

Little Reeds

Hickstead, Haywards Heath RH17 5LY

Engineering work. Creation of a five metre high earth acoustic bund to west of Little Reed with associated soft landscaping.

Landscape Planting and Management Plan

5th November 2025 V2

Weller Designs Ltd

Compiled by Gareth Weeks BA Dip LA

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

This document and accompanying landscape plan (ref 1234.04S) and 1234.13 Ecological Enhancement Measures Plan dated 05112025 have been prepared to provide the following :-

- A description and specification for the planting operations, including quality and management of imported soils and topsoil stripping / re use.
- A framework for the maintenance aftercare of the proposed planting associated with the proposed acoustic bund.
- The the long-term design objectives, management responsibilities and maintenance schedules for existing and proposed landscape features and other landscape and ecological enhancement measures (eg bat and bird boxes, hibunaculas etc) .

After five years, the success of the management plans will be assessed by a suitably qualified/experienced landscape architect/ecologist and amended as necessary, depending on whether the proposals have met the objectives.

2 DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR PLANTING

2.1 Description of Planting and Maintenance (see Landscape Plan 1234.04S)

Little Reeds - Proposed Landscape Schedules													
Woodland Block Planting			1. Plan Reference / 2. Area Of Planting (m2) / 3. Density (plants per m2)										
Species			1 2 3	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	Species Tot
				1,919	1.5 centre	1,054	471	91	74	206	233	224	
				1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	1.5 centre	
Acer campestre	5%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	2	5	5	5	
Betula pendula	5%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	2	5	5	5	
Prunus spinosa	10%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	83	42	46	21	4	3	10	10	10	
Corylus avellana	10%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	83	42	46	21	4	3	10	10	10	
Crataegus monogyna	20%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	166	84	92	42	8	7	20	20	20	
Pinus sylvestris	15%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	123	63	70	31	6	5	15	15	15	
Prunus avium	5%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	1	5	5	5	
Quercus robur	30%	transplant	0.45-0.6m	247	127	140	63	12	10	20	31	30	
Total	100%			825	421	463	208	40	33	90	101	100	2281

Hedgerow Planting		1. Plan Reference 2. Area Of Planting (lnm) 3. Density (7 plants per lnm in a double staggered)				
Species	1	H1	H2			
	2	15	303			318
	3	7 per lnm	7 per lnm			
Crateagus monogyna	50%	53	1061			
Prunus spinosa	20%	21	424			
Acer campestre	15%	16	318			
Corylus avellana	10%	11	212			
Ilex aquifolium	5%	5	106			
Total	100%	106	2121			2227

Mixture For Wetlands EM8	
Wild Flowers 20%	
Area of site = 153m2	
Sowing Rate = 4/m2	
0.70% Achillea Millefolium – Yarrow	
0.60% Agrimonia eupatoria – Agrimony	
0.10% Angelica sylvestris – Wild Angelica	
0.20% Betonica officinalis – Betony	
3.20% Centaurea nigra – Common Knapweed	
1.40% Filipendula ularia – Meadowsweet	
0.40% Galium album – Hedge Bedstraw	
2.00% Galium verum – Lady's Bedstraw	
0.80% Lathyrus pratensis – Meadow Vetchling	
0.60% Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit	
1.20% Leucanthemum vulgare – Oxeye Daisy (Moon Daisy)	
0.60% Lotus corniculatus – Birdsfoot Trefoil	
0.10% Lotus pedunculatus – Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil	
1.00% Medicago lupulina – Black Medick	
2.00% Plantago lanceolata – Ribwort Plantain	
0.40% Primula veris – Cowslip	
0.80% Prunella vulgaris – Selfheal	
1.20% Ranunculus acris – Meadow Buttercup	
0.80% Rhinanthus minor – Yellow Rattle	
0.60% Rumex acetosa – Common Sorrel	
0.30% Sanguisorba officinalis – Great Burnet	
0.50% Silene flos-cuculi – Ragged Robin	
0.20% Taraxacum officinale – Dandelion	
0.30% Vicia cracca – Tufted Vetch	
Grasses 80%	
8.00% Agrostis capillaris – Common Bent	
8.00% Carex echinata – Star Sedge (w)	
30.00% Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogstail	
18.00% Festuca rubra – Red Fescue	
1.60% Hordeum secalinum – Meadow Barley (w)	
8.00% Phleum bertolonii – Smaller Cat's-tail (w)	
6.40% Poa pratensis – Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass	

General Meadow Mixure EM2	
Total Area of grassland = 19418m²	
Sowing rate 3- 5 g per m2	
0.75% Achillea millefolium (Yarrow)	
0.45% Agrimonia eupatoria Agrimony	
1.80% Centurea nigra – Common Knapweed	
0.97% Daucus carota – Wild Carrot	
1.12% Galium verum – Lady's Bedstraw	
0.82% Knautia avensis – Field Scabious	
0.30% Lathyrus pratensis – Meadow Vetchling	
1.75% Leucanthemum vulgare – Oxeye Daisy	
1.80% Malva moschata – Musk Mallow	
1.72% Plantago lanceolata – Ribwort Plantain	
1.12% Poterium sanguisorba ssp sanguisorba – Salad Burnet	
0.75% Primula veris – Cowslip	
0.30% Prunella vulgaris – Selfheal	
0.60% Ranunculus acris – Meadow Buttercup	
0.75% Rhinanthus minor – Yellow Rattle	
8.50% Agrostis capillaris – Common Bent	
29.75% Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogstail	
25.50% Festuca rubra – Red Fescue	
4.25% Phleum bertolonii – Smaller Cat's-tail	
17.00% Poa pratensis – Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass	



Little Reeds - Proposed Landscape Schedules

Woodland Block Planting

Species			1 2 3									Species Tot
			W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	
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General

Imported Soils for Grading Works and Topsoil Management

Before any imported suitable subsoils are brought in to create the acoustic screen the existing topsoil will be carefully stripped using appropriate machinery and in suitable weather / ground conditions to maintain the quality of the existing topsoil.

All stripped topsoil shall be stacked in heaps, not exceeding 2m high away from any waterlogged low areas and tree root protection zones. During storage, topsoil heaps shall be kept free from compaction, contamination and weeds.

On completion of the grading works for the acoustic screen the stripped soil from the site shall be re used and respread to 300mm (compacted). If there is a shortfall of topsoil then suitable topsoil shall be brought in to achieve the desired depth.

The imported “ recovered” sub soils for the bund creation will be naturally occurring and sourced from suitable nearby construction projects and will be of a type that has to meet with EA approval (permit) . Such reuse of soils meets with the priority in the Waste Hierarchy to prevent or reduce waste.

Plants shall be lifted, packed and handled in accordance with BS 3936, BS 4043 and the Horticultural Trades Association publication, the National Plant Specification, Section

Handling and Establishing Landscape Plants.

During the period subsequent to the receipt of the plants and prior to planting, the Contractor shall comply with the treatment of nursery stock specified below:

(i) Bare-root plants. Prior to despatch or on arrival at Site plants may be stored up to 3 days in bundles with a covering of freely- draining moisture-retentive material such as wet sacking or straw which is moistened periodically. For a storage period of more than three days, bundles shall be opened and the plants spread out and heeled into trenches in topsoil, minimum depth 300 mm, with the roots fully in contact with the soil.

(ii) Bare-root plants transported in plastic bags. Plants in bags shall be stored no more than one layer deep and be protected from direct sunlight at all times. Where delay of more than one day occurs, the bags shall be stored upright, not stacked, in a cool shady position or shed, or placed in a cold store. If cold store facilities are not available, plants shall be removed from bags and heeled into soil with all roots covered.

(iii) Container or cell grown plants. Containers shall be maintained upright, watered as required, sheltered and protected from frost, and shall not be packaged or stored more than one layer deep. Degradable pots, cells or root-

trainers that may disintegrate in transit shall be enclosed in polythene film (250 gauge) and firmly secured.

(iv) Protection from frost. When necessary, additional measures shall be undertaken to protect plants from frost.

(v) The location for temporary storage shall be sheltered from winds and well drained.

(vi) All containers shall remain completely filled with compost. If up to 10% compost has been lost from containers at any stage, then further suitable moistened compost shall be added to completely cover the root systems and fill the containers. Any containers which have lost more than 10% compost shall be replaced. All containerised plants shall be thoroughly soaked prior to planting and all containers removed.

(vii) Any plants damaged by frost, desiccation, or in any other way prior to planting, shall be removed from site and replaced with new plants.

Unless otherwise stated, all labels, canes and ties shall be retained on the plant for 12 months unless they prove restrictive to growth.

All other arisings from the planting including containers, wrappings, paddings, fastenings and bags shall be collected immediately by the Contractor and removed off Site.

Topsoil, Compost, Fertiliser and Anti-dessicants

Unless otherwise stated, topsoil for tree pits shall be General Purpose Grade conforming to BS 3882.

Where directed, compost or fertiliser shall be deposited over planting areas, for incorporation into the soil during ground cultivation, or incorporated into soil during pit preparation and backfilling.

Compost shall be peat-free organic composted material graded less than 25 mm particle size and free from any non biodegradable material, weed material or plant pathogens. It shall have an organic matter content greater than 35% on a dry matter basis and readily available trace elements. The pH, conductivity and nutrient composition shall be as directed.

The compost shall be supplied with a volume tolerance of less than 5%.

Where required, slow-release fertiliser shall be used.

Where directed, anti-transpiration sprays, root dips, anti-desiccant soil additives or other forms of anti-desiccant shall be used. Where such anti-desiccant measures are specified these shall be applied in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Time of Planting

Planting of bare-rooted, rootballed or cell-grown trees, shrubs shall take place during favourable weather and soil conditions, Bare rooted or root balled conifers or evergreens shall be planted during November or March.

Container-grown plants of the types listed above may be planted at any time during favourable weather and soil conditions.

Topsoil

Existing topsoil shall be stripped before building works begin. Imported topsoil shall be to BS3882: 2007 Specification for Topsoil and Requirements for Use. Topsoil shall be multi-purpose grade, of medium texture, with a high proportion of fertile loamy material. It shall be free from subsoil, rubbish, rubble, contamination, roots of perennial weeds and other materials injurious to plant growth. The maximum stone content of the soil shall be 20%, with the maximum size of stone 25mm in any one dimension.

Excavation

Excavation shall NOT be undertaken within the root protection area of any existing trees or shrubs to be retained. Unless otherwise indicated areas to be planted / seeded shall be cleared of all surface rubbish and excavated to the dimensions below finished level as follows, when the soil is not waterlogged or frozen. Ensure the location of all services is known before any excavation operations.

Plants

All plants to be supplied shall shall comply with BS 3936 : Parts 1 to 10 as relevant, BS 4043, the National Plant Specification, published by the Horticultural Trades Association, and/or as otherwise required in

If plants grown in cells are required, the cells shall be designed for tree or shrub use and the plants shall be grown in open conditions for one growing season.

No grafted stock shall be supplied unless it is stated that grafted plants are permitted.

Weed Control

On hardstandings, gravelled or paved areas and around furniture, contact, translocated and residual herbicides approved for total weed control shall be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions

For site preparation, on topsoil heaps and in planted beds, a translocated, non-residual herbicide approved for total weed control shall be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Weed Control by Spot Application of Herbicide

Weed control shall be carried using spot treatment with a translocated herbicide, ie applied with a device that ensures that the herbicide touches weed species only.

Weed Control by Pulling/Hand weeding

Hand weeding shall be carried out at the locations and frequency as directed. Hand weeding shall consist of the removal of the entire weed, including roots, by digging, forking, hoeing or pulling. Weeds shall be removed prior to flowering and the arisings removed.

Pruning

All pruning cuts shall be made in accordance with BS 7370 Part 4.

Pruning shall be undertaken using secateurs and handsaws. Mechanical hedge cutters may only be used on compact small-leaved species which have dense foliage. Pruning shall be undertaken to promote flowering and fruiting in accordance with the species and age of the plant. Stems shall only be removed so as to retain the natural appearance of the individual plant species.

All broken and badly damaged branches shall be pruned from the plants.

Species shall be pruned in accordance with the following categories:

(i) Shrubs which flower on Current Season Wood

- All wood which has borne flowers shall be removed immediately after flowering and all young wood retained to bear flowers in the following year.

(ii) Shrubs which flower on Previous Season Wood

- All the previous season wood shall be cut back to within two or three buds of the old wood.

(iii) Shrubs which flower on Old Wood

- One or two of the oldest stems from each plant shall be removed completely, crowded and weak growth shall be thinned out and the young shoots shall be cut back to fresh growth on the main stems.

(iv) Shrubs which Require Trimming Pruning shall be undertaken back to the

flowering heads, but not into the old wood,

- immediately after flowering.

(v) All growth which extends over footways or parking bays which is dead, dying or hazardous shall be removed. All shrubs that are encroaching upon, or obscuring visibility of adjacent signs, structures, electrical equipment, gates or visibility splays shall be pruned. All suckers shall be removed from rootstocks.

2.2 Native Planting Operations on base of Acoustic Bund

Where pits, beds or trenches are not used, plants shall be notch-planted upright by the following method :-

into a T-shaped opening of sufficient size for the roots of bare-root plants to be fully spread out or to accommodate a cell-grown plant without breaking the root-plug.

Rabbit spirals to be attached to each whip using bamboo supports.

3 LONG-TERM DESIGN OBJECTIVES OVERVIEW

3.1 Introduction

This document and accompanying landscape plan have been prepared to provide the following :-

The overall long-term management objective for the site is not only to protect the existing and proposed landscape features but to enhance them through ecotonal management and therefore create increased biodiversity. This will ultimately benefit both the environment and integrate the acoustic bund into the roadside boundary.

3.2 The Proposed Tree and Shrub Copse Plantations

There are significant tree and shrub planting proposals associated with acoustic screen. All planting will be with native species and where possible using stock of local provenance/relevance.

The planting design is intended to serve several functions, chiefly landscape improvement for the roadside boundary but also habitat creation, enhanced landscape and connectivity.

The long-term objective is to develop a mix of native trees and shrubs that will form mature linear copse with a wide variety of microclimates and ultimately an uneven mix of age, height and density. Eventually, occasional clearing will be made by coppicing to increase the diversity of form and species.

3.3 Existing Trees On And Around The Perimeter Of The Site

The majority of the existing trees associated with the site are on the boundary edges to the East and South.

There is however still an opportunity to ensure the mature trees remain in good condition and an element of replacement succession planting is planned.

The long-term objective is to maintain their condition through sensitive management. Trees and shrubs on the site that show deterioration due to disease, age or physical damage will be replaced through a programme of new planting that will be introduced before their removal.

3.4 New Planting Management Programme (Transplants)

It is intended within a management framework of 30 years to create a series of virtually self-sustaining systems subject only to the routine cutting of coppice. The programme of maintenance has been designed to be both practical and achievable and to create a habitat which is rich in wildlife and visually compatible with the surrounding landscapes.

For this report "coppicing" and "thinning" shall refer to the cutting of a plant to a stump which is allowed to re-grow. "Removal" refers to the cutting of a stump followed by its destruction by chemical or physical means.

Both planting and maintenance are geared towards the rapid development of woodland/scrubland for wildlife and visual amenity. A mix of native trees and shrubs is to be planted and managed to create a copse that has a wide variety of microclimates. Thinning and coppicing are to be carried out to form an uneven mix of age, height and density. Within wider bands of wood, occasional clearing shall be made by coppicing to increase the diversity of form and species.

A suitable mulch will be applied to all newly planted areas with spot weeding where required.

3.5 Initial 5 Year Management Programme (Transplants)

The aim of the specific 5 year management programme set out in the table below is to achieve **90% survival threshold**.

Maintenance Operation	Frequency & Timing	Description
Watering	Year 1–2: Weekly during the growing season (April–Sept), more often in drought/hot weather. Year 3–5: As needed during prolonged dry periods.	Crucial for root establishment; water deeply to soak the entire root zone (e.g., 25 litres per m ²) to encourage deep root growth.
Weed Control	Ongoing: At least monthly maintenance visits, or as needed to keep a minimum 1 m diameter area around plants/trees clear.	Remove all competing vegetation (grass/weeds) manually or with a non-residual herbicide to reduce competition for water and nutrients.
Mulching	Annually: Top up organic mulch (composted bark) to a depth of 75–100 mm, ensuring it is kept clear of the plant stem to prevent rot.	Helps suppress weeds, retain soil moisture, and cool the root systems.
Inspections & Replacements	Regularly (monthly April–Oct, bi-monthly Nov–Mar): Inspect for health, damage, or death.	Replace dead, dying, or damaged plants/trees with the same species in the appropriate planting season (Nov–Mar for bare-root; anytime for container-grown if conditions are suitable).
Staking / Support	Every 3 months / after strong winds: Check stakes, ties, and guards for security and fit.	Adjust ties to prevent chafing or strangling the stem. Remove stakes and ties after 3–5 years when the tree is established and self-supporting.
Pruning	Annually: After the second growing season, begin formative pruning.	Remove dead, diseased, or damaged shoots. For trees, establish a clear stem and balanced crown structure, removing any competing leaders or crossing branches.
Pest and Disease Management	Ongoing: Notify management/client of problems; implement appropriate, agreed-upon treatments.	All diseased material should be removed from the site and safely disposed of to prevent spread.
Thinning	End of Year 5	Thin shrub beds where necessary to allow adjacent plants to achieve their full species potential and prevent overcrowding.

3.6 Longer Term Management Programme (Transplants)

Years 1 & 2

At planting:	The following shrubs are to be pruned within 6" of ground: Corylus, Prunus, Crataegus monogyna,
Feb/March:	Refirm plants loosened by wind/frost
Late March:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early May:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early June:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early July:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Nov/Dec:	Replacement of dead/dying plants and pruning of dead shoots. Refirming of plants made loose by windrock. Spot weeding to take place where required.
Throughout the year:	Regular inspection to check for noxious diseases/pests. Watering is required to keep soil within the rooting zone moist. Grass clippings are not to be used as mulch as these will contain potential weed seeds.
General:	The timing of operations is dependent on the weather and may vary according to need. All dead plants/twigs are to be removed. Any new plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season. (up to a period of five years)

Years 3-5

Feb/March:	Refirm plants disturbed by wind and frost
Late March:	spot weeding to take place where required
Early May:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early June:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early July:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Nov/Dec:	Prune dead shoots and refirm plants made loose by wind rock.
Throughout the year:	As for years 1 & 2. Replace mulch if necessary.
General:	As for years 1 & 2.

Years 6-10

Feb/Mar:	Remove any Prunus which threaten to kill canopy species (e.g. Quercus, Fagus, Acer, Pinus,) or evergreen shrubs (Ilex). Begin coppicing of Corylus, Crataegus, Prunus, and Acer. 20% of each species is to be coppiced each year so that by year 10 all have been coppiced once. Coppicing is to be carried out in blocks of 10-25 plants to create a variety of structures within the woodland.
May/June:	Application of translocated herbicide to be made only to areas of

noxious weed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*, etc) and not in areas in the close vicinity of the pond or other habitats. Other plants considered to be undesirable at this stage - *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Urtica dioica*, *Rubus fruticosus* - should be controlled.

Throughout the year: Regular inspection to check for noxious diseases and pests. All matters arising from such infestation are to be removed and burnt. All other cuttings/thinning are to be left within the plantation in piles to decay. Dead trees are to be allowed to stand and rot.

Years 11-15

Feb/March: Begin thinning *Prunus* so that at Year 15 all but 25% has been cut. The remaining plants are to stay as part of the copse. Begin thinning of *Quercus*, *Fagus*, *Prunus*, *Acer*, and *Ilex* so that at Year 15, 50% of each has been cut. Regrowth is to be coppiced at 5-year intervals. The intention is to make a light and airy copse so this percentage may be increased should growth have been vigorous.

Continue a 5-year coppicing cycle on *Corylus*, *Crataegus*, *Prunus* and *Acer*. Coppicing/thinning shall be carried out in blocks of 10-25 plants to create a small-scale variety of structures within the woodland. *Acer pseudoplatanus* is to be removed if it appears.

May/June: Weeds threatening the survival of trees and shrubs to be cleared, otherwise ground flora left to develop.

Throughout the year: Regular inspection is to be made for noxious diseases and pests.

General: All trunks and branches from thinning, removal and coppicing to be piled within the woodland to decay naturally. Dead shrubs and trees are to be allowed to stand other than those having succumbed to contagious diseases.

Occasional clearings with the copse shall be made. Within these areas, natural seeding of herbaceous and woody plants is to be allowed.

Trees with splits, forks and dead tissues provide many more opportunities for wildlife to become established than those without and should not be "cleared" to a standard type of timber plantation.

Years 15+

Thinning and removal of canopy and other species should continue to create the desired woodland complex of glade and thicket, with a good variety of ages and structures. Beyond Year 30, the coppicing cycle should be increased to 10 years.

At an age of 50 years, the linear copse should be light and airy and comprise irregularly spaced canopy trees emerging from a mixed understorey. This should consist of mature *Quercus*, *Fagus*, *Acer*, *Pinus* and *Ilex* in thickets of varying densities, with coppiced areas of *Corylus*, *Crataegus*, *Prunus*, and *Ilex* at different heights. Between these should be glades at various stages of regeneration.

Trees should, as they die, be left to stand and decay (as long as in a safe out-of-play location) and all coppice products should be stacked within the woodland and left to break down naturally.

3.7 Hedgerow General

Hedgerows

Native hedgerows feature as a Priority Habitat for the UK :

- “Encourage the favourable management of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Halt the net loss of species-rich hedgerows through neglect, removal or inappropriate management.
- Seek to increase the numbers of native, species-rich hedgerows in favourable conditions.

As such, long-term management will focus on enhancing the value of the new hedgerow.

Long-term management for hedgerows dominated by native shrubs will comprise minimal management on rotation to maintain bushy, dense and overgrown hedgerows. This is likely to involve trimming on a three-year rotation to maintain the hedge as tall and dense with thick woody outgrowths. The key aspect of the hedgerow management cycle will be to allow incremental height increase by increasing the cutting height by 10 to 20 cm once every three years, thus sympathetically allowing a hedgerow to progress slowly through its natural growth cycle without putting it under damaging stress.

Transitional zones of tall grasses and herbaceous species/wildflowers will be established as buffer zones between the hedge and proposed wildflower meadow areas to provide shelter for invertebrates, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Proposed Hedgerow

Introduction; The following details should be read in conjunction with the Landscape Plan.

New Hedgerow Management Programme

The objective for the new hedgerow is to establish and maintain a dense, bushy and well-developed hedge with full foliage cover over the whole of the hedge surface. In this way, the hedge will encourage wildlife and increase biodiversity.

Years 1 & 2

After planting: The shrubs are to be pruned hard to encourage bushy growth :

Feb/March: Refirm plants loosened by wind/frost

Late March:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early May:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early June:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early July:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Nov/Dec:	Replacement of dead/dying plants and pruning of dead shoots. Refirming of plants made loose by windrock. Spot weeding to take place where required.

Throughout the year: Regular inspection to check for noxious diseases/pests. Watering is required to keep soil within the rooting zone moist. Grass clippings are not to be used as mulch as these will contain potential weed seeds.

General: The timing of operations is dependent on the weather and may vary according to need. All dead plants/twigs are to be removed. Any new plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season. (up to a period of five years).

Years 3-5

The hedgerow shall be pruned to encourage dense, bushy growth. Where the close planting has resulted in excessive overcrowding, plants shall be thinned to allow proper development. A bare earth regime should be maintained around the plant bases until the hedge is fully established at the end of year 5.

Feb/March:	Refirm plants disturbed by wind and frost
Late March:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early May:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early June:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Early July:	Spot weeding to take place where required
Nov/Dec:	Prune dead shoots and refirm plants made loose by windrock.

Year 5 – 15

The hedgerow should be fully established after year 5. Thereafter a buffer zone of at least 1m is to be maintained alongside the hedgerow to encourage wildlife.

The hedge shall only be cut every three years to promote flowering and fruiting. An 'A' shape shall be adopted to promote a thickening hedge bottom. Trimming shall take place in January or February.

Deadwood log pile habitats shall be created within appropriate parts of the hedgerow to promote places of shelter and hibernation.

Year 20

Depending on the condition, the hedgerow may be prepared for laying over a period of 2 to 5 years. Laying shall be carried out to conform to British Trust For Conservation. Once laid, the hedge shall be left over one or two growing seasons before trimming recommences.

3.8 Dead Wood Management

Management rationale

Deadwood is typically a component of broad-leaved semi-natural woodland, and this habitat supports a diverse range of bryophytes, lichens, fungi, invertebrates, bats and birds. However, the possible implications of dead wood for public safety have led to an enthusiasm for clearance in the past.

Sensitive management of dead wood is essential to maximise the biodiversity value of this habitat. Standing dead wood is a different habitat type from fallen dead wood but is equally important as a range of saproxylic species can be encouraged.

Quality rather than quantity of dead wood is important and therefore the following management measures will be implemented within a Deadwood Strategy for the site:

- Size and shape are important and generally, bigger pieces of fallen dead wood provide better habitat;
- Ideally deadwood should be left where it falls. However, the management strategy should ensure that dead wood is present in a range of conditions (e.g. dappled shade, open conditions, near to water, near to existing decayed dead wood, different stages of decay);
- All standing dead wood should be retained in situ wherever possible unless it presents an unacceptable health and safety hazard. Loss of the dead tree should be avoided wherever possible, and if necessary, consideration should be given to removing the branches and retaining the standing trunk as a 'monolith'. Should it be necessary to fell a tree, the dead wood should be strapped in a vertical position to a nearby mature tree; and
- Creation of additional deadwood habitat through the creation of partially buried and stacked loggeries within woodland within the site.

Objectives

- To retain all fallen and standing deadwood; and
- To create new areas of suitable deadwood habitat for invertebrates by sensitive location of timber and creation of new loggeries.

3.9 Birds - General

Management rationale

The management objectives outlined earlier will result in the creation and/ or restoration of a range of habitats considered to offer suitable breeding, foraging and over-wintering opportunities for several species of birds. The creation and maintenance of new areas of flower-rich grassland will result in increased diversity and abundance of invertebrates thus providing prey for many species of birds. The restoration and appropriate maintenance of woodland scrub edges will benefit many woodland bird species.

Additional nesting habitat will be created through the provision of small woodland bird boxes, particularly aimed at hole-nesting birds erected on trees positioned on the boundary.

3.10 Reptiles - General

The management objectives outlined earlier will result in the creation and/ or restoration of a range of habitats considered suitable for reptiles with the introduction of hibernaculas and ditches being particularly helpful.

The creation and maintenance of new areas of flower-rich grassland will also assist with the creation of corridors and increase the abundance of invertebrates thus providing prey for many species of reptiles.

Monitoring - General

Monitoring will be undertaken on an annual basis to ensure that the new habitats/enhanced existing habitats are in a state of good condition and have been successfully established; and that the habitats/features are attaining the targets as set out earlier.

The results of monitoring will be used to adjust and adapt the management as required

Monitoring will comprise the following:

1. Tree planting is to be checked once a year by landscape contractors during Years 1 to 3 aimed at ensuring successful establishment. These checks are to be undertaken at the same time as weeding control measures and replacement of failures;
2. An annual ecological check/ audit to be undertaken to assess the condition of newly created and managed habitats (including species-rich grassland,

hedgerows, woodland, ditches and ponds). This annual audit will be undertaken in late May/ early June and will assess sward height and density, an abundance of target species, and percentage cover of understorey and canopy species;

3. An appropriately experienced/ licensed ecologist will undertake the maintenance of all bat and bird boxes.

All records obtained from the maintenance of boxes will be submitted to the local Biodiversity Records Centre.

4 TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

4.1 Existing Trees

During construction works and before construction works commence a full tree protection plan shall be set up strictly in accordance with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment & Tree Protection Plan

Prepared by:

The Mayhew Consultancy Ltd Ref AR/146924

NB The contour plan was designed to ensure no Root Protection Zones were affected. See updated Grading Plan 1234.02 Rev B dated 13/10/2025 and accompanying Management Plan dated 5th Nov 2025 V2 which details tree protection measures.

See appendix below with excerpt (not to scale) of Mayhew Tree Protection Plan

5 MANAGEMENT OF BIRD BOXES

5.1 Set Up

Placement and positioning

- **Height:** Mount the box at least 1 to 3 meters off the ground to deter predators.
- **Predator guards:** Use a predator baffle or a metal cage around the entrance hole to protect against squirrels, and other predators.
- **Weather protection:** Place the box to face away from strong winds and rain and avoid direct midday and afternoon sun.
- **Quiet location:** Position the box in a quiet area away from heavy foot traffic and pets.
- **Flight path:** Ensure there is a clear flight path to the entrance hole.
- **Habitat:** Ideally, place the box near vegetation to offer cover for fledglings, but the box itself should be hidden from predators.

What to avoid

- **Perches:** Do not add pegs or perches on the front of the box, as these can help predators access the nest.
- **Nesting material:** Do not add nesting material to the box; birds will build their own nests.
- **Chemicals:** Do not use chemicals, pesticides, or treated wood.

5.2 Cleaning and Maintenance

- **Timing:** Bird boxes to be cleaned after the breeding season, from September to January (the legal window for removing old material and abandoned eggs).
- **Process:**
 - All old nesting materials to be removed.
 - The inside to be scrubbed with boiling water to kill parasites. Insecticides or flea powders not to be used.
 - The box is to be completely dry before being re-mounted.
- **Second broods:** In species that have multiple broods, such as house sparrows, wait until late autumn to clean the box to ensure it is no longer being used.

6 MANAGEMENT OF HIBURNACULAS

6.1 Set Up

A hibernacula can be built by digging a hole, filling it with a mix of logs, rocks, and bricks to create nooks and crannies, and then covering it with soil and vegetation. A good hibernaculum should be in a sunny, well-drained location, about 50cm deep to stay below the frost line

6.2 Cleaning and Maintenance

Maintenance Schedule and Actions

Season	Maintenance Actions	Rationale
Winter (Hibernation Period)	Avoid all major work or disturbance. Periodically monitor temperature and humidity using probes if possible, without entering the structure. Ensure the entrance/exit points are clear of heavy snow or debris, but otherwise, leave it alone.	Disturbing hibernating animals can be harmful. Frost protection is critical for survival.
Early Spring (Emergence)	Inspect the external structure for damage caused by winter weather or predators. Clear any fallen debris blocking entrance points. Check that the surrounding areas have open patches for basking, which reptiles use to warm up after emerging.	Reptiles emerge on warmer days to bask and forage.
Spring/Summer (Active Period)	Maintain the surrounding 'marginal' habitat. Control excessive scrub growth that might shade the hibernaculum too much, but allow tussocky grass and some cover for protection from predators. Refrain from using heavy machinery near the site to avoid crushing animals. Keep a shallow water dish nearby if a pond is not adjacent.	Ensures a diverse habitat mosaic and suitable basking spots.
Autumn (Pre-hibernation)	Conduct any necessary structural repairs or enhancements using natural materials like logs, rocks, and soil. Add more insulating material such as leaf litter or turf if needed. Avoid major work from September onwards, as reptiles start seeking overwintering sites.	Prepares the hibernaculum for the cold months, ensuring it's in good condition before use.

- NB
- **Flooding:** If the hibernaculum is prone to flooding, improve site drainage or consider creating an above-ground hibernaculum mound with additional capping for frost protection in a different, higher location.
- **Predator Access:** Place thorny brash around the entrance or use a section of drainpipe as an access tunnel to deter predators like cats or birds.
- **Accidental Disturbance:** If a hibernating animal accidentally disturbed, cover it up gently and leave it undisturbed. If it cannot be returned safely to its spot, place it in a frost-free, protected area (e.g., another log pile, compost heap) and seek expert advice.

7 MANAGEMENT OF BAT BOXES

7.1 Set Up

Location and placement

- **Height:** Mount the box as high as possible, at least 3 meters (10 feet) off the ground, to protect from predators.
- **Sunlight:** Position the box in a spot that receives sun for at least part of the day, ideally facing south to southeast to help the box warm up.
- **Shelter:** Choose a location that is sheltered from strong winds.
- **Flight path:** Ensure there is a clear, unobstructed flight path to the entrance.
- **Proximity:** Placing boxes near woodland, water, or dark tree lines can help bats find them.
- **Lighting:** Avoid placing the box where it will be disturbed by bright outdoor lights, such as porch or security lights.

Installation

- **Mounting:** Attach the box securely to a tree, wall, or pole.
- **Tree installation:** If attaching to a tree, avoid using methods that cause damage, such as using a strap or specialized nails that won't harm a chainsaw operator if the tree is felled later.

7.2 Cleaning and Maintenance

- **Leave it alone:** Once the bat box is up, leave it undisturbed. It is illegal to disturb bats or their roosts.
- **Monitor from afar:** Observe bats as they emerge at dusk. A good sign that bats are using the box is the presence of droppings.
- **Annual check:** Check the box annually to ensure it is still securely fixed, especially after high winds.

8 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

8.1 Introduction

For the long-term objectives of the management plan to be achieved the land owner must take on board many responsibilities. These management responsibilities will cover

Establishment And Maintenance Of Buffer Zones

Protection of all water bodies

Maintenance of connectivity corridors at all times

The sustainable and responsible use of herbicides, pesticides, fungicides and fertilisers.

Prevention of damage to the landscape features from oil/petrol spillage from maintenance equipment.

Introduction of an Integrated Pest Management system (IPM)

Efficient and Responsible use of water resources

Care, enhancement and protection of existing trees, shrubs and hedgerows on the site

Care and protection of new planting.

Replacement of new planting if it dies.

9 APPENDIX 1 – LANDSCAPE PLAN AND ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENT PLAN .



Little Reeds - Proposed Landscape Schedules

Woodland Block Planting

Species			1 2 3										Species Tot
			W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9		
			1,919	1,5 centre	1,054	471	91	74	206	233	224		
			1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre	1,5 centre		
Acer campestre	5%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	2	5	5	5		
Betula pendula	5%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	2	5	5	5		
Prunus spinosa	10%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	83	42	46	21	4	3	10	10	10		
Corylus avellana	10%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	83	42	46	21	4	3	10	10	10		
Crataegus monogyna	20%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	166	84	92	42	8	7	20	20	20		
Pinus sylvestris	15%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	123	63	70	31	6	5	15	15	15		
Prunus avium	5%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	41	21	23	10	2	1	5	5	5		
Quercus robur	30%	transplant 0.45-0.6m	247	127	140	63	12	10	31	30	30		
Total	100%		825	421	453	208	40	33	90	101	100	2281	

Hedgerow Planting

Species			1. Plan Reference / 2. Area Of Planting (m ²) / 3. Density (7 plants per m ²)			Species Tot
			H1	H2	H3	
			2	15	383	
Crataegus monogyna	50%		53	1091		
Prunus spinosa	20%		21	424		
Acer campestre	15%		16	318		
Corylus avellana	10%		11	212		
Ulex europaeus	5%		5	106		
Total	100%		106	2121		2227

General Meadow Mixture EM2

Total Area of grassland = 10418m²

Sowing rate 3-5 g per m²

0.75% Achillea millefolium - Yarrow
0.45% Agrimonia eupatoria - Agrimony
1.80% Centaurea nigra - Common Knagweed
0.97% Daucus carota - Wild Carrot
1.12% Galium verum - Lady's Bedstraw
0.82% Knautia anserina - Field Scabious
0.30% Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Vetchling
1.75% Leucanthemum vulgare - Oxeye Daisy
1.80% Malva moschata - Musk Mallow
1.72% Plantago lanceolata - Ribwort Plantain
1.12% Potentilla sanguisorba ssp sanguisorba - Salad Burnet
0.75% Primula veris - Cowslip
0.30% Prunella vulgaris - Selfheal
0.60% Ranunculus acris - Meadow Buttercup
0.75% Rhinanthus minor - Yellow Rattle
8.50% Agrostis capillaris - Common Bent
20.75% Cynosurus cristatus - Crested Dogtail
25.50% Festuca rubra - Red Fescue
4.25% Phleum bertolonii - Smaller Cat's-tail
17.00% Poa pratensis - Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass

Mixture For Wetlands EM8

Wild Flowers 20%

Area of site = 153m²

Sowing Rate = 4/m²

0.70% Achillea Millefolium - Yarrow
0.60% Agrimonia eupatoria - Agrimony
0.10% Angelica sylvestris - Wild Angelica
0.20% Betonica officinalis - Betony
3.20% Centaurea nigra - Common Knagweed
1.40% Filipendula ulmaria - Meadowsweet
0.40% Galium album - Hedge Bedstraw
2.00% Galium verum - Lady's Bedstraw
0.80% Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Vetchling
0.60% Leontodon hispidus - Rough Hawkbit
1.20% Leucanthemum vulgare - Oxeye Daisy (Moon Daisy)
0.60% Lotus corniculatus - Birdsfoot Trefoil
0.10% Lotus pedunculatus - Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil
1.00% Medicago lupulina - Black Medick
2.00% Plantago lanceolata - Ribwort Plantain
0.40% Primula veris - Cowslip
0.80% Prunella vulgaris - Selfheal
1.20% Ranunculus acris - Meadow Buttercup
0.80% Rhinanthus minor - Yellow Rattle
0.50% Rumex acetosa - Common Sorrel
0.30% Sanguisorba officinalis - Great Burnet
0.50% Silene flos-cuculi - Ragged Robin
0.20% Taraxacum officinale - Dandelion
0.30% Vicia cracca - Tufted Vetch

Grasses 80%

8.00% Agrostis capillaris - Common Bent
8.00% Carex echinata - Star Sedge (w)
30.00% Cynosurus cristatus - Crested Dogtail
18.00% Festuca rubra - Red Fescue
1.60% Hordeum jubatum - Meadow Barley (w)
8.00% Phleum bertolonii - Smaller Cat's-tail (w)
6.40% Poa pratensis - Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass

Project Name: Little Reeds Acoustic & Visual Screen	Drawn By: DW	Checked By: BW	Rev:
Project No: 1234	Scale: 1:1000 @ A1		Rev A 13/02/2025 - Addition of avale
Drawing Name: Landscape Plan	Date: 10/10/2025		Rev B 10/03/2025 - Addition of Hedge
Drawing No: 1234.04s Rev D	Client: Little Reeds Farm		Rev C 10/10/2025 - Adjusted contours so outside of RPA's & updated planting
			Rev D 05/11/2025 - Revised labeling

- Site Boundary
- Proposed Contours (1m Intervals)
- Retained Mature Trees / Hedgerow (Refer to tree report for RPA's)
- Retained Grassland (Pasture)
- Proposed Hedgerow

- Land also owned by applicant
- Proposed Woodland Planting
- Proposed Neutral Grass Seed
- Retained Grassland (other neutral grassland)
- Proposed Wet Grassland / Wildflower

Weller Designs Limited

**10 APPENDIX 2 – EXISTING TREE PROTECTION MEASURES (EXTRACT THE MAYHEW
CONSULTANCY LTD REF AR/146924)**

