

Lavendon Playing Field

Biodiversity and Landscaping Enhancement Plan



Project Aims and Objectives

- Enhance the look of the site by introducing a diverse mix of native trees and shrubs species and by creating stands of wildflowers
- Create habitat for wildlife, targeting birds, bats, terrestrial mammals and invertebrates
- Reconnect the community with nature, by delivering aspects of the project with the aid of local volunteers and by installing information boards which illustrate the benefits associated with the introduced enhancements
- Alleviate flood risk and improve soil quality and hydrology

The site



Trees species selected for the site

SPECIES	LATIN NAME	MATURE SIZE
London plane	Platanus x Hispanica	Large
Wild cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Medium
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Medium
Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Medium
Small leaved lime	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Large
Mountain ash	<i>Sorbus acuparia</i>	Medium
Downy birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Medium
Silver Leaf Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Large

Shrub species

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	MATURE HEIGHT
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	1.5 – 2.5 m (fast)
Common hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	3+ m (fast)
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	3+ m
Wild privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgaris</i>	3-5 m
Common wayfaring tree	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Up to 5 m
Guelder rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Up to 4 m
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	3+ m (slow)
Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	5+ m
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	2-2.5 m
Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	2-3 m
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Up to 6 m
Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	5+ m
Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	1+ m (slow)

Materials

- Topsoil - quantity to be determined based on site geology. Assess depth and quality of topsoil and characteristics of the substrate (i.e. heavy clay, sandstone, rocks, made ground, etc.)
- Stakes and ties
- Peat free compost
- Bark mulch
- Weed mats (biodegradable, made of recycled material)
- Pegs to pin weed mats to the ground (biodegradable, plant-based plastic; wooden pegs also an option if available on the market)

Costs

- Initially allocated budget of £2000 to deliver tree planting, shrub planting and wildflower seeds
- Tree planting delivered for £900 (bare root standard trees)
- Shrub planting cost estimated at £1000 (3 stages)
- No consultancy costs incurred as the project has been developed in house
- Landscaper cost currently sitting at £150, estimated £300 upon completion of the project
- Budget expected to exceed by no more than £500
- Array of funds/grants available from local/central government to part-fund the project

Other considerations

- A preliminary assessment of the site may be beneficial to gain an understanding of:
 - The habitats present on site and their ecological significance
 - The species occurring (or likely to occur) on site
 - Existing features in the local landscape that can provide connectivity for wildlife
 - The greater context (farmland, woodland, designated sites, etc.)
- The information gathered at survey stage is used to inform the objectives of the Biodiversity Management Plan. Identifying receptors of the enhancements is critical to achieve the desired gains.
- The introduced enhancement shall be managed in line with the prescriptions of a landscape management plan



Delivery – Phase 1, Tree Planting – Dec 19



Hole digging



Bare root trees delivered on site

The 12 trees were planted by the community payback team under the supervision of a professional landscaper

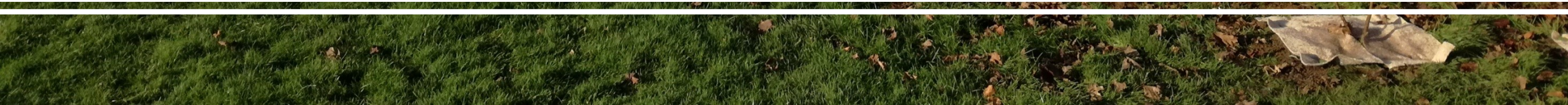


Trees Planted

The trees were planted using imported and local topsoil. Neutral peat-free compost was laid over the root plate and covered with bark mulch



Phase 2 – Shrub Planting, Jan 2020





The site before planting



Volunteers at work



Holes dug, ready for planting



Finished job