

PLANTING SPECIFICATION

SITE PREPARATION

Topsoil
Existing topsoil shall be stripped before building works begin. Imported topsoil shall be BS3882:2015 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. All topsoil shall be stacked in heaps, not exceeding 2m high. During storage, topsoil heaps shall be kept free from compaction, contamination and weeds.

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.

Tree pits: 1000x1000x800mm deep unless otherwise shown
Shrub and hedge pit/trench: 450mm deep
Grass areas: 300mm deep

The base of excavated areas shall be forked or otherwise cultivated to a depth of 150mm to facilitate drainage and all bricks, stones and other debris, etc. over 75mm in any one dimension shall be removed. Similarly, areas trafficked by construction vehicles shall be ripped to a depth of 150-300mm to relieve compaction.

Backfilling with Subsoil

Where excavated areas are lower than the required depth, excavations shall be backfilled with selected subsoil and lightly consolidated to make up levels. Selected subsoil shall be friable, second quality topsoil or similar and be free of rubbish, roots, stones over 75mm in any one dimension, perennial weeds or other materials injurious to plant growth.

Backfilling with Topsoil

Tree, shrub and hedge pit/trench excavations shall be backfilled, in layers, with clean topsoil (as specified above) thoroughly mixed with planting compost e.g. 'Greentree' compost at a rate of 20 litres/m². An approved tree and shrub fertiliser shall be added to topsoil, prior to backfilling tree-pits. Grass areas shall be backfilled with topsoil in layers of 150mm depth.

Cultivation

Cultivation shall not be undertaken within the root protection area of any tree/shrubs to be retained, without prior agreement from the Local Planning Authority. Topsoil shall be cultivated by hand or machine prior to planting, with minimal compaction by machine. Cultivate to the following depths and tilth, removing all rubbish, vegetation, perennial weeds, roots, stones over 25mm in any one dimension and rake to even levels.

Planting areas: 300mm deep cultivation to medium tilth
Grass seeding areas: 150mm deep cultivation to fine tilth raked to a smooth, evenly firmed bed

PLANTING

Plant Stock and Timing

Plant material and operations shall conform to BS 3936 Nursery Stock (Parts 1-10), BS 4428: 1989, BS 4043: 1989 and BS 5837: 2012. The planting season shall be from the 1st October to the 31st March. Container grown stock may be planted outside this season if accompanied by daily watering, or as necessary to ensure healthy establishment. Planting shall not be carried out during periods of frost, drought, cold drying winds or when the soil is waterlogged or frozen.

Planting

All planting that is within the root protection area of existing trees/shrubs to be retained, shall be undertaken by hand and positions altered should tree roots be encountered, in order to avoid damage to the root systems.

All plants shall be set out evenly over the areas as indicated, to the density and quantities shown. All plants shall be planted upright at the same depth as the nursery soil level and evenly spaced, leaving room for growth. All restrictive containers shall be removed with roots not twisted. Immediately following planting, all plants shall be watered-in to field capacity.

Container grown and root balled plants shall be planted in a planting pit sufficient to accommodate the plant without causing root damage, with a minimum of 50mm backfill beyond the root ball extent. Plants to be firmed, watered-in and dead, damaged or lopsided branches shall be removed after planting. Bare-root plants shall be silt planted, incorporating an approved high phosphate, slow-release fertilizer.

Tree Planting and Support

Trees planted in landscape areas shall be underground guyed, using seven strand galvanised wire, with adjustable grippers, secured to 2 no. sleeper deadmen at the base of the tree pit unless otherwise specified. All trees to be firmed in after planting. All trees shall have irrigation/aeration system units fitted to fully surround the root ball.

Hedge Planting

Dead, damaged or straggly branches shall be removed after planting. All transplants in hedge and native mixes shall be fitted with individual protection i.e. shrub shelters, spiral guards as specified, or alternatively the planting areas shall be protected with rabbit-proof fencing. All shrub shelters/spiral guards shall be black or green, adequately supported and installed to allow for expansion.

Mulching

Prior to the application of mulch the planting areas shall be completely weed free and watered sufficiently to achieve field capacity. The surface of the planting areas shall be mulched with a minimum 75mm depth layer of 15-65mm nominal particle size, dark, matured woodchip mulch, ensuring that the low branches of trees, shrubs and/or herbaceous plants are NOT smothered.

Mulch shall be an approved product and completely weed and weed seed free. The mulch shall be topped-up to maintain, after settlement, a depth of not less than 50mm. Trees in grass areas shall be planted centrally within a 1m diameter mulch bed, to be mulched to 75mm deep. The surface of mulch to be 10mm below the surface of adjacent lawn.

GRASS AREAS

Grass seeding

Areas of flowering lawn shall be seeded with a general amenity grass mix as specified during the period March to May or September to October, during periods of suitable warm and moist weather conditions. Seed shall be sown on even, prepared ground (as detailed above), at a rate of 4g/m², in two transverse operations. Lightly roll seed bed after sowing. Water as necessary to avoid shrinkage and achieve satisfactory establishment. Undertake good horticultural practise to ensure establishment of a healthy grass sward.

AFTERCARE PERIOD

Regular Visits

During the specified Aftercare Period, maintenance visits shall be carried out, at least monthly from April to September and twice during the dormant season to carry out the following operations to establish healthy growing plants/grass in weed free areas: watering, firming-up, removal of litter, pest and disease control, general pruning, checking guards, ties and stakes, weed control, grass cutting and autumn tidying. All arisings shall be carted away and the site shall be left clean and tidy at all times.

Watering

All planting and grass areas shall not be allowed to dry out and shall be kept well watered during the growing season, ensuring the soil is kept moist at all times but avoiding waterlogging.

Replacement Planting

During each August within the Aftercare Period an inspection shall be made and all plants that have died, are missing, damaged or have failed to thrive shall be noted and replaced in the following planting season.

Grass Cutting

Mow regularly as a lawn but not too short (25-40mm). To permit flowering, mowing can be relaxed from late June. Cut again when the sward gets untidy (after 4-8 weeks). Mowing may be suspended earlier in the year to allow cowslips to flower. Heavy quantities of cuttings should be collected and removed from site.

PLAN



PROPOSED TREE PLANTING

Ac Acer campestre

Note: Specimen trees to be rootballed and planted at 16-18cm girth with a clear stem to 2.1m

PLANT IMAGES



Carpinus betulus (Hornbeam)



Euonymus ssp.



Hydrangea petiolaris



Hedera helix



Hedera helix 'Glacier'

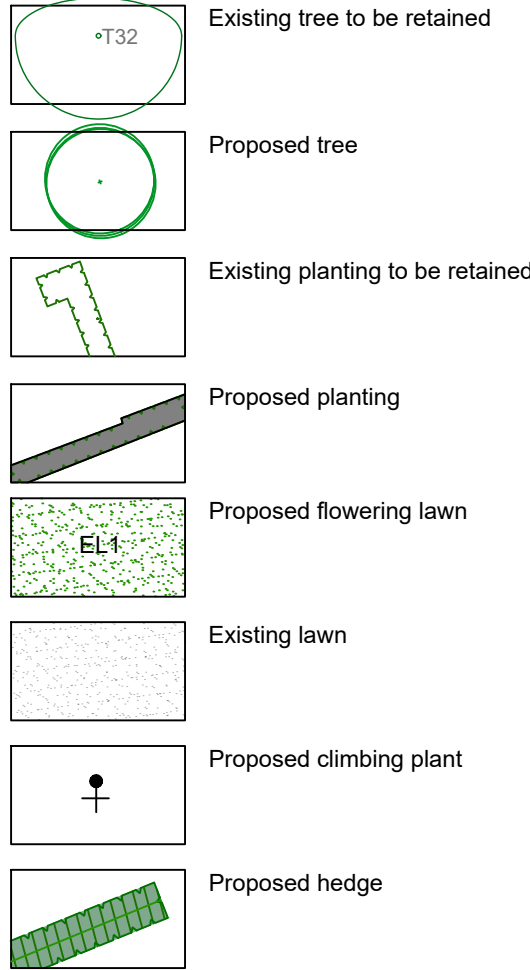


Sarcococca ssp.



Viburnum ssp.

LEGEND



EL1 – FLOWERING LAWN MIXTURE

From Emorsgate seeds (www.wildseed.co.uk) or similar approved

Mow regularly as a lawn but not too short (25-40mm). To permit flowering, mowing can be relaxed from late June. Cut again when the sward gets untidy (after 4-8 weeks). Mowing may be suspended earlier in the year to allow cowslips to flower. Heavy quantities of cuttings should be collected and removed from site.

Wild Flowers

%	Latin name	Common name
4	Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw
0.5	Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit
1	Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy - (Moon Daisy)
3.7	Lotus corniculatus	Birdsfoot Trefoil
3	Primula veris	Cowslip
4	Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal
3.5	Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup
0.3	Trifolium pratense	Wild Red Clover
20		

Grasses

%	Latin name	Common name
8	Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent
40	Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dogstail
28	Festuca rubra	Red Fescue
4	Phleum bertolonii	Smaller Cat's-tail
80		

Sowing Rates		
kg/ha	kg/acre	g/m2
40	16	4

PLANTING SCHEDULE

Shrub

Qty	Abb	Name	Height	Root	Cntr	Age	Centres
63	Carp bet hedge (5/m)	Carpinus betulus as hedge (5/m staggered row)	80-100cm	B	Transplant	1/1	0.200
5	Euon EG	Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'	30-40cm(D)	C	5L		0.500
4	Hed Glac	Hedera helix 'Glacier'	30-40cm	C	2L		0.400
1	Hed hel	Hedera helix	60-80cm	C	3L		
1	Hyd pet	Hydrangea anomala petiolaris	80-100cm	C	10L		
9	Sarc con	Sarcococca confusa	40-60cm	C	5L		0.700
3	Vib EP	Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'	40-60cm	C	5L		0.700
86							

Issue	Revision	Date
 9, The Street, Manuden, Bishop's Cleeve, Herts CM23 1DD email: matt@mllandscapearchitecture.com office: 01279 819195		
Project Heathfields, Royston		
Client Private Client		
Title DETAILED PLANTING PROPOSALS		
Date	May 2024	Scale
Job No.	Drawing No.	Rev.
PR279	02	A