



Maintenance & Preparation For Planting Proposal

Revision B

Proposal :

Modification of existing chalet bungalow, demolition of outbuildings. Erection of a 3 bed detached bungalow to include associated parking spaces and a new access driveway.

on land at:

"Gilridge"
Brighton Road
Handcross
West Sussex
RH17 6BZ

Job Number 23/114

24.12.2024

*This document is to be read in conjunction with the submitted supporting drawings
prepared by Lightbox Architecture Limited.*

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TREES

Preparation: The ground should be cultivated to a minimum depth of 120mm and good quality top soil imported as necessary to ensure this minimum depth. Cultivation may be by hand or rotivator. The ground should be thoroughly cleared of weeds, rubble and all building debris. Similarly, large stones (more than 50mm) should be removed. Tree pits should be excavated to minimum 750mm diameter and a depth of 400mm. Top soil and sub soil should be removed separately. The bottom of the pit should be broken up to a depth of a further 200mm. A supporting stake of suitable length for the tree should be driven in vertically and slightly off centre (alternatively a supporting stake may be driven in diagonally after the tree has been planted). Stake above ground to be no more than a third of tree height. The stake should be straight and with an average diameter of around 70mm should be peeled larch or tanalised softwood. The pit should be partially filled with a mixture of good quality topsoil, bulky compost and slow release fertiliser. Fine compost should be placed on the roots and the tree lightly shaken to settle the compost between the roots. Additional topsoil should be placed on the roots before being firmly trodden down. Care should be taken to ensure that the depth of tree planting remains constant to that in the nursery. Leave slight hollow around the bowl of tree to assist watering. All trees to be well firmed and watered before being fastened to the supporting stake. Minimum fastening to be two rubber tiles, fixed to the stake with rubber spacers to separate the tree.

Note: If the pit is mechanically excavated, care should be taken to break off the side of the pit.

Note: Where trees are in grassed areas, a 1m² grass and weed free area to be maintained and strimmer protection added.

Watering tubes are recommended.

SHRUBS

Generally prepare the ground as noted above, ensuring a minimum depth of 250mm of good quality topsoil. Ground to be 'double dug', or rotavated to equivalent depth. Topsoil should be improved by spreading mushroom peat or other bulky compost and slow release fertiliser and rotavated in. Shrubs should be planted to the depth previously planted in the nursery and should be well firmed in and watered. All container grown shrubs should be well soaked prior to planting. Where shrubs are in shrub beds to receive mulching, this should be between 50mm and 75mm thick layer of chipped bark. Where bark is used, it should have been partially composted.

GRASSED AREAS

Preparation - Loosen and aerate compacted or undisturbed topsoil to its full depth (to a maximum of 450mm). Fork over by hand in restricted areas, break up large lumps of soil and remove any material other than soil and stones exceeding 50mm.

Cultivate the soil to a depth of 100mm and bring to a fine tilth. Remove any material other than soil, including a reasonable proportion of small stones (maximum size 25mm). Ensure that surfaces are graded by hand raking to ensure even gradients and a finished level just proud of the surrounding hard edges, manhole covers etc. Apply a top dressing of slow release fertiliser during calm conditions, in two equal transverse directions.

GRASS SEEDING SPECIFICATION

Carry out seeding work while soil and weather conditions are suitable (generally April - May).

Once seeded, area to be watered as necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all seeding. When topsoil is reasonably dry and workable, grade to smooth flowing contours with falls for adequate drainage, removing all minor hollows and ridges. Finished levels after settlement to be 25mm above adjoining kerb, paving and manholes etc. Topsoil levels may be adjusted by blade grading, ensuring that there is nowhere less than 150mm of topsoil. After grading and fertilising, carry out further cultivation to reduce top 25mm of soil to a firm, fine seedbed with good crumb structure. Hand rake to a true even surface, lightly firmed, but not over compacted, removing all stones and earth clods more than 50mm in dimension to general areas and 25mm to fine lawn areas. Extend cultivation into any adjacent existing grass areas to ensure full marrying in of levels.

Grass seed : Rate of application to be 20 - 35 grams per m² which is to be increased in rate of application by 50% for all sloped areas. Seeding to be carried out in calm weather. Spread seed evenly over specified rate, applied in two equal sowings in transverse directions, lightly raked in.

TURFING SPECIFICATION (if preferred)

Use only cultivated turf supplied by a registered Turfgrass Growers Association (TGA) member to TGA quality standards. Take all necessary precautions to avoid drying out and deterioration of turf to include arranging on site to avoid excessive stacking (single stacks not to exceed 1 metre in height). Turf to be laid during autumn or early winter only. Do not lay turf in persistent cold or drying winds which are likely to cause frost, water logging, or excessive drying. Lay turf with broken joints well butted up, working from planks laid on previously laid turf. Do not stretch turf.

Use whole turfs at edges and trim to a true line. Adjust levels by raking out or infill with fine soil and ensuring full contact with substrate. Consolidate by lightly and evenly firming with wooden beaters as the laying proceeds. Do not use rollers. Press turf with finely sifted topsoil/peat/sand and brush well in to completely fill all joints. Thoroughly water the completed turf immediately after laying. To areas adjacent to newly planted trees, neatly cut away turf to a diameter of 800mm around individual trees and leave soil exposed.

FAILURES OF SEEDING/TURFING

Bare areas, areas of dead grass which have failed to thrive during the first year of growth to be made good by re-cultivation and re-seeding/re-turfing at times of year as stated above. When edges to seeded areas are well-established form edges to planting beds and around newly planted trees with a suitable edging tool, to clean straight lines, or smooth curves. Draw back soil from edges to prevent use of edging shears and remove all arisings.

MAINTENANCE

Maintain the planted areas until 12 months after the date of completion as follows:

- a) Hoe or otherwise remove weeds.
- b) Make up levels where necessary with topsoil.
- c) Keep plants watered, particularly the foliage of evergreens, which should be sprayed daily in dry windy weather in the spring. In hot dry weather, water and spray early or late in the day.

- d) Prune if necessary in accordance with good practice.
- e) Ensure adequate supports are maintained.
- f) Carry out periodic inspections of the plants and spray against harmful insects or fungal attack as/if necessary.
- g) Replace any dead or damaged plants during the period of 12 months from the completion of the planting.
- h) Ensure plants and particularly trees, are adequately protected from rodent/vermin attack.