



Planting Implementation

Soils

Construction activities requiring heavy machinery will only take place during periods of dry weather, in order to avoid churning and damaging the soil. If ground compaction due to heavy machinery occurs, the soil will be harrowed using a disc harrow, or via soil lifting. Caution will be exercised to ensure underground services are not damaged.

Soils will be handled in suitably dry conditions by reference to their lower plastic limit. The main method of lifting, transporting and placing soil for restoration will be by dump truck and hydraulic excavator, or low ground pressure bulldozer.

Where necessary, existing weeds and saplings will be removed by hand-weeding. Small areas may be treated with a suitable herbicide as specified within *The Weed Control Handbook* (Natural England, 2025). No use of chemicals within 10m from the top of ditches/ watercourses will be undertaken.

Following final soil placement a fine seedbed will be prepared using agricultural equipment and this will be seeded and rolled.

Native Scrub and Tree Planting

All new planting will be native stock of certified local provenance (seed zones 402/405), subject to availability. Up to 10% of stock may be sourced from further south, to provide some resilience against climate change.

All planting stock supplied shall be healthy and viable and comply with BS 3936 / the National Plant Specification, published by the Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) as appropriate. Supplying nurseries will be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All plants will be packed and transported in accordance with the Code and Practice for Plant Handling as produced by Committee for Plant Supply and Establishment (CPSE).

All planting will be undertaken between October and February inclusive, when weather conditions allow. Periods of frozen or waterlogged ground, frost or high winds will be avoided. Prior to planting of scrub, existing vegetation and grassland will be cleared by cutting or strimming to a height of no more than 75mm and arisings removed from site.

Whips are to be notch planted, using a suitable spade to create a T-, H- or L-notch to a size and depth to accommodate the full spread of roots of the plant once spread out. Plants will be placed within the slot covered by soil, keeping the root flare at the same level as the soil. All stock to be planted at 2 m centres in same species groups of 3-10 with groups randomly mixed. Soil will be firmed after planting and watered to refusal prior to mulch mat installation.

Each plant will be provided with a 500x500mm mulch mat fixed in line with supplier's recommendations and be protected against browsing by a 600mm high Defender Tree guard from green-tech, or similar, supported by a tanalised timber stake.

Hedgerow Planting

All hedgerow planting will be undertaken between October and February inclusive, when weather conditions allow. Periods of frozen or waterlogged ground, frost or high winds will be avoided. Prior to planting of hedgerows, existing vegetation and grassland will be cleared by cutting or strimming to a height of no more than 75mm and arisings removed from site.

Hedge lines will be provided with a 1000mm wide mulch mat roll, fixed in line with supplier's recommendations. Matting will be laid over the pre-prepared notches, with a cut being made through the matting to allow planting.

Whips are to be notch planted, using a suitable spade to create a T-, H- or L-notch of a size and depth to accommodate the full spread of roots of the plant once spread out. Plants will be placed within the slot covered by soil, with the root plug 2cm below ground level. Hedgerows will be planted in double staggered rows with 5 plants per linear meter, rows 350mm apart. Plants will be in same species groups of 3-10 with groups randomly mixed. Soil will be firmed after planting and watered directly to soil through the cut to refusal.

All plants will be protected against browsing by a 600mm high Defender Tree guard from green-tech, or similar, supported by a tanalised timber stake.

Meadow Grassland and Wet Grassland Creation

All seeding shall be carried out in accordance with BS 4428:1989 Code of Practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces), or the most up to date and current British Standard, and in accordance with seed supplier's technical advice. Locally sourced native seed stock shall be used subject to availability. Seeding rate - 40 g per hectare (4 g per m²).

Grass seeding will be undertaken in spring or early autumn, when weather conditions allow and there is sufficient warmth and moisture in the soil. Periods of waterlogged ground, frost or drought will be avoided. Prior to seeding of meadow grassland, if the formation level is compacted it will be ripped/cultivated to remove compaction. Caution will be exercised to ensure underground services are not damaged during these operations.

Ponds will be constructed using a butyl liner or similar, laid to the drainage engineer's requirements with a minimum 150 mm subsoil cover. Seeding of ponds will be carried out to allow vegetation to have time to establish before the ponds are likely to flood. This will be in spring or late summer, avoiding periods of drought.

If there is an abundance of annual or perennial weeds sprouting before there is chance to sow with the proposed grass seed mix, these will be manually removed by hand weeding or repeated cultivation. If stands are particularly persistent, small areas will be treated with a suitable herbicide as specified within *The Weed Control Handbook: Guidance on the use of herbicides on nature conservation sites* (Natural England, 2025). No use of chemicals within 10m from the top of ditches will be undertaken.

Directly before sowing the ground will be harrowed or raked to produce a medium tilth then rolled to produce a firm surface. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones larger than 50mm in any direction will be removed to ensure the ground is suitable for use with mowers. Seed will be surface sown, broadcast by machine. To get an even distribution the seed will be divided into two or more parts and sown in overlapping sections. The seed will not be incorporated into the soil, or covered, but will be firmed in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

No chemical fertilisers will be used.

Site boundary

Existing trees/ hedgerows

Proposed native scrub with trees

Proposed hedgerow

Species rich meadow grassland: Emorsgate EM5 Meadow Mixture for Loamy Soils, or similar

Species rich wet grassland: Emorsgate EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wetlands, or similar

Pond Edge: Emorsgate EP1 Pond Edge Mixture, or similar

Permanent standing water

Ditch

Ecology exclusion zone

NOTES:
For hard surfacing and boundary treatments see drawing 3600-01-L-DR-02
For planting schedules see drawing 3600-01-L-DR-03
For establishment and long-term management see the Landscape Management Plan and the Landscape & Ecological Management Plan

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Client

Balance Power Projects Limited

Project

Radwell Bury Farm BESS

Drawing Title

Detailed Soft Landscape Plan
Sheet 2 of 2

Scale
1:500 @A1

Status
For Planning

Date
June 2026

Drawn
Checked
NG AM

Dwg no

3600-01-L-DR-04

Rev

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