



PLANTING SPECIFICATION

1. GENERAL

11. All landscape operatives will be appropriately trained, certified and qualified to undertake the tasks required. When required, the relevant certificates will be made available for inspection. All work is to be carried out in accordance with the relevant British Standards, Codes of Practice and Legislation.
12. All plants shall conform to BS 3936 Nursery Stock Specification for Trees and Shrubs and be in accordance with the National Plant Specification. Supplying nurseries shall be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All plants shall be packed and transported in accordance with the Code of Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE.
13. Planting shall not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frost bound or during periods of cold drying winds. All bare-root planting stock will be kept covered until actually planted in order to minimise water-loss and prevent the roots from drying out. Tree handling, storage and planting shall be in accordance with BS 8545 Trees: From nursery to independence in the landscape, Chapters 9 to 10 and Annexes E to F.
14. The landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.
15. A minimum intervention approach will be used in terms of weed control. In areas of transplant tree planting this is to be achieved by using mulch mats and hand-weeding. Weed killer and other chemicals will be used as little as possible on site. Spot removal of weeds will be carried out by hand removal as necessary.
16. In accordance with C17, all planting comprised in the approved details of tree/hedgerow planting shall be carried out in the first planting season following the occupation of any building or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner.

2. TREE PLANTING

Ground Preparation and Tree Pit Excavation

21. Where necessary remove existing weeds by hand. Chemical removal using a glyphosate based herbicide will be avoided unless large areas need clearing – following which allow a suitable period to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
22. Tree pits of at least 75mm diameter greater than the root system and no deeper than the rootball / container depth are to be excavated and the sides well scarified to prevent smearing. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm in any dimension shall be removed from site.
23. During excavation of the pit, the soil dug should be placed to one side separating topsoil and subsoil as far as is practical.
24. Trees shall be planted as per the planting arrangement as set out on the planting plan and plant schedule.
25. The typical rooting depth for trees is 900mm. The first 300mm shall be made up of topsoil; it shall be ensured that a suitable subsoil provides the remainder of the minimum rooting depth.
26. The root system of the tree should be wetted prior to planting. The tree should be planted at the correct depth taking into account the position of the root flare and the finished level – the rootball or root stem transition should be level with the existing host soil or surface. The base of the rootball should typically sit on subsoil, for larger rootballs the subsoil will sit around the lower portion of the rootball.
27. Tree pits should be backfilled with the excavated topsoil, if the original topsoil is not available or deemed unsuitable, a multi-purpose topsoil should be used. Any subsoil excavated should be discarded and the subsoil depth (beyond 300mm deep) backfilled with a high sand content subsoil. Backfill should be added gradually, in layers of 150mm to 230mm depth, ensuring the tree is held upright at each stage the fill should be firmed in to eliminate all air pockets under and around the root system, but with care being taken not to excessively compact the soil. The final layer should not be consolidated.
28. General-purpose slow release fertiliser (at the rate of 75gm/m²) and Tree Planting and Mulching Compost at the rate of (20litres/m²) are to be incorporated into the top 150mm of topsoil during final cultivations.
29. All extra heavy standard size trees are to be double staked with 75mm dia stakes. Stakes should be driven at least 300mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables etc. and should typically be one third the height of the tree stem above ground.
30. Staked trees shall be secured to stakes with suitable proprietary rubber tree ties and spacers.
31. Immediately after planting, but before applying the below bark mulch, all trees should be saturated to field capacity.
32. Ornamental composted bark mulch will be spread to a depth of 50mm across a 1m dia circle around individual trees, ensuring that the root flare and base of the stem, along with any ground cover plants, are not buried.

3. NATIVE HEDGEROW PLANTING

Ground Preparation

31. Where necessary existing weeds will be treated with a glyphosate-based herbicide and a suitable period allowed to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
32. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm diameter will be removed from site to a registered waste disposal facility.

Planting

33. The planting arrangement shall be as set out in the plant schedule on the relevant planting plan.
34. Bare-root hedge plants shall be notch planted in a double staggered row at the rate of 5 plants per linear metre (using L-shaped notches) using spades of a design suitable for this purpose. The notches must be vertical and deep enough for the roots to hang freely, with the transplant being planted so that the root collar is exactly level with the ground surface. The notch must then be closed and the soil will be well firmed round the roots in line with the guidelines as set out in BS 4428 (1989).

Maintenance during first growing season

35. All bare-root hedge planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm clear plastic spiral guards, supported with 0.9m 12/14lb canes as advised by the manufacturer.
36. All dead, dying or diseased hedge plants will be replaced with plants of similar size and species. If the failure of the plant is due to disease and the disease is considered likely to re-occur, then an alternative species may be used as replacement if agreed with the LPA.

4. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

41. The Landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting periodically following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost. The site is to be visited monthly throughout the year to undertake the Following operations:
 - Weed clearance: All planting areas to be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment.
 - Litter clearance: All litter is to be removed from planting beds.
42. All trees are to be watered periodically from May to the end of September unless unnecessary due to heavy rain; to receive 20 gallons of water. All tree ties and stakes are to be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chaffing is occurring. Any broken stakes are to be replaced. Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Plants are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy, well-shaped specimens.

Hedges

43. Hedge lines shall be kept mulched until established. At the end of the Defects Liability Period / First Year's Maintenance the CA will prepare a list of all plants which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season at the contractor's expense.

PROPOSED PLANTING SCHEDULE

PROPOSED TREE PLANTING

Species	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Form	Root condition
Acer campestre	14-16	400-450	Extra Heavy Standard	RB
Crataegus monogyna	14-16	400-450	Extra Heavy Standard	RB
Malus sylvestris	14-16	400-450	Extra Heavy Standard	RB
Quercus robur	14-16	400-450	Extra Heavy Standard	RB
Sorbus aucuparia	14-16	400-450	Extra Heavy Standard	RB

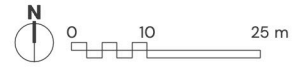
PROPOSED HEDGEROW PLANTING

To be planted at 8 per linear metre in double staggered rows

Species	Mix (%)	Height (cm)	Form	Age/ Times transplanted	Root Condition
Acer campestre	30	80-100	Transplant	1+1	B
Corylus avellana	15	80-100	Transplant	1+2	B
Crataegus monogyna	25	80-100	Transplant	1+2	B
Prunus spinosa	15	80-100	Transplant	1+2	B
Sambucus nigra	15	80-100	Transplant	1+1	B

KEY

- Existing Trees to be retained
- Existing public right of way route Shown indicatively
- Proposed Native Tree Planting
- Proposed Native Hedgerow Planting
- Gap in hedgerow to accommodate public right of way



Revision note:
 First issue: - 05/12/2023 NM
 A - (07/12/2023 LAB) Planting amended to client comments
 B - (18/12/2023 LAB) Native hedgerows added

**Proposed Field Restoration Plan
 Ashford Road, Maidstone**

Client: Wates Developments
 DRWG No: P21-3546_13 Sheet No: REV: B
 Drawn by : NM/ LAB Approved by: AMS
 Date: 18/12/2023
 Scale: 1:1000@A3

