

OVERARCHING LANDSCAPE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- The masterplan provides a robust green space network based around existing valued site features.
- Public areas are designed to be multi-functional open spaces to bring communities together and boost health and wellbeing. Multi-functional benefits would include space for recreation, areas for ecological enhancement, visual amenity and protection of existing landscape features.

- Existing vegetation will be retained and enhanced as part of the proposals; and will become a key feature of the open space network, retaining wildlife habitat value, and providing an established landscape character.

- Biodiversity is a key component to the landscape scheme. A wide number of flowering, fruiting and berrying plants will be included to provide foraging potential for birds, invertebrates and mammals.
- Native species used whenever possible.

- The landscape scheme is designed to provide clear delineation between private curtilage and public realm to provide clarity over management responsibilities. Incidental open spaces are avoided where possible. Small open spaces are designed to be useable as informal local areas for play for the benefit of the community.

- The palettes of trees, hedgerows and shrubs will be selected according to their presence on site, the surrounding area and within the region. These are supplemented by ornamental trees and cultivars chosen for their accent and suitability to planting situations.

- Tried and tested simple, yet effective landscape design will ensure that the landscape areas can be easily maintained to ensure they mature well and look good in the long term. Public realm landscape treatments will be carefully selected, designed, and specified to avoid onerous, challenging or excessively costly landscape management.



GREENS:

- A series of greens will be located throughout the scheme, focused around existing and new landscape features.

Brook Green

- This space will contain the main SuDS basin. Alongside the basin will be wildflower meadow grassland and native tree planting with a large open central area of mown grass for informal recreation, kick-about games and picnicking. A timber trim trail will be included alongside the public footpath to south of the space.

Pool's Green

- This is an enclosed residential green with a retained field pond providing an attractive focal point. The landscape treatment will be a simple mix of longer meadow grass, short cut amenity grass and tree planting. Homes are orientated to overlook the green on all sides. Informal play in the form of a LAP with a simple natural play features will be provided along with places to sit and relax.

Lodge Green

- This space is enclosed by existing woodland, hedges and trees, with Alder Brook and the public footpath along the northern boundary. The space will contain a small community orchard set within wildflower meadow grassland and meandering short cut grass pathways.

Wood Green

- This is a woodland edge glade with wildflower meadow grassland and scattered native blossom tree planting. Additional tree planting along the northern site boundary will help enclose the space further and screen views of the development. A bound gravel footpath will run through the space linking to the public footpath to the north.



SITE ENTRANCE:

- The site entrance will create an attractive arrival space off Chapel Lane. The space will include a naturalistic SuDS pond with wildflower meadow grassland and native tree planting. The entrance will be framed by existing trees and hedges and where existing vegetation is to be removed to facilitate access, new compensatory hedges and tree planting will be provided, along with estate rail fencing to create a rural character.



SUDS:

- A SuDS system including ponds, basins, swales, filter drains/strips and ditches will be designed to take the form of multifunctional naturalistic interventions that provide ecological, recreational, amenity, visual and educational benefits; in addition to their role in surface water management and so enhance environmental, social and economic sustainability.



FOCAL SQUARES & MEWS:

- These focal spaces will feature a change in surface material to become distinctive landmark nodes within the housing areas. A high-quality palette of materials will reflect a more formal, contemporary character within these spaces. Landscape treatments will include feature fastigate tree planting within the hard landscaping and planted areas, aligned to frame views along streets, and structural hedgerow planting to clearly demarcate plot boundaries. The planting scheme will present a striking change in texture and form to mark these key spaces.



COMMUNITY ORCHARD:

- A Community Orchard will be delivered in partnership with The Big Halton Forest project. Orchard fruit trees will include the following local varieties and all trees will be sourced locally. Additional fruiting hedgerows and trees will be planted throughout the open spaces across the site. A range of edible species will provide informal foraging opportunities.



PLAY PROVISION:

- The site will offer a variety of accessible play spaces that provide for a wide range of inclusive recreational and play opportunities for people of all ages, integrating formal and natural play and features. A central woodland themed LEAP will be situated in the most accessible location at Brook Green, ensuring a 400m walking distance catchment for the whole site (Fields in Trust Standards).

- A supplementary trim trail will also run parallel to ProW W/16 at Brook Green and will be set within the existing and newly planted trees. It will comprise a linear arrangement of simple timber balancing and agility equipment for use by the whole community.

- Further informal supplementary natural play elements in the form of boulders, stepping logs and 'tallen trees' will be provided alongside the north-eastern footpath through Wood Green and along the footpath route along the northern boundary to enhance the play value of the landscape in these areas. Linking to the main play area at the centre of the site. Where possible suitable felled trees from other parts of the site will be utilised to create these natural play elements.



CHARACTER AREAS

- Four landscape character areas are proposed within the residential areas of the site to create a logical change in character through the development. The character areas are designed to integrate the development into the surrounding area, and to enhance legibility and sense of place throughout the scheme. The character areas take their cue from their location within the scheme and from the areas they adjoin. The landscape treatments in each character area will include different species and planting styles as set out below.

Green Spine

- This character area covers homes that have a direct visual relationship with the main vehicular route through the scheme and the areas of adjacent open space. Selected species will have strong ornamental form in response to the rhythm of the building layout, creating a comparatively contemporary and formal landscape character. Where space allows, avenue tree planting within the roadside verges will frame views along the road corridor.

Typical species will include:

Trees

- Carpinus betulus 'Frans Fontaine'
- Liquidambar styraciflua 'Lane Roberts'
- Tilia cordata 'Greenspire'

Plants

- Carex oshimensis 'Ice Dance'
- Hebe pingulifolia 'Sutherlandii'
- Mahonia eurybracteata 'Soft Caress'
- Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Golf Ball'

Hedges

- Osmanthus x burkwoodii
- Prunus lusitanica 'Angustifolia'
- Taxus baccata

Rural Edge

- The rural edge will have a comparatively informal feel influenced by the retained existing vegetation within green spaces which the new housing will overlook. Lawn areas, native-fee shrub, tree, and hedgerow species will create an edge-of-settlement countryside character to integrate the site with the surrounding landscape.

Typical species will include:

Trees

- Acer campestre 'Streetwise'
- Amelanchier x grandiflora 'Robin Hill'
- Betula utilis var. jacquemontii

Plants

- Geranium macrorrhizum 'White Ness'
- Potentilla fruticosa 'Abbotswood'
- Rosa rugosa 'Alba'
- Viburnum opulus 'Compactum'

Hedges

- Carpinus betulus
- Escallonia 'Ivey'
- Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'

Woodland Edge

- These character areas will have a naturalistic feel, influenced by the surrounding trees and woodland. English woodland inspired shrub planting and native tree and hedge species will create a wooded edge character and integrate the site with the surrounding landscape.

Typical species will include:

Trees

- Betula pendula
- Malus 'Evereste'
- Sorbus aucuparia 'Cardinal Royal'

Plants

- Euonymus alatus 'Compactus'
- Hydrangea quercifolia
- Sarcococca hookeriana var. digyna 'Purple Stem'
- Pinus mugo 'Gnom'

Hedges

- Fagus sylvatica
- Ilex aquifolium
- Osmanthus x burkwoodii

Gardensque core

- The landscaping within these character areas responds to the more densely spaced built form within the core of the development areas. Species choices to front garden plots in these core areas will evoke the typical character of English gardens. A mix of flowering and fruiting shrub, ground cover and herbaceous species characteristic of traditional gardens will be included.

Typical species will include:

Trees

- Malus baccata 'Street Parade'
- Prunus 'Snow Goose'
- Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'

Plants

- Choisya x dewitteana 'White Dazzler'
- Geranium 'Rozanne'
- Hydrangea paniculate 'Little Lime'
- Rosa white flower carpet

Hedges

- Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote'
- Ligustrum ovalifolium
- Rosmarinus officinalis 'Miss Jessopp's Upright'