

Planting Schedule for New Hedging **Ancillary Carparking at Easthall Farm,** **St Paul's Walden, Hitchin** **SG4 8DL**

This statement has been prepared to accompany an application for the 'Formation of an additional shared car parking area to serve the existing B2 and B8 commercial units and existing school including a new access onto a private road, new school drop-off zone and associated surfacing, hedge planting, drainage and landscaping. Change of use from grazing land to carpark and access'.

Applicant: St Pauls Walden Bury Estate, The Calf House East and Calf House West, Easthall Farm, St Pauls Walden, Herts SG4 8DL

Agent: Dorli Newbery, Shingle Hall, Ongar Road, Dunmow, CM6 1JB

1.0 Native Hedgerow Spacing and Planting Arrangement

Hedge Length: Approximately 136 m

Total Plants: 680 no. bare-root whips

Plant Height: 900 mm minimum

Planting Density: 5 plants per linear metre in a staggered double row

Row Spacing: Approximately 300–450 mm

Species Mix

Species	Quantity
Hawthorn	300
Field Maple	130
Dog Rose	50
Dogwood	50
Wild Pear	50
Hornbeam	50
Hazel	50
Total	680

Ground Preparation

The planting strip shall be cleared of perennial weeds and other vegetation likely to compete with the establishment of the new hedge. The ground shall be cultivated to a minimum depth of approximately 300 mm.

Planting holes shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the root system without bending, bunching or damaging the roots.

Planting shall not be undertaken when the ground is frozen, waterlogged or excessively dry.

Planting

Bare-root hedge plants shall be planted during the dormant season, normally between November and March, subject to suitable ground and weather conditions.

Plants shall be planted as soon as reasonably practicable following delivery and shall be appropriately stored and protected from drying out prior to planting.

Plants shall be arranged in a staggered double row at an overall density of 5 plants per linear metre, with approximately 300–450 mm between rows.

Support and Protection

Plants shall be supported by suitable canes where required.

Individual shrub/tree guards and canes shall be provided where appropriate to protect new planting from rabbits, deer and other herbivores. Guards and supports shall be maintained in good condition until the hedge is sufficiently established and protection is no longer required.

Mulching

Following planting, a weed-free mulch strip shall be maintained along the hedge. Suitable organic mulch shall be applied to a minimum depth of approximately 75 mm, keeping mulch clear of individual plant stems.

Watering

A Bronte Porous Pipe drip irrigation system, manufactured in the UK from 100% recycled material, or equivalent, shall be installed to provide efficient watering.

Plants shall be thoroughly watered immediately following planting and thereafter as necessary, particularly during prolonged dry periods within the first two growing seasons.

Maintenance

The planting strip shall be kept substantially free from competing weeds for a minimum period of **five years** following planting.

Any plant that dies, fails to establish or becomes seriously damaged or diseased within the first five years shall be replaced during the next suitable planting season with a plant of the same species and comparable size, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Hedge Management

The hedge shall initially be allowed to establish and thicken naturally. Formative pruning shall be undertaken where necessary to encourage a dense, bushy structure from ground level.

Once established, the hedge shall be managed through sympathetic and/or rotational trimming to maintain its health, structure and biodiversity value. Routine hedge cutting shall normally be undertaken outside the main bird nesting season.

The hedge shall thereafter be permanently retained and appropriately managed, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Sourcing and Implementation

Plant Material, Canes and Guards: To be sourced by St Paul's Walden Estate.

Planting Contractor: Planting and establishment works to be undertaken by St Paul's Walden Estate.

2.0 Low Evergreen Hedge Planting Specification

Hedge Type: Low evergreen screening hedge

Proposed Maintained Height: Approximately 0.6m

Planting Density: 5 plants per linear metre, planted in a staggered double row

Row Spacing: Approximately 300–450 mm

Plant Size: Approximately 500 mm at planting

Suggested Species Mix

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) – 40%

Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) – 30%

Wild Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) – 30%

Plants shall be distributed informally throughout the hedge rather than planted in single-species blocks, to provide a natural appearance and varied structure.

Ground Preparation

The planting strip shall be cleared of perennial weeds and existing vegetation likely to compete with establishment of the new hedge.

The ground shall be cultivated to a minimum depth of approximately 300 mm and planting holes shall be sufficiently large to accommodate the root systems without bending, bunching or damaging the roots.

Planting shall not take place in waterlogged, frozen or excessively dry ground conditions.

Planting

Bare-root or container-grown hedge plants shall be planted during the appropriate planting season. Bare-root plants shall normally be planted during the dormant period between November and March, subject to suitable weather and ground conditions.

Container-grown plants may be planted outside the dormant season where necessary, provided suitable watering and establishment measures are implemented.

Plants shall be arranged in a staggered double row at an overall density of 5 plants per linear metre, with approximately 300–450 mm between rows.

All plants shall be planted as soon as reasonably practicable following delivery and shall be appropriately stored and protected from drying out before planting.

Support and Protection

Plants shall be supported by suitable canes where required.

Individual shrub guards shall be provided where necessary to protect plants from rabbits, deer and other herbivores. Guards and supports shall be maintained until the hedge is sufficiently established and protection is no longer required.

Mulching

Following planting, a weed-free mulch strip shall be provided along the hedge.

A suitable organic mulch shall be applied to a minimum depth of approximately 75 mm, taking care to keep mulch clear of individual plant stems.

Watering

A Bronte Porous Pipe drip irrigation system, manufactured in the UK from 100% recycled material, or equivalent, shall be installed where appropriate to provide efficient watering.

Plants shall be thoroughly watered immediately following planting and regularly thereafter during establishment, particularly during prolonged dry periods within the first two growing seasons.

Maintenance

The planting area shall be kept substantially free from competing weeds for a minimum period of five years following planting.

Any plants that die, fail to establish or become seriously damaged or diseased during the first five years shall be replaced during the next suitable planting season with plants of the same species and comparable size, unless otherwise agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

Protective guards and supports shall be maintained in good condition until no longer required.

Hedge Management

The hedge shall initially be allowed to establish and develop a dense structure from ground level. Formative pruning shall be undertaken as necessary to encourage lateral growth and a compact, bushy form.

Once established, the hedge shall be maintained at an approximate height of 0.6m, with sympathetic trimming undertaken as necessary to maintain a dense and attractive evergreen screen. Routine hedge cutting shall normally be undertaken outside the main bird nesting season.

The hedge shall be permanently retained and appropriately maintained unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Sourcing and Implementation

Plant Material, Canes and Guards: To be sourced by St Paul's Walden Estate.

Planting Contractor: Planting and establishment works to be undertaken by St Paul's Walden Estate.

Dorli Newbery 17/09/2026