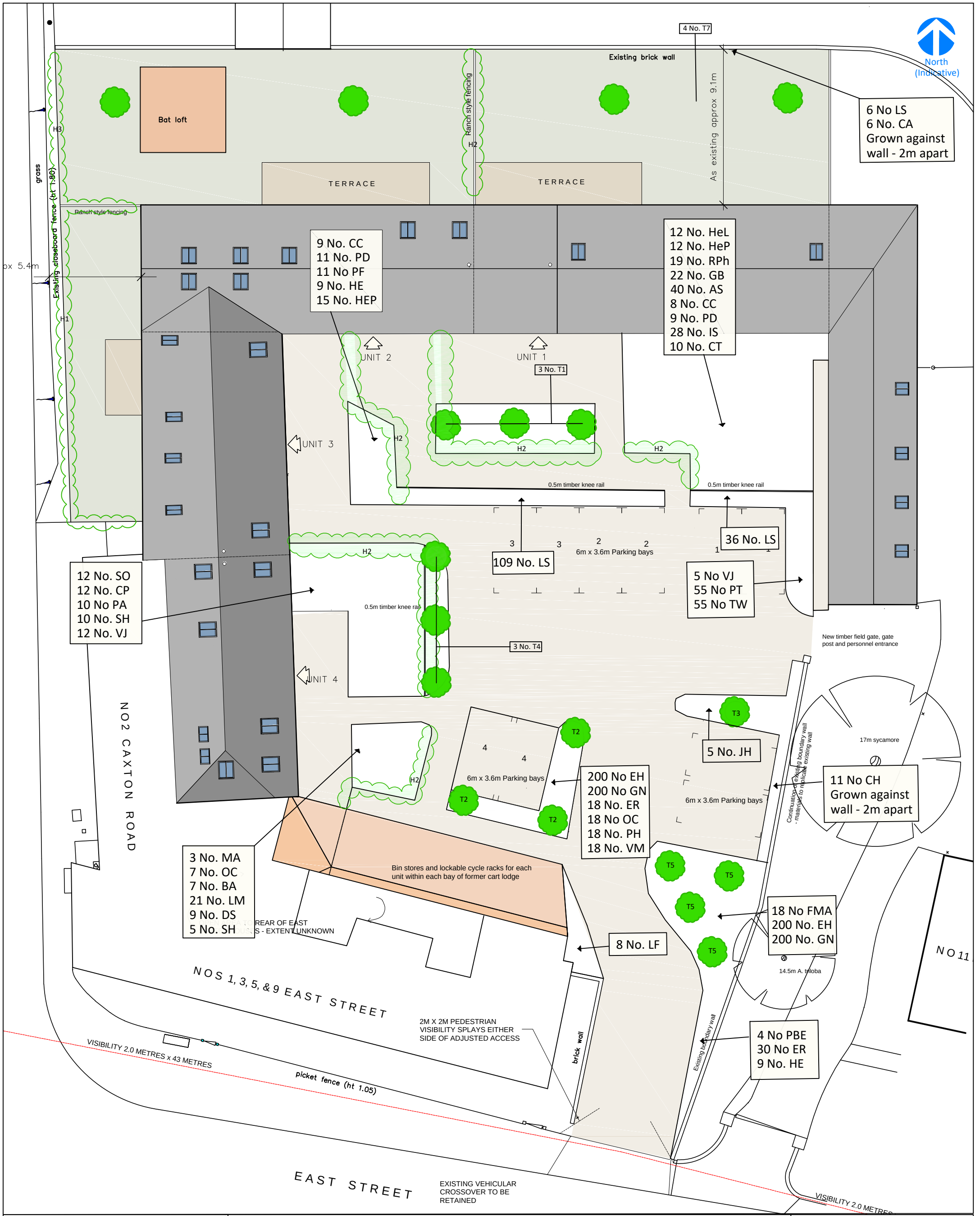
Appendix A Planting schedule

HERBACEOUS			
SPECIES	**SIZE**	**NUMBER**	**ABB.**
Brunnera macrophylla Alexander's Great	1l	5	BA
Disporum sessile variegatum	1l	9	DS
Epimedium rubrum "Bishops Hat"	1l	42	ER
Hemerocallis Pandoras Box	1l	15	HEP
Hemerocallis Luxury Lace	1l	12	HEL
Iris siberica	1ll	28	IS
Omphalodes cappodocia	1l	25	OC
Perovskia atriplicifolia Blue Spire	1l	10	PA
Polygonatum hybridum	1l	18	PH
Pachysandra terminalis	1l	55	PT
Tiarella wherryi - Pink Foam	1L	55	TW
Vinca minor	1L	18	VM
SHRUBS			
SPECIES	**SIZE**	**NUMBER**	**ABB.**
Cistus x cyprius	10l	17	CC
Cistus Peggy Sammonds	10l	12	CP
Clematis armandii	10l	6	CA
Cotoneaster horizontalis	10l	11	CH
Hebe EA Bowles	10l	9	HE
Juniperus communis	10l	5	JC
Lavendula stoechas	5l	151	LS
Lonicera x fragrantissima	10l	8	LF
Mahonia aquifolium	10l	3	MA
Philadelphus "Belle Etoile"	10l	4	PBH
Potentilla Daydawn	10l	20	PD
Phlomis fruticosa	10l	11	PF
Rosa Pheasant	5l	19	RPH
Sarccococa confusa	10l	15	SH
Salvia officinalis Pink lips	10l	12	SO
Viburnum juddii	10l	17	VJ
BULBS			
SIZE	**SIZE**	**NUMBER**	**REF.**
Allium sphaerocephalon		40	AS
Galanthus nivalis		400	GN
Gladiolus Byzantium		22	GB
Lilium Martagon		21	LM
Eranthis hyemalis		400	EH
TREES			
SPECIES	**SIZE**	**NUMBER**	**REF**
Prunus subhirtella Autumnalis	10-12cm St	3	1
Amelanchier x grandiflora "Ballerina"	10-12cm St	3	2
Liquidamber styraciflua	10-12cm St	1	3
Sorbus aucuparia	10-12cm St	3	4
Betula pendula	10-12cm St	5	5
AREA COVERAGE		**Quantity**	
Clover Lawn www.lawn.co.uk			
Mulch material - Chipped hard wood bark			

All plants to be compliant with British Standard BS 3936-1, Nursery Stock Specification for Trees and Shrubs

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Appendix B – Soft Landscape Plan



Title	Landscape Plan
Client	Lowden Construction
Project	Audley Barns, East Road, Great Gransden, SG19 3AB
Date	October 2025
Drawn by	CS
Project ref.	2308_SL
Scale	1:200 @ A3

Resin bound asphalt - Evening Rose UV Resin Bound Mix 1-5mm (resinmill.co.uk)

Clover Lawn - www.lawnuk.com

ALL PLANTING IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH:

-BS 3936 - Specification for trees and shrubs
-BS 4428 - Code of practice for general landscape operations

New Tree - 10-12cm Standard
Each planted within 1m diameter grass free bed, and 200mm bark chip.
Each tree planted with 40 No. GN and 40 No. EH
T1 - Prunus subhirtella Autumnalis
T2 - Amelanchier laevis
T3 - Liquidamber styraciflua
T4 - Sorbus aucuparia
T5 - Betula pendula

Hedging
H1 - Native Spp. mix: Hawthorn; Blackthorn; Dogrose; Holly
- B/R 60-90
- Planted in staggered parallel rows 300mm apart
- 3 plants per metre per row
- Minimum of 1 holly/2m
H2 - Carpinus betula 1L @4/m (66 No.}

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Appendix C Landscape Management Strategy

1 PLANTING

1.1 PREPARATION AND PLANTING

1.1.1 Plants shall be planted only during the season November – February inclusive, and only when the soil is in a friable condition.

1.1.2 Preparation and planting will be carried when soil and weather conditions are suitable and when soil is not so wet that to work it would result in a loss of structure. Work during periods of heavy frost or strong winds or during frozen ground conditions will be avoided.

1.1.3 The plant shall be watered in on the same day as being planted with 5 litres for trees and 3 litres for shrubs.

1.1.4 The subsoil and topsoil should have a good physical structure, be friable, moisture retentive and well drained. Where this is not the case or the ground compacted, cultivation over the whole area should be undertaken.

1.1.5 All weed competition will be removed within a 50cm radius.

1.1.6 After excavation of planting pits and before backfilling, return any turf, inverted and chopped, to the bottom of the pit.

1.1.7 The hole should be twice the diameter of the root ball and 1.5 times the depth of the roots. The bottom and sides of the hole should be forked to break up the subsoil and facilitate root establishment and spread.

1.1.8 Plants should be planted at the original root collar soil depth.

1.1.9 Spoil removed from the holes should be broken up, mixed with a slow-release high potassium, preferably organic fertilizer and replaced and gently firmed around the plant. No compost will be required.

1.1.10 The planting area to not less than 50cm radius for trees and 30cm radius for shrubs will be mulched with composted bark chips to a settled depth of 100mm and this depth to be maintained by annual re-dressing for 5 years.

1.1.11 Mulch to be applied when the ground is moist and weed free, after planting.

1.1.12 The mulched bed is to be kept weed free by spot applications of herbicide and additional hand weeding will be required close to plants.

1.2 STAKING AND PROTECTION (See BS 4428: 1989 - Section 7)

1.2.1 Trees will be staked with one tree stake. The overall length of the stake shall be sufficient to ensure that it is firm when driven into the soil and that the top of the stake extends above ground level to approximately one third of the tree's height. Stakes are to be hammered into the ground before the tree is positioned in the pit. Stakes shall be whole sections of softwood timber with a 50 - 75 mm diameter, peeled and pressure treated in accordance with BS 4072. Tree to be secured with one tree tie with a spacer and shall be positioned approximately 50 mm from the top of the stake to hold the tree, ensuring that tree and stake do not touch in any place.

1.2.2 The ties should be inspected regularly and retied or loosened when applicable ad the ties to be removed after 3 years to avoid the development of stake dependency (unless the tree remains unstable - replacement should be considered if necessary).

1.3 IRRIGATION

1.3.1 General:

a) Watering regimes should utilise water stored in rainwater butts and diverted from roofs.
b) Obtain written approval before using a supply other than potable mains water.
c) Ensure full depth of topsoil is thoroughly wetted to aid plant establishment.
d) Where required, loosen soil to prevent run-off and ensure absorption into root zone.

1.3.2 Water twice monthly from April to October. This may need to be altered appropriately to account for prevailing weather conditions. Essentially, watering should be carried out in such a way as to ensure that the rooting environment is kept constantly moist but not wet without damaging or displacing plants or soil.

1.3.3 As guidance a Standard tree should receive approximately 40l of water and a 10l shrub 15l weekly from April to October to ensure roots are well irrigated.

2.0 PRUNING

2.1 Prune as required to encourage healthy and bushy growth and good form.

2.1 This is skilled and must be carried out by professional horticulturists who can prune shrubs in accordance with horticultural good practice. This will take account of when shrubs flower and whether this is on new or old wood. For trees, full compliance with BS 3998: 2010, Recommendations for Tree Work and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) 'Forestry and arboriculture safety leaflets' is required.

2.3 Use appropriate, well maintained and sharp tools and ensure blades are regularly sterilized to prevent the spread of disease. Refer to BS 3998, Clause 9 for details relating to the prevention of disease transmission and wound bleeding.

2.4 Cut cleanly back to sound wood and ideally a side branch leaving a smooth and angled surface so that water will not collect on the cut area. Ensure cut surfaces are smooth and clean and as small as possible.

2.5 Carry out pruning as and when necessary to maintain a natural habit of the tree and shrub in keeping with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.

2.6 New trees are to be pruned formatively to encourage a good structure with an intact leader. Do not remove the leader. Do not prune trees with a well-balanced, natural appearance.

2.7 Do not crown reduce trees unless exceptional circumstances necessitates it or unless it is part of a formative pruning regime of establishing trees. When reducing a branch, cut back selectively to lateral or sub-lateral buds or branches to retain flowing branch lines without leaving stumps.

3 AFTERCARE

3.1 Planting shall be tended for 60 months from the date of completion of all works.

3.2 Throughout the aftercare period keep an area equivalent to 50cm radius weed free.

3.3 Irrigate as appropriate.

3.4 Maintain mulch depth.

3.5 Re-firm plant stock as necessary; Check stability of trees, especially after severe winds and firm as necessary. Replace loose, broken or decayed stakes to original specification.

3.6 Adjust, re-fix or replace loose or defective ties, allowing for growth and to prevent chafing and to allow for the increase in stem girth. Where chafing has occurred, reposition or replace ties to prevent further chafing.

3.7 Prune plant stock as required to encourage healthy and bushy growth and good form and, on flowering shrubs, flowers.

3.8 At the commencement of the second growing season apply evenly a general, slow-release fertilizer. Unless prevailing soil conditions require otherwise, a low nitrogen to potash and potassium ratio should be used at the rate of 50g/m^2.

3.9 All trees and shrubs that fail over the five years following planting to be replaced with the same specification plant.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
March - September: Keep all plants mulched, weed free, regularly watered so that the ground does not dry out. **Dormancy:** Carefully tip back all shoots of trees and shrubs by 20%; lightly apply slow-release high potassium fertilizer Firm stakes and loosen ties if necessary Replace, dead, dying and diseased plants Cut perennials to ground level (unless seedheads provide winter food for birds)	**March - September:** Keep all plants mulched, weed free, regularly watered so that the ground does not dry out. **Dormancy:** Carefully tip back all shoots of trees and shrubs by 20%; lightly apply slow-release high potassium fertilizer Firm stakes and loosen ties if necessary Replace, dead, dying and diseased plants Cut perennials to ground level (unless seedheads provide winter food for birds) Scarify lawns	**March - September:** Keep all plants mulched, weed free, regularly watered so that the ground does not dry out. **Dormancy:** Carefully tip back all shoots of trees and shrubs by 20%; lightly apply slow-release high potassium fertilizer Firm stakes and loosen ties if necessary Replace, dead, dying and diseased plants Cut perennials to ground level (unless seedheads provide winter food for birds) Scarify lawns	**March - September:** Keep all plants mulched, weed free, regularly watered so that the ground does not dry out. **Dormancy:** Carefully tip back all shoots of trees and shrubs by 20%; lightly apply slow-release high potassium fertilizer Firm stakes and loosen ties if necessary Replace, dead, dying and diseased plants Cut perennials to ground level (unless seedheads provide winter food for birds) Scarify lawns	**March - September:** Keep all plants mulched, weed free, regularly watered so that the ground does not dry out. **Dormancy:** Formative pruning only where necessary; do not prune leader; lightly apply slow-release high potassium fertilizer Replace, dead, dying and diseased trees Cut perennials to ground level (unless seedheads provide winter food for birds) Scarify lawn

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Appendix D Tree Planting Specification

New Tree Planting Specification

All new trees planting whether as replacement planting for trees removed as part of the development or as additional trees within a landscape scheme for the development shall be of a size from standard trees up to advanced nursery stock.

The trees supplied will be either container grown or root-balled and preferably supplied and planted in the dormant season from October to March.

Tree Sizes: Standard = 8-10cm girth and 2.5-3.0 metres high

Heavy Standard = 12-14cm girth and 3.5-4.25 metres high

Advanced nursery stock = 16-18cm/18-20cm girth and 4.5-6.25 metres high

Girth is measured at 1 metre above ground and all trees will generally have a 1.5-1.8 metre clear stem.

Method 1

1. Create planting pit by excavating to required depth and diameter to provide sufficient space to accommodate the root ball of the tree with 100-150mm space around the root ball to enable back fill to be placed and firmed. Ensure tree is located within the planting pit at the nursery level with the surrounding ground level.

2. Back fill for the planting will be as dug for the tree pit and incorporated with 80 to 160 litres of Tree Planting & Mulching Compost prior to back filling. Where soil is of very poor quality this will be replaced with imported soil/growing medium to BS recommendations.

3. Root balled trees to be placed in tree pit with hessian and wire wrap retained and container trees to be placed in pit prior to removal of container before back filling.

4. Root pruning of damaged and girdling roots should be carried out at this stage prior to back filling.

5. Back filling is to take place in stages by firming layers of soil around the root ball to the finish surface level.

6. Support for the tree will be by using the short twin stake method. This requires use of 1.8 metre long and 100mm diameter machine rounded pressure treated stakes driven into the ground either side of root ball to a minimum of 600mm and at 180 degrees apart. Distance between stakes will vary depending on root ball size but should be no greater than 600mm.

7. Trees shall be tied to the stakes using flexible tree banding positioned 100mm below top of the stakes. Each tie will be felt nailed to stake and taken around the tree with 3 twists on its self before nailing back on the stake. Tree ties should be tensioned accordingly to enable good support but flexibility for the tree.

8. The tree planting to be completed with a 75mm layer of good quality composted bark mulch to 500mm radius around tree, which will assist with moisture retention and weed suppression during the establishment phase.

9. Irrigation for the tree is to be supplied by the 'Treegator' system which shall be supplied at time of planting and positioned around the stem as required.

10. Aftercare for trees will consist of filling ‘Treegator’ once per week in growing season for the first year of establishment and up to 2 years after planting as required. Checking tree stakes and ties on an annual basis for up to 2 years after planting. Formative pruning of the crown as required within the aftercare period. Weed control of tree base area as necessary.

Method 2

As per method 1 above with the exception of points 6 and 7 2. Support for the tree will be by use of the ‘Platypus’ or similar tree root anchor system installed as per manufacturers recommendations. This system will be used for mainly advanced nursery stock plants and above.

How to Plant Containerized Trees

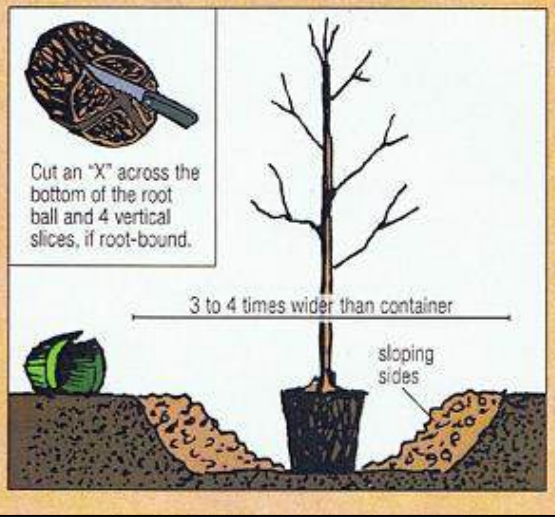
Trees from nurseries are often potted in a container. These instructions are for planting containerized trees.

1. Dig a hole the same depth of the container and 3 to 4 times wider than the container. The hole should have sloping sides like a saucer to allow for proper root growth.

2. Lay the tree on its side and carefully remove the tree from the container, keeping the soil around the roots intact. It helps to tap the outside of the container to loosen the edge. Carefully slide the tree from the container. Don't yank the tree out of the container as this can separate the roots from the tree.

3. Sometimes containerized trees become root-bound or the roots look like they're about to circle the root ball. If your tree is like this, cut an X across the bottom of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides of the root ball with a sharp knife.

4. Set the tree in the middle of the hole. Avoid planting the tree too deep. If the root collar sits below the top of the hole, compact some soil under the tree so that the root flare at the base of the trunk is slightly above ground level. Using some soil, secure the tree in a straight position, then fill and firmly pack the hole with the original soil, making sure there aren't any air pockets. Keep backfilling until the soil is just below the root collar.

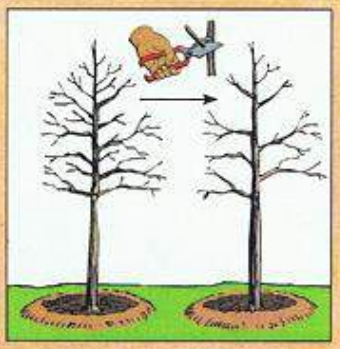


5. Create a water-holding basin around the hole and give the tree a good watering. After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch 2-4 inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.



6. The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

7. Remove any tags and labels from the tree as these will affect the tree as it grows. You may need to prune any broken or dead branches. (Please refer to the **arborday.org** pruning guide.)



Fertilizer? DO NOT use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your newly planted trees. Such products will kill your young trees.



Watering: Keeping your trees watered is important during their first year. Keep the soil and mulch moist but not soggy. In dry weather, you should water generously every 7 to 10 days. The water should soak into the soil and mulch. Avoid watering so much that you see standing water.

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Appendix E Photos



Ash tree far side of Caxton Road



Off-site to north east



Courtyard



Mature ash/sycamore east of site within 11 East St