

SUPPLEMENTARY LANDSCAPE INFORMATION FOR:

MertonVision, Guardian Centre

For:

MertonVision

Rev A September 2020
July 2020

This document is to be read in conjunction with Indigo
Landscape Architect's landscape masterplan drawing
(ref: 909-MP-01).

I - THE LANDSCAPE PROPOSAL

The Existing Site

Details of the existing site are provided within the Design and Access Statement, the ecological report and the arboricultural report.

In summary, the site is set within a residential neighbourhood, bound by Clarendon Road and Courtney Road on two sides, and consists of several older brick buildings which have been adapted for use by MertonVision. The area around the buildings is primarily tarmac and is in poor condition with limited useable outdoor space. There are a number of existing trees along site's frontage which are described in the arboricultural report. These comprise a mix of middling to poor specimens considered to be of low value and are to be replaced with new specimen trees as part of the proposals.

The Proposals

The proposal aims to bring the Colliers Wood GP and Lavender Fields surgeries together with MertonVision in a new fit for purpose primary care centre with supporting parking and landscape facilities.

The main landscape objectives are to:

- Provide safe inclusive access throughout the site with clearly distinguished areas for parking, ambulance access and cycle parking with well-marked routes to the MertonVision and doctors surgery's entrances.
 - The scheme has been designed to provide clear, direct access to building entrances from both Clarendon and Courtney Roads.
 - Main walkways and car park areas will be paved with high quality attractive block paving to provide a safe, durable and easily maintained surface.
 - Signage, lighting, and building architecture will be used to clearly distinguish building entrances and main walkways.
 - Covered and short-term cycle parking will be located near building entrances.
- Protect and enhance the character of the neighbourhood.
 - Use appropriate materials and landscaping suited to the neighbourhood setting including:
 - Gardens / open space oriented to the perimeter of the site to present an attractive green edge to the proposal.
 - Low 1.3m brick walls and 1.2m metal railing with hedge to provide privacy and visual interest along the site boundary.
 - Semi-mature specimen trees chosen to provide immediate impact, landscape structure and year round interest.
 - High quality attractive block pavement and site furnishings.
 - Provide an attractive green setting which enhances biodiversity and wildlife benefit.
 - Hedges and areas of mixed planting throughout the site will be planted with native and adapted plant species. Shrub borders and planting within the sensory garden will incorporate a mix of native and robust ornamental plants which require minimal maintenance and provide diversity and benefit for wildlife, including nectar and berries.
 - Sensory garden planting enhanced with vegetable beds, green walls, vertical climbers, and aquatic plants.

- A biodiverse roof with a mix of sedums and wildflower plants is proposed on the Merton Store to add visual interest and increase biodiversity.
- Replace existing low quality trees with a mix of specimen street trees and flowering trees that will have an immediate impact and will mature to create a highly attractive and ecologically beneficial setting for the proposal. Existing trees are considered to be of middling to low long term value including fruiting cultivars with wide low canopies which are not conducive to using the space below the trees. The proposed trees will have a narrow, upright form with high canopies allowing the trees to mature to their full size without interfering with the building or use of the garden and will benefit from new well-soiled rooting zones. Tree species will be selected for interesting character, autumn colour, and wildlife benefits.
- Provide a sensory garden with a variety of experiences which can be used for treatment and enjoyed by all users.
 - The proposed sensory garden alongside MertonVision's space offers a carefully designed sequence of garden rooms with smaller intimate spots for one-on-one sessions, larger spaces for group activities, and opportunities for learning along with calmer areas where users can enjoy the garden setting. Planting, site furniture and surfaces are used to define garden rooms and provide portals and landmarks to assist in navigating the garden. The garden is designed throughout to evoke the senses using a variety of surfaces, textures, sounds, smells, and colours.

The garden consists of three main areas: a patio garden, vegetable garden, and healing garden. The patio garden located outside MertonVision's social event room provides a multipurpose outdoor space for gatherings and activities including a raised accessible pond. The vegetable garden, located alongside the cooking activity room provides an opportunity for staff and visitors to work in the garden in raised growing beds and an edible green wall where a variety of vegetables, herbs and edible plants can be grown. The healing garden located at the southern edge of the garden provides a calm space for one-on-one sessions or where staff and visitors can rest and enjoy the garden.

Low brick walls and metal railing with brick columns and a hedge, similar in style and scale to those seen throughout the neighbourhood, are proposed around the garden perimeter to give privacy while sitting in the garden and provide rhythm and visual interest along the site boundary.

- Provide a welcoming and secure area for assistance dogs to wait while their owner visits MertonVision and the doctors surgery

Summary

The overall effect of the landscape proposal will be to create an attractive green setting for MertonVision and the doctors surgery whilst providing new opportunities to extend MertonVision's treatment outdoors. The scheme will be planted using stock sizes that will give immediate impact and will mature to create a strong unified appearance which will contribute positively to the neighbourhood setting and will provide long term biodiversity and wildlife benefits.

2 - IMPLEMENTATION

General

All works shall be undertaken to recognised good horticultural practice and to relevant British Standards. The quality of all landscape works shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard 4428:1989 'Code Of practice For General Landscape Operations'.

All trees and other plants included within the approved details shall be healthy, well-formed specimens of a minimum quality that is compatible with British Standard 3936:1992 (Part 1) 'Specifications for Trees & Shrubs' and British Standard 4043:1989 (where applicable).

Biosecurity

'BS 8545:2014 Trees: From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape' shall be adhered to. In the interest of Biosecurity, *trees should not be imported directly from European suppliers and planted straight into the field, unless they have appropriate certification that they are 100% disease free and have come from an area with no known horticultural diseases*; If disease free certification is not possible, the trees shall have spent a full growing season in quarantine, in a British nursery to ensure plant health and non-infection by foreign pests and diseases. This is a measure to address the threat of the introduction of pests and diseases from outside the UK.

Soiling

The following areas of specification shall also be strictly adhered to:

- Under existing trees / within tree root protection areas, except where minor regrading is noted, only the top 100mm of existing soil shall be prepared, by hand, to prevent damage to underlying roots. New plants, where specified, shall be carefully pit planted, to avoid any major roots.
- In new planting areas to be topsoiled, away from existing trees, underlying subsoil shall be broken up / ripped as required to provide adequate drainage. Rubble / excess kerb haunching shall be fully removed.
- Topsoil depths generally (away from tree root protection areas): shrub, whip and hedgerow planting to be planted in minimum 400mm depth of topsoil. Amenity grass areas to be topsoiled to a minimum 150mm depth of topsoil. Topsoil laid over prepared subsoil as noted. Topsoil shall be kept weed-free prior to planting by hand weeding or use of non-residual herbicides.
- Topsoil should be compatible in pH with existing soil on site and shall comply with BS3882: 2015 Multipurpose topsoil. A topsoil analysis certificate is required to indicate compliance with this specification.
- Additional PAS 100 peat free organic matter shall be incorporated into the soil in shrub planting areas at a ratio of 1 cubic metre per 20 cubic metres and thoroughly mixed in prior to planting.
- Organic fertilisers shall be incorporated as required in shrub, hedge, tree planting and amenity grass areas to ensure there are sufficient plant nutrients within the soil.

General Planting

- All shrub planting and hedgerows to be mulched with minimum 50mm settled depth medium graded ornamental bark mulch to suppress weeds.
- Amenity grass areas shall be seeded as specified, sown onto a cultivated, weed free, level bed with a fine tilth. Seed to be sown as per supplier's recommendations.

Tree Planting

All tree planting to be in accordance with BS8545:2014

- Tree pits, to be square in plan, excavated to a minimum size of 600mm larger than the rootball. Base of pit to be slightly domed; not to be broken up unless drainage problems are apparent.
- Tree pit guide size guide:
 - Selected Standard size and above / feathered trees above 3.0m height: 1200mm x 1200mm, depth as per rootball*.
 - Standard tree and smaller / feathered tree below 3.0m height: 1000mm x 1000mm. Depth as per rootball*.
 - * Bare root trees. Base of pit to have dome of soil to support roots / tree at *original* level in the nursery.
- Tree pit backfill to reflect soil profile – ie: subsoil up to approx. 400mm from ground surface, topsoil above, approx. 400mm depth.
- Watering 'dishes' to be created around the base of each tree, to hold water directly over rootball during watering. Mulched dish to be 1.5m dia. for trees Selected Standard / 3.0 height and above. Mulched watering dish for Standard size and smaller / below 3.0m height, to be 1.0m dia.
- Rootballed / container grown trees to be double staked, with a low cross bar, fixed with rubber tree ties.
- Bare root trees shall be single staked, fixed with rubber tree ties.
- Trees outside planting areas to be mulched with minimum 50mm settled depth, medium graded ornamental bark mulch to 1.0m diameter.

Timing and monitoring of planting works

All planting shall be undertaken, at the latest, within the first planting season (1st Nov to 31st March) following substantial completion of the major construction and groundworks. The developer may however, undertake planting prior to this, outside the planting season, using fully containerised planting material. This is on the understanding that increased watering will be required to establish the planting successfully. Grass seeding shall be undertaken in Spring. All planting works will be undertaken and supervised by a competent professional landscape contractor.

3 - LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Long term design objectives

The general intent of landscape maintenance of the site is to ensure that over a period of time the planting develops to maturity, to the concept that has been approved by the local planning authority. Management and maintenance is to be undertaken in such a way as to allow healthy plants to develop, unhindered by weed growth or other inhibiting factors.

Landscape maintenance schedules

All landscape maintenance work is to be undertaken by an experienced landscape maintenance contractor.

Maintenance visit, will typically be undertaken once monthly between October and March and twice monthly between April and September. A guide minimum number of 18 visits shall therefore be undertaken. The primary maintenance operations will include:

Landscape maintenance prescriptions

- Watering trees, plants and grass areas as necessary to ensure vigorous and successful establishment during the early years after planting.
- Keeping planting areas free from weeds. All planted / mulched areas shall be hand weeded or treated with a non-residual herbicide as appropriate / required.
- Fertilising of tree pits, hedge and shrub / ground cover areas, annually in spring using a suitable organic slow release fertiliser.
- Fertilising amenity grass areas with a suitable organic fertiliser annually in spring.
- General pruning and trimming to ensure footways, signs etc. are not obscured and to ensure plants develop appropriately according to their species.
- Trimming hedges to 1.2 height.
- Mowing amenity grass areas as a minimum every two weeks during the growing season to maintain a neat appearance.
- Checking and adjusting all tree stakes and ties at every maintenance visit during the first one to two years after planting. Removal of stakes and ties once trees are securely established (guide 12 – 18 months after planting).
- Removal of litter (to be undertaken as part of the general site cleaning and not necessarily by the landscape maintenance contractor).
- Replacing plants that fail where required, with the approved species, (within 5 years of planting as a minimum). All planting will be inspected annually in late summer. Any dead, dying or diseased plants shall be removed and replanted according to the approved plan in the following planting season (November-March).

4 - INDICATIVE PLANT SCHEDULE

TREE PLANTING

Species	Height (m)	Girth (cm)	Form	Root form / staking
Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Blaze'	5.0 - 5.5	20 - 25	Semi-mature / 200cm clear stem	RB / CG ; double staked
Amelanchier lamarckii	3.5 - 4.0	-	Multi-stem umbrella	RB / CG ; single staked
Betula pendula	4.5 - 5.0	-	Multi-stem	RB / CG ; single staked
Prunus yedoensis	3.5 - 4.0	-	Multi-stem umbrella	RB / CG ; single staked
Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'	4.5 - 5.0	20 - 25	Semi-mature / 200cm clear stem	RB / CG ; double staked

HEDGE PLANTING

Double staggered rows at 4 plants / linear metre. Rows 500mm apart.

Species	Height (cm)	Form	Root Form
Acer campestre	100 - 125	Bushy, feathered whip	B/R
Carpinus betulus	100 - 125	Bushy, feathered whip	B/R
Fagus sylvatica	100 - 125	Bushy, feathered whip	5-7.5L
Prunus lusitanica	80 - 100	-	5-7.5L
Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'	60 - 80	-	5-7.5L

SHRUB / GROUND COVER PLANTING

Species	Height (cm)	Root Form	Density
Choisya ternata	40 – 60	5L	2/m ²
Cornus alba 'Kesselringii'	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Cornus sanguinea 'Anny's Winter Orange'	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Hebe spp.	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Hedera helix	20 – 30	2L	6/m ²
Osmanthus spp.	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Ribes sanguineum	60 - 80	3L	4/m ²
Rosa spp.	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Rosmarinus officinalis	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis	20 – 30	2L	4/m ²
Skimia japonica 'Rubella'	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Viburnum davidii	30 - 40	3L	4/m ²
Vinca minor	20 – 30	2L	6/m ²

HERBACEOUS / GRASS PLANTING**Species**

Anemanthele lessonia
 Echinacea spp.
 Dryopteris filix-max
 Fatsia japonica
 Geranium spp.
 Heuchera spp.
 Lavandula spp.
 Nassella tenuissima

Species

Miscanthus sinensis 'Morning Light'
 Pennisetum alopecurioides 'Hameln'
 Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Blue Spire'
 Rudbeckia spp.
 Salvia spp.
 Sedum spp.
 Verbena spp.

CLIMBING PLANTS**Species**

Clematis spp.
 Lonicera periclymenum

Species

Parthenocissus henryana
 Vitis 'Phoenix'

AQUATIC PLANTS**Species**

Acorus gamineus
 Eleocharis palustris
 Equisetum hyemale
 Iris spp.

Species

Lysimachia nummularia
 Nymphoides peltate
 Nymphaea spp.

GRASS SEED / TURF**Mix**

WFT-Species-Rich-26
 WFG20 Eco Species Rich Lawn

Supplier

Wildflower Turf
 Germinal

Application Rate

-
 10g/m²

BIODIVERSE ROOF

The Merton Store / Storage Shed shall be planted with a biodiverse roof, planted and seeded with a mix of native and wildlife-friendly, drought tolerant species into a lightweight substrate mix. Species mix to include a broad range of wildflower, grass species a Sedum, eg Bauder Flora 2 Seed Mix or similar.