

Landscape Management Plan
for
Compensatory Tree Planting

Land south east of Half Acre House Care Home
Proposed erection of five detached dwellings

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Additional planting added to scheme



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1. Introduction

This document sets out the maintenance and management requirements for the external works associated with the proposed housing development at Half Acre House Care Home, Roch Valley Way. It should be read in conjunction with the landscape proposals, drawing 453/01 and landscape specification also prepared by Penny Bennett.

The Management Plan covers the landscape maintenance for the new tree planting proposed as part of the development of new homes on land at Half Acre House. The Plan covers works from Practical Completion of the existing works and continuing for the lifetime of the development. The planting is identified on the planting plan lying due south of the new housing as shown on figure 1 below.

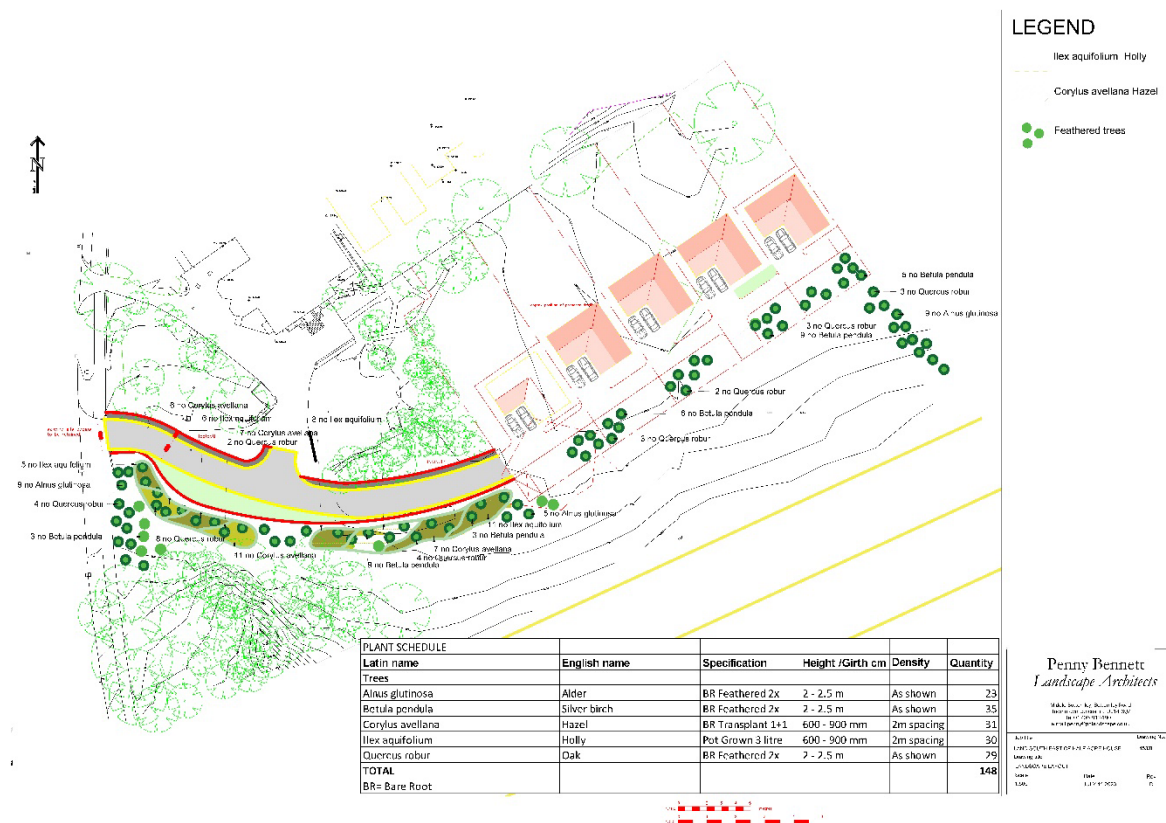


Figure 1 Site plan

The Site lies on the east side of Roch Valley Way on a former landfill site above the River Roch and access is directly from Roch Valley Way.

2. Scope of Works

The scope of the works shall include the following:

- Maintenance of native tree planting;
- Watering;
- Fertilizer application;
- Pest control;
- Scavenge to remove litter;
- Coppicing;



- Replanting work;
- Creation of small habitat piles from waste woody material to encourage insects, amphibians hedgehogs etc.

This plan does not include for the maintenance of:

- Drainage systems
- Any planting or hard materials beyond the site boundary
- Grass areas

3. Design Objectives

The key objectives of the design are:

3.1 To contribute to the local green infrastructure, by creating opportunities for new links and habitat for wildlife, by reinforcing existing tree planting, and compensating for those trees lost as a result of the development. This will be achieved by:

- planting new native trees, and lower shrub species to give diversity of form and scale;
- Ensuring the species used are appropriate to the local area and would fit into the wider landscape.

3.2 To consider views into the site from outside, particularly to the east where the existing high voltage wayleave has allowed views towards the Pennine spine. This has been done by keeping planting away from the areas where the views open out.

3.3 To provide new tree planting to enhance the setting of the new homes and the entrance driveway, incorporating trees and shrubs which will have year round interest.





Views eastwards across the compensation zone towards the Pennines



Views northwards towards the proposed development site



4. Management Objectives

4.1 The management plan has been written to ensure that the original design intentions can be fulfilled.

The specific management objectives for the tree planting are described below.

The key elements of the planting are:

1. Native tree and shrub planting along the south side of the drive
2. Feathered tree groups, associated with the housing and the eastern and western edges of the site

Native tree and shrub planting to south edge of drive: mix of native shrubs species, incorporating holly and hazel, with oak and birch included to give height and diversity. The new native planting would provide excellent habitat for small birds and mammals, with holly being an excellent source of berries for birds in winter, and hazel supporting small mammals.

Hazel and holly are proposed at open centres of 2 metres, to give plants sufficient space to establish. When mature hazel can be coppiced on rotation, i.e. a few plants coppiced each year on a 5 – 8 year cycle, this will increase age diversity. The creation of light shady conditions will allow a woodland ground flora to establish.

Feathered tree groups, using silver birch, alder and oak trees in small groups will provide year round interest and height diversity and light summer shade. The trees would be allowed to grow in a naturalistic manner, retaining their natural feathered form with low lateral growth. Where thinning is required oak should be favoured as the long term climax species at the expense of the pioneer birch and alder.

All operations should note that natural regeneration is occurring on this site and this should be encouraged and not impeded unless newly planted trees are being impaired by excessive regeneration.



Annual Tasks: - establishment period Year 1 - 5

Table 1

Area of site	Task	Action	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Whole site	Scavenge	Remove all litter from planted areas, and dispose of all material to licensed tip, quarterly operation												
All trees and shrubs	Watering	As required for newly planted material and for all plants particularly trees during periods of exceptionally dry weather												
Feathered trees	Check mulch	Top up mulch around base of tree to 75 mm, remove any encroaching weed growth												
Feathered trees	Fertiliser application	Apply granular slow release fertiliser at a rate of 70 g p/m ² once a year												
Feathered trees	Beat up/plant replacements	Replace any dead or dying stock with new stock complying with original specification												
Feathered trees	Checking and adjusting stakes	Check ties and ensure they are loose enough and not constricting tree growth. Check stakes particularly after windy weather / severe frost												
Feathered trees	Prune back any damaged stems	Prune and wind damaged or dead or dying growth back to sound wood												
Feathered trees	Check tree spirals	Check tree spiral guards are covering base of tree and not impairing tree's growth.												
Holly and Hazel south of drive	Habitat creation	Create dead stick piles with waste from prunings at back of planting areas larger for hedgehog hibernation, smaller for insects etc												
Holly and Hazel south of drive	Weed control	Check mulch mats and re- peg out if necessary												
Holly and Hazel south of drive	Fertiliser application	Apply granular slow release fertiliser at a rate of 40 g p/m ² once a year												
Holly and Hazel south of drive	Beat up/plant replacements	Replace any dead or dying stock with new stock complying with original specification												
Holly and Hazel south of drive	Cut back young plants	Cut 50% Hazel to 150 mm to promote vigorous root growth and strong top growth												
Holly and hazel south of drive	Check shrub shelters	Check shrub shelters are secure and upright and not impairing plant growth. If plant is being constricted unhealthily, remove shelter and recycle or dispose of to licenced tip.												

Annual Tasks: - Post establishment period Year 5 onwards

Table 1

Area of site	Task	Action	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Whole site	Scavenge	Remove all litter from planted areas, and dispose of all material to licensed tip quarterly operation												
Hazel south of drive	Coppicing	Coppice back all hazel to 150 mm on a 5 - 8 year rotational cycle, coppicing no more than 30% of hazel at any one time.												
Hazel and Holly south of drive	Remove tree shelters	Remove all tree shelters including any ties and stakes, recycling where appropriate or disposing to licenced tip												
All trees and shrubs	Thinning	Review planting on an annual basis to assess if trees require thinning. Where trees are so close that they are impeding each others growth thinning should take place.												
All trees and shrubs	Habitat creation	Create dead stick piles with waste from prunings at back of planting areas larger for hedgehog hibernation, smaller for insects etc												
Feathered trees	Check feathered trees	Remove tree stakes and ties, disposing of off site, unless tree is unstable. Carry out any remedial pruning. Remove any tree guards recycling or disposing of off site. All non recyclable materials to be taken to licenced tip.												



Annex 2

Native tree and shrub mixes

<u>Latin name</u>	<u>English name</u>	<u>Specification</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	Feathered 2x	2 – 2.5 M	23
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	Feathered 2x	2-2.5 M	35
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	1+1	600 – 900 mm	31
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	3 litre pot	600 – 900 mm	30
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English oak	Feathered 2x	2-2.5M	29
Total				148

