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Project Title: Field Garth

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Implementation Notes

PL01

- Refer to the Arboriculturist's information for details of vegetation to be retained and protection measures.
- Drawing to be read in conjunction with Ecologist's information and any prescriptions therein.
- Vegetation removal should be undertaken outside of bird nesting season, which is March to August inclusive, unless supervised by a suitably experienced ecologist.
- All work is to be undertaken in accordance with best practice, relevant British Standards and manufacturer's guidance, where applicable.
- Products and materials specified are to be used or similar and approved.
- All planting to be undertaken in accordance with BS4428 Code of Practice for General Landscape Operations.
- All plants to be healthy, hardened-off and with good fibrous root systems and to comply with the requirements of BS3936 Specification for Nursery Stock.
- All plant material to be supplied in accordance with the HTA National Plant Specification.
- The code for Plant Handling published by C.P.S.E. shall be strictly adhered to.
- Preparation, planting and mulching materials must be free from toxins, pathogens or other extraneous substances harmful to plant, animal or human life.
- Use only machinery and tools suitable for the site conditions and the work to be carried out

Times of Year for Planting

- Deciduous trees and shrubs: Late October to late March.
- Container grown plants: At any time if ground and weather conditions are favourable
- Conifers and evergreens: September/ October or April/ May.
- Turfing: All year round providing adequately watered, avoid hot sunny conditions.
- Planting is to be carried out in suitable weather. Stock shall not be planted in conditions of drought, hot sunshine, frost, frozen ground, strong wind or heavy rainfall that renders the soil waterlogged or in sticky condition. Wherever possible, planting should take place when the weather is dull and the ground is moist and workable.
- All plants to be protected from wind exposure at all times.

Site Clearance

- Areas to be planted shall be free from old foundations, concrete bases and other similar obstructions. Before topsoiling the formation is to be loosened to a depth of 150mm by harrowing or ripping to assist in natural draining of the land. All coarse rubble, and artefacts greater than 75mm in diameter exposed by ripping operations shall be removed to a licensed facility.

Subsoil

- Subsoil grading of the site shall leave landscape areas with smooth flowing contours to achieve the specified finished levels when topsoiled. Prior to topsoiling, subsoil formation should be ripped and loosened to a minimum depth of 450mm. Imported subsoil shall be in accordance with BS3882 for amenity use.

Topsoil
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topsoil to general planting and grass seeded areas to be to BS3882: 2007 Multipurpose Grade. • Topsoil must be free from pernicious weeds and roots, clay lumps, non-soil materials, brick or other building materials, foreign matter and chemical contamination. • Topsoil should be spread evenly over areas to be seeded and planted. • Minimum topsoil depths after settlement shall be: Grass-250mm; Shrub/ Plant beds 300-350mm; Tree pits (see below). • Topsoil shall be spread in layers not exceeding 150mm and firm each layer before spreading the next. At the time of laying, both material and weather should be reasonably dry. Soil levels should be 30mm higher than adjacent kerbs and paving after settlement and married in with existing soil levels.
Cultivation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate the soil of all areas (topsoil or subsoil) prior to seeding and planting. • A few days before planting, but in suitably dry weather and ground conditions, cultivate top 300mm of all planting beds, using suitable plant to loosen, aerate and break up the soil into particles of 2-8mm. • Leave surface regular and even, with levels as required. • Remove weeds, perennial weed roots and undesirable material brought to the surface including stones and clods larger than 50mm in any dimension, roots, tufts of grass and foreign matter. • Final cultivation prior to seeding soils shall be brought to a fine tilth by approved mechanical means or by hand raking.
General Fertiliser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If need confirmed by soil tests, apply Enmag by Scotts UK Professional evenly over the soil at 70g/m². or FSC approved neutral (ph7) Biochar to suppliers' recommendations.
Soil Ameliorant/Conditioner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate Eco-mix compost, from Eco-Composting Ltd, or Pro-Grow, from Mendip Forestry Ltd during cultivation to ornamental planting areas. Spread over all planting areas at 50mm depth during cultivation, or similar approved peat free soil improver with soil association approval.
Weed Treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contractor shall prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, through mechanical and non chemical operations. E.g. removal, flame treatment of seed bed/soil top. • Schedule 9 or highly invasive weeds (Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed etc) should be removed in line with statutory requirements and industry best practice. • Chemical treatment should be a last resort using a suitable herbicide (non-residual), allowing a period to elapse as recommended by manufacturer before cultivation.
Specification of Plant Material
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All plants are to be local provenance wherever possible, from a local supplier and from sources with soil and climatic conditions similar to those prevailing on site. • All plants to be healthy, hardened off and with good fibrous root systems and to comply with the requirements of BS3936 Specification for Nursery Stock. • Substitutions to plant material will only be acceptable if approved by the Landscape Architect.
Planting Trees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting to be in line with BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape • Tree pits shall be prepared just before the trees are planted. • Trees to be pit planted to the following dimensions, or to the equivalent area in linear pits: Minimum depth 600 x 600mm x 650mm depth or 150mm wider than the root ball. Whips 450mm square x 300mm deep. Where necessary increase the above dimensions to ensure that pits are wide enough to accommodate roots when fully spread and an additional 200mm deep to accommodate a 200mm layer

of drainage substrate,. On no account must tree roots be trimmed or altered in order to be accommodated in any excavation.

- Excavate tree pits with slightly raised centre. Retain topsoil and subsoil for re-use and remove other excavated material from site. Dig a hole (min 650mm depth) which is substantially bigger than the volume of roots to be accommodated. Break up and loosen the base and sides of the pit to a depth of 150mm and scarify sides. The base of the pit should fall towards the drainage trench, if specified.
- Trees are to be planted to ensure the same depth as they were in the nursery with the natural junction between the trunk and root collar to be just above ground level.(do not cover the collar in soil) Back fill the pit in stages, whilst firming up the soil around the roots until the original ground level is restored.
- Tree pits to be backfilled with subsoil site arisings (min 250mm depth) with cultivated and broken up sub soil to the base
- The remaining is to be filled with 1:3 mixture of peat-free compost and topsoil (max 400mm depth). Slow release fertiliser (200gms. or biochar to manufacturer's recommendations) to be incorporated into each tree pit.
- Tree in grass to be mulched to a 1m diameter, 75mm depth to deter strimming damage and retain a weed-free area to aid establishment. In addition, all trees within grassed areas to have a strimmer guard e.g. Tubex 'Grass Trimmer Tree Guard' Material with the following specification or similar approved: LDPE, colour: Black, Height: 200mm, Diameter: 95mm, Flange Base: 58mm.
- Form watering hollow around tree bases of a sufficient diameter and height to act as a water 'reservoir' for the tree rootball. In public areas, install a tree irrigation system around rootball, with inlet slightly above finished level (Greenleaf Root rain or similar).
- Edges of tree pits, where aligned to paving, to be installed with linear root deflecting barrier (minimum depth 400mm) with ribs facing tree, to deflect roots away from paving.
- Trees adjacent to hard surfacing and/or services to have growing area defined by min Greenblue Reroot 600 high density root barrier, in accordance with manufacturer's and Engineer's guidance.
- Stake all feathered, standard and extra heavy standard trees with double stakes and one adjustable tie per stake. Stakes to be first grade pressure impregnated round timber with chamfered tops, 100mm diameter. Position stake close to tree on windward side and drive vertically at least 300mm into bottom of pit before planting. Backfilling: consolidate material around stake. Tree stake tie points should extend no higher than 800mm. Height of stakes: cut to approximately one third of the tree height above ground level.
- Ties: Biodegradable and slightly loose/ adjustable (e.g. hessian ties) . Tying: Biodegradable belting, pad and spacer fixed to each stake with 2no. galvanised clout nails to secure tree firmly but not rigidly to stake. Biodegradable shelters placed to base to prevent bark damage from rabbits and deer. Or flexible rubber strapping with adjustable rubber spacers to accommodate tree growth.
- Semi-mature trees to be restrained with a rootball fixing system (Platypus or similar).

Climbing Plants

- Climbing plants to be planted 150mm clear of supporting structures, with branches lightly secured to climber support and roots spread outward. Climber support to be zinc coated wire, fixed to supporting structure (wall or fence) with galvanised screw eyes. Climber support to extent 1.5m either side of centred plant.

Planting Shrubs and Herbaceous Material

- To be pit-planted, with sufficiently large pit to accommodate root system without bending roots (minimum size of 150mm wider than roots when fully spread and 200mm deep).

Planting Hedge Mix

- All transplants to be planted with stake support. Shelters to hedges and tree ties should be biodegradable (e.g. hessian ties etc.).
- Trench to be excavated 800mm wide x 450mm deep then backfilled with topsoil mixed with compost in a 3:1 ratio.

- Hedge plants to be planted in a double staggered row 400mm apart at 350mm centres (6 per linear metre). All hedgerow planting to be covered with mulch to 75mm depth.
- Maintain hedge to height of 1.2m for first 2 years after planting to encourage bushy growth.
- Native hedges to be layered after 8-12 years according to strength of growth.

Turfed Areas

- Turf must meet the Turfgrass Grower's Association (TGA) Quality Standards for cultivated Turf for the supply and laying of turf.
- The turf soil should be of a sandy loam nature with no stones.
- The grass will be dense, of uniform green colour, free of broadleaved weeds and not visibly affected by pest or disease.
- Existing vegetation and stones should be removed and a light tilth prepared.
- Turf to be laid within 24 hours of receipt, although not on the same day as formation of ground/ levels. Turfing shall comply with BS 3969 and be carried out when the weather and soil conditions are suitable. Turfing should not be carried out in exceptionally dry or frosty weather or when the ground is waterlogged.

Wildflower Planting

- Sow into sub soil cultivated to a minimum dept of 200mm with a maximum stone diameter of 50mm. Remove all other stones and deleterious material to contractors tip.
- Blind surface 15-20 mm depth with inert fine aggregate, horticultural sand or similar prior to seeding. This helps reduce weeds and provides a sterile sowing bed.
- If sowing into existing grass areas follow Emorsgate Seeds instructions Wild Flowers' as listed below.
- When sowing wildflower seed directly into existing grass the site must be carefully chosen and the ground preparation must be good. Select grassland on poor to moderately fertile soil with a fine sward structure and few perennial weeds or vigorous grasses. Unless yellow rattle is already established in the sward, results can often be improved by adding yellow rattle seed at up to 1g/m² to this mix.
- Prepare the ground for sowing in late summer by cutting and/or grazing very hard and create gaps either with harrows or by raking (aiming to create around 50% bare soil). Control any perennial weeds such as docks or thistles.
- Best sown in the autumn or in the spring. Bulk up the seed with an inert carrier such as sand to make distribution easier. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. Rolling is not usually necessary.
- 100% wild flower mixtures are best sown into existing grass or combined with a suitable grass seed mix. If they are sown without grass onto bare soil, the spaces left between the flowers will be filled by grasses and other weeds.

Wildflower Establishment

- Year 1: Cut to 75mm-100mm height 2 to 3 times in the first year. (mid may, mid-June , late august or mid-September) All arisings to be collected and removed from site or stockpiled as habitat piles in a suitable location- it's important to remove cuttings to stop nutrient enrichment of soils.
- Mechanically Remove any noxious weeds or invasive species
- Year 2 onwards: Cut back once in late summer/ early autumn [according to preference]
- Removed arisings to either be stockpiled on site in a suitable location or removed to a licensed tip or composting facility
- Flowering lawn to have a sward height maintained at 100- 300mm. this will require 3-6 cuts per year.

General Watering

- All plants to be soaked in water for several hours prior to planting, to be well watered in and as necessary to ensure healthy establishment.
- Use a fine rose where appropriate to avoid damage or displacing plants or soil.

- Water as necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting.
- Water Restrictions: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation, do not carry out planting until instructed. If planting has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

Mulch

- Apply 75mm depth ornamental grade bark, available from Melcourt Industries, mulch to all ornamental planting areas.
- Mulch to be free from impurities, including pests, disease, fungus and weeds.
- Clear all weeds and water soil/planting thoroughly prior to application.
- Alternative mulch to be PAS 100 compost to 50mm depth