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Robinwood, Belmont Hill, Caerleon, NP18 1JX

Soft Landscape Outline Planting and Maintenance Schedule v2

For Planning Purposes : 26/0269 - CONSTRUCTION OF PART SINGLE, PART TWO STOREY EXTENSIONS TO EXISTING PROPERTY, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING ANNEX AND CONSTRUCTION OF DOUBLE GARAGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF DETACHED SINGLE STOREY ANNEX BUILDING

Robinwood, Belmont Hill, Caerleon – Soft Landscape Outline Planting and Maintenance Schedule

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The attached Planting Plan is provided to accompany a planning application to Newport City Council for planning permission as described above.
- 1.2 The property is accessed via a private Tarmac driveway off Belmont Hill. The driveway was secured under planning reference 23/1092. Landscaping of the driveway entrance was a planning condition and has subsequently discharged and completed.



2025

The Stone cladding of the wall which was also conditioned has now also been completed and

discharged.



View of entrance wall

- 1.3 On the Northern Boundary of the property, there is a PROW. This is currently overlooked by an existing 2 storey annex and the existing lawned garden at the rear of the property.



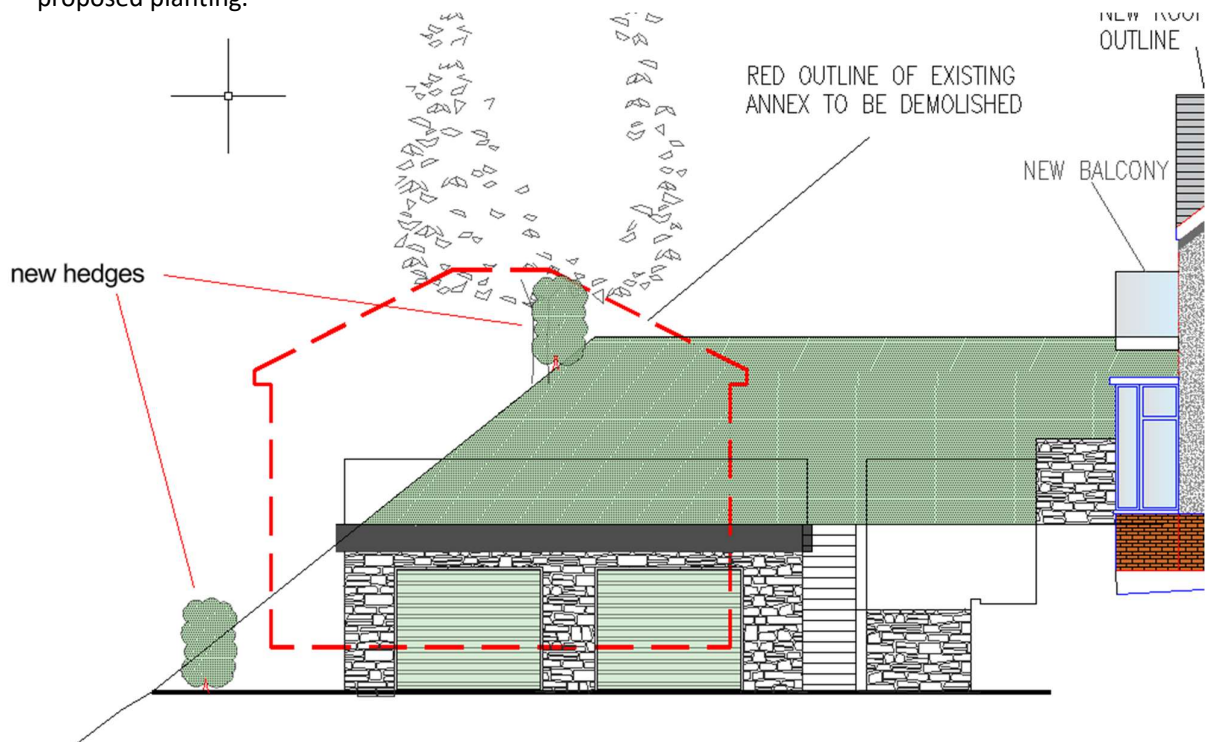
views from PROW of Annex and rear elevated garden



3d contextual view.

It is intended to provide a hedge screening at the head of the slope for privacy and vegetation cover to steep slopes which are visible to PROW users, using native ground cover species.

- 1.4 The site is bounded by a belt of woodland to the North, East and West. We understand that site trees are now covered by a blanket Tree Preservation Order which also extends beyond the site.
- 1.5 In addition to Landscaping the edge of the PROW, it is also intended to demolish the existing 2 storey annex and replace with a single storey garage to reduce the overbearing which will be softened by the proposed planting.



- 1.6 A further phase of the development is the construction of a new Annex to replace the approved triple garage which can be seen in the 3D contextual view. The annex is of similar size to the garage and the following planting is proposed,



- 1 New multi-stem Sorbus aucuparia/rowan as a feature to the property approach
- 2 Yew hedge Taxus Baccata as a soft privacy screen to the Annex.
- 3 Native meadow margin as Natural amenity edge strips.
- 4 Ornamental planting bed to soften existing retaining walls fronting the main property.



3d contextual view as proposed

1.7 Planting objectives are to:

1. Reinststate vegetation cover to steep slopes adjacent to the PROW which are visible to walkers, using native ground cover species.
2. Ensure feature vegetation within the visibility splay at the top of the driveway is under 600mm.
3. Provide enclosure and partial screening for garden areas.

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2.0 OUTLINE SPECIFICATION FOR SOFT LANDSCAPE WORKS

Refer to Planting Plan reference: Proposed Landscaping Plan

- 1.0 Landscape contractor is to assess the health and safety aspects of the proposals given the steep slopes along the PROW.
- 2.0 Soil conditions:
Do not work in waterlogged or frozen conditions.
Cultivate and plant into moist friable soil.
Provide adequate additional root protection where required and prevent planting pit sides, bases and backfill materials from freezing.
- 3.0 Climatic conditions:
Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable for the relevant operations. Do not plant during periods of frost or strong winds. Bare root planting to be restricted to the 'lifting' season, generally November to March.
- 4.0 Machines and tools:
Use only machinery and tools suitable for the site conditions and the work to be carried out.
- 5.0 Excavation:
Ensure the location of all services is known before any excavation operations.
Excavation is NOT to be carried out within the root protection areas of trees to be retained.
- 6.0 Soils:
Given the steep slopes, if soils are suitable and in the right location, planting should be directly into existing soil through a biodegradable mulch mat.

If topsoil is to be moved or imported, no spreading after sustained heavy rainfall over 10mm in 24 hours. Ensure topsoil is loose tipped in layers of 0.2m maximum, and not firmed, consolidated, or compacted when laying by tipping and grading to approximate levels in one operation with minimum trafficking by plant in line with Landscape National Building Specification. Place sufficient depth to allow for topsoil settlement. Batter/feather in local levels to achieve smooth rounded profiles and ensure falls are positive to reduce the risk of water ponding. Allow 300mm depth of topsoil for tree planting and groundcover planting.

- 7.0 Cultivation prior to planting:
If areas are weed infested, remove by hand or mechanical means - do not spray out due to the risk of herbicide drift. No cultivation to take place within tree root protection areas. No cultivation after sustained heavy rainfall over 10mm in 24 hours. Cultivate topsoil by hand to achieve a suitable loose, friable tilth, remove rubbish/stones/roots etc over 50mm for planting areas in line, and rake to even out levels where possible.

8.0 Plant Supply:

Nursery Stock to BS 3936 Part 1 'Nursery stock specification for trees and shrubs' and BS 8545:2014 Trees from nursery to independence in the landscape.

Name, forms, dimensions and other criteria as scheduled and defined in the National Plant Specification. If specified plants are unobtainable or known to be likely to be unobtainable at the time of ordering, obtain approval before making any substitution.

Plants should be:

- Materially undamaged, sturdy, healthy, vigorous, of good shape and without elongated shoots.
- Grown in suitable environment and hardened off.
- Free from pests diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders.
- Budded or grafted plants to be bottom worked unless otherwise specified or approved.
- UK grown.
- Produced in peat-free compost.

In addition, trees should have:

- Clearly defined and straight leader.
- Balanced branching framework with lateral branches subordinate to the leader.
- Clearly defined stem taper and proportionate, balanced height/stem girth ratio appropriate to the species.
- No crossing or co-dominant branches.
- Evenly spaced lateral roots with minimum four major laterals.
- Evenly spaced, well developed fibrous roots.
- An intact root-ball with the root-flare clearly visible.

9.0 Plant Handling:

Handling of plants to HTA National Plant Specification and the Committee for Plant Handling and Establishment Part 3 'Recommendations for Plant Handling from Delivery to Successful Establishment' and BS 8545:2014 Trees from nursery to independence in the landscape.

All plants delivered on racks. Boxed/pallet stacked plants are not acceptable.

Protect plants / trees from frost and from drying out.

Handle plants / trees with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock eg. by dropping from a vehicle.

All plant material is to be carefully lifted, adequately and carefully packed and protected for delivery to site. Plants should not be lifted and stored on the delivery vehicle overnight. Ideally plants should be lifted, delivered to the site and planted on the same day.

On delivery to site, bare-root or root-balled plants, should be stacked together, away from the effects of the drying winds, their roots being covered with sand or fine soil and watered to prevent drying out.

Plants may require to be heeled-in, using prepared trenches, covered with soil (fine material) and watered thoroughly. Stored plants should be checked regularly to ensure their root systems are fully covered and that the soil (fine material) is kept moist.

If planting becomes delayed into April or later, then bare root plant material is to be stored in cold stores until required on site.

10.0 Planting:

Set out plants evenly to density and quantities shown, arranged to avoid straight lines and geometric patterns. Plant to the nursery soil depth, face up to present best side, and firm in.

For bare root stock, dip in a proprietary alginate prior to planting such as Alginure/Broadleaf P4 anti-desiccant gel before planting.

For rootballed, containerizing and container grown trees diameter of pit to be minimum 75mm greater than the root system. Plant at correct depth with root flare visible at ground level, allowing for topsoil settlement. Backfill in 150-200mm layers, firm to eliminate voids. Final backfill layer is not consolidated. Remove any wire baskets, hessian and twine used in the rootballing process where this is feasible without disturbing the root ball. Immediately water to field capacity, add mulch but not at root flare to a 1.2m radius. No fertilizer to be added in the first season.

11.0 Immediate aftercare:

Immediately after planting cut back any damaged, dead or diseased branches and remove any weak, thin or malformed growth.

For tree species any immediate aftercare is to accord with BS3998:2010 and BS 8545:2014.

If tree leaders are damaged or have been removed, the stock should be replaced.

Water as necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting. Ensure the full depth of topsoil is thoroughly wetted. Use a fine rose where appropriate to avoid damaging or loosening plants.

For trees planted into tree pits, wet the root system before planting and saturate the tree pit after planting to field capacity. Allow for watering every week to every fortnight according to weather conditions, from April to October. Where tree irrigation is provided, water through the cap and also use overhead watering for roots above the irrigation system – allow 20-40L for all trees. Add mulch after watering in.

12.0 Mulch specification:

A biodegradable mulch mat is proposed for steep 1 in 2 slopes, supplier to be agreed and to advise on pinning etc. For other areas an amenity grade of bark mulch should be used spread evenly to a depth of 50mm, increasing to 75mm around trees. Ensure no plant foliage is covered by mulch, lift all ground cover foliage above.

13.0 Immediate aftercare:

Immediately after planting cut back any damaged, dead or diseased, weak, thin or malformed growth.

Water as necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting. Ensure the full depth of topsoil is thoroughly wetted. Use a fine rose where appropriate to avoid damaging or loosening plants

3.0 PLANTING SCHEDULE

Refer to Planting Plan JW1254/112 for layout and detail of ground cover and hedge planting.

Slopes Mix – planted into biodegradable matting			
Hazel [<i>Corylus avellana</i>]	Feathered 1.25m at 1.5m cs	Bare root	10
Hawthorn [<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>]	Feathered 1.25m at 1.5m cs	Bare root	10
Ivy	45sqm at 6/sqm	1L	270
Ferns – plant in species clumps of 3 in groups of 1sqm allow to spread	10% of area at 6/sqm	1L	
Harts tongue (<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>) E			12
Hard fern (<i>Blechnum spicant</i>) E			12
Common male fern (<i>Dryopteris felix mas</i>)			12

Hedge

Plant a double staggered row at 5 **plants/lin m.**(as planting plan) Mulch full hedge width of 800mm to 50mm depth. Maintain to height of around 1.0- 1.2m, only prune once height is reached ideally in August.

Fagus sylvatica [beech]	Bare root 5/linm	150
	600-900mm	

Wildflower Meadow & Margin Seed

Provide a nectar-rich habitat for butterflies, insects, birds, and small mammals. This vibrant mix supports a wide range of wildlife, encouraging biodiversity and helping your landscape thrive naturally.

Contains:

- 30% Strong Creeping Red Fescue
- 10.75% Chewing's Fescue
- 10% Hard Fescue
- 10% Timothy
- 10% Slender Creeping Red Fescue
- 6% Smooth Stalk Meadow Grass
- 4.5% Red Clover
- 4.5% Sainfoin
- 4% Sheep's Fescue
- 3% Alsike Clover
- 2% Ribwort Plantain
- 1.5% Birdsfoot Trefoil
- 0.75% Yarrow
- 0.5% Meadow Foxtail
- 0.5% Selfheal
- 0.5% Oxeye Daisy
- 0.5% Sheep's Sorrel
- 0.5% Common Knapweed
- 0.5% Wild Carrot

Sowing rate: 20kg/ha. Pack size: 20kg – Supplied by Landlife Wildflowers UK

4.0 PRESCRIPTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

4.1 During the 5 year establishment phase carry out maintenance of the planted areas as follows:

For new native shrub and groundcover planting:

- Use of a biodegradable mulch mat should reduce the need for weeding
- If required further maintain weed free planted areas by use of HAND WEEDING only (not by using glyphosate due to the risk of plant damage from herbicide drift onto new and existing vegetation).
- Hand weed to remove any perennial weed growth before they flower and set seed, do not use herbicide.
- The timing and method of weed control is to be kept under review.
- Water as necessary to prevent plants wilting.
- Maintenance operations shall be carried out only during suitable weather conditions.
- Every visit check condition of plants.
- Re-firm plants as required without compacting topsoil.
- Allow ivy and ferns to spread.

- Allow hazel and hawthorn to grow on and create a continuous canopy, prune if required at appropriate times to remove dead or dying and diseased vegetation to promote healthy growth and natural shape and in accordance with good horticultural practice. Hazel can be cut back to a coppice stool every 5-7 years.
- Maintain beech hedge by annual cutting ideally in August to achieve a dense hedge of around 1.2-1.5m height.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

- 4.1 Bare root planting to be undertaken in the planting season November to March.
- 4.2 Container grown planting can be undertaken year round, but ideally in the planting season November to March.

5.0 MONITORING AND REMEDIAL MEASURES

- 5.1 An annual walkover will be undertaken by the applicant in September/October to monitor establishment success, with any plants or areas that fail to thrive during the **5 year establishment phase** to be replaced in the next suitable planting season November to March. Replacements will match the size of adjacent or nearby plants of the same species or should match the original specification, whichever is the greater.
- 5.2 During the year 5 period, the maintenance programme will be reviewed and amended/ updated as required.

