

STAGE

Alderbourne Farm

PINEWOOD STUDIOS SCREEN HUB

# Landscape and Biodiversity Strategy



PINEWOOD

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### **Project**

Pinewood Studios Screen Hub - Alderbourne Farm

### **Client**

Pinewood Group Limited

### **LUC Project Number**

11183

### **Project Team**

The landscape strategy has been prepared by a team led by LUC. All comments and contributions to the development of the study are gratefully acknowledged.

### **Note**

This document and its contents have been prepared by LUC for Pinewood Group Limited and is intended solely for use in relation to the Pinewood Studios Screen Hub project.

LUC and Pinewood Group Limited assume no responsibility to any other party in respect of or arising out of or in connection with this document and/or its contents.





Fig 1.1: Aerial photo of site

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0.1 This report sets out the illustrative landscape and biodiversity strategy for the planning application for the Alderbourne Farm area. The report has been produced by Land Use Consultants Ltd and TEP and should be read in conjunction with the remainder of the application in particular the Planning Statement, Parameter Plans and Design and Access Statement. The relevant Parameter Plans are:

- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_001 PP1 – Site Context (current levels)
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_002 PP2 – Site Context (Proposed levels)
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_003 PP3 – Development Zones
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_004 PP4 – Land Use
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_005 PP5– Green Infrastructure
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_006 PP6 – Access and Movement
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_007 PP7 – Building Heights
- 3939-FBA-02-00-DR-A-01\_008 PP8 - Proposed demolitions
- 3939-FBA-02-XX-SC-A-01\_000 PP9 – Development numbers and yield

### Landscape and ecological design approach

1.0.2 The design approach has followed an in-depth analysis of the site and its setting. Key drivers include the creation of an appropriate setting and framing of the new buildings/backlots, filtering views into the site, the creation of a new publicly accessible nature reserve, and the resolution of a number of technical requirements including access, parking, and servicing. The landscape proposals have been produced in close co-ordination with other disciplines notably planning, architecture, highways, ecology and arboriculture to form an integrated strategy.

### Summary

1.0.3 The illustrative landscape proposals contained in this document demonstrate that the scheme can deliver significant landscape and ecological benefits.



## 1.1 EXISTING LANDSCAPE

- 1.1.1 The Alderbourne site is located to the north of Black Park Country Park, adjacent to the existing studios and approximately 3.5km north of Slough.
- 1.1.2 To the north of the site there are a small number of residential properties (Alder Cottage and Alderbourne Arches) which sit just south of the M40 motorway; the east of the site is defined by junction 16 of the M25 and a single residential property (Field End Lodge); the southern boundary of the site is defined by Seven Hills Road, Spring Field Cottages and the existing Pinewood Studios; and finally, the western boundary of the site abuts Alderbourne Lane and open farmland.
- 1.1.3 The site has been previously used for agriculture with approximately two thirds of the site consisting of pasture fields, defined by boundary hedgerows and tree belts. Along the eastern boundary of the site adjacent to Field End Lodge there is an extensive area of ancient woodland. The farm complex is located centrally in the southern part of the site and contains of a mixture of buildings including residential properties, agricultural barns, storage units and extensive hard standing areas.
- 1.1.4 The topography of the site is varied with the River Alder Bourne running east west through the centre of the site. The level change rising from approximately 39m AOD at the lowest point along the River Alder Bourne to 54m AOD along the northern boundary and 70m AOD adjacent to Seven Hills Road at the South of the site. The farm complex sits midway up the southern valley side and is terraced into the slope at various levels ranging between approximately 55.5m and 63m AOD.
- 1.1.5 There are no Public Rights of Way within the site.
- 1.1.6 Details for the Pinewood South site are provided in a separate landscape strategy for that area.

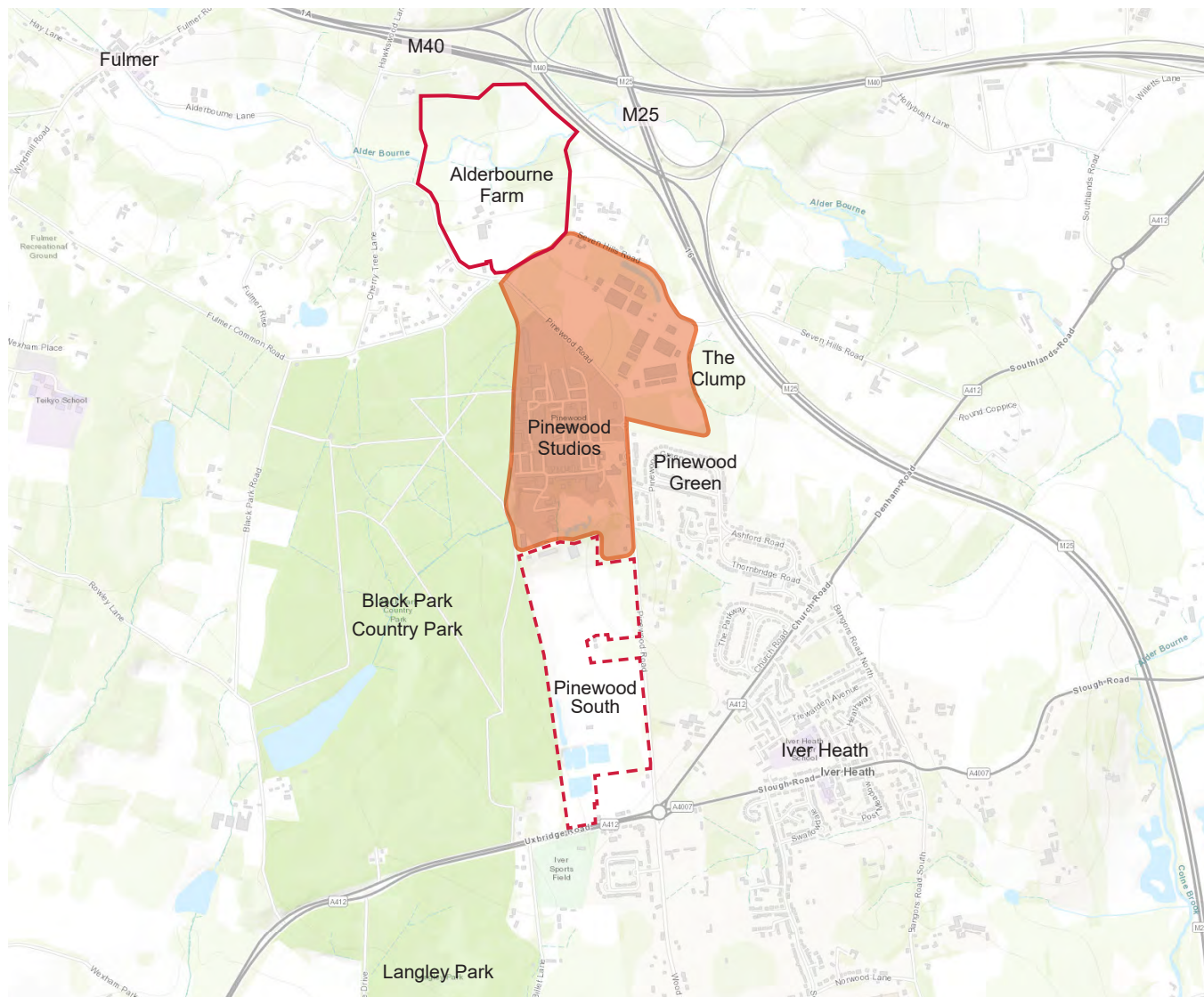


Fig 1.2: Landscape Context Plan

### Legend

- Site Boundary Alderbourne Farm
- - Site Boundary Pinewood South
- Existing Studios



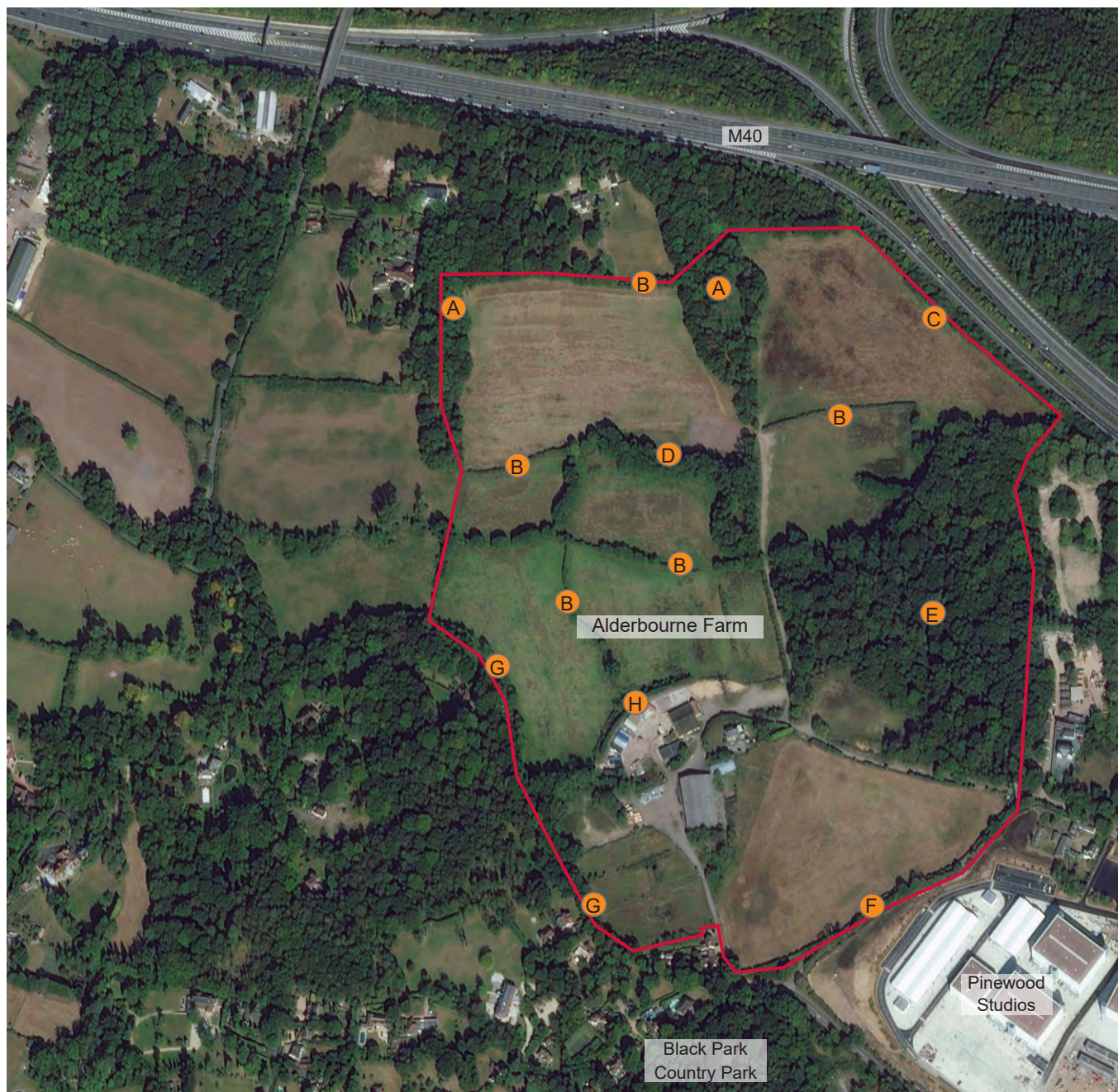


Fig 1.3: Landscape features/existing vegetation

## EXISTING LANDSCAPE (Contd)

- 1.1.7 As illustrated on the adjacent aerial photograph the key landscape features and tree cover within the site itself are primarily concentrated in the northern, central and eastern sections of the site. There are few landscape features of note within the southern section of the site or adjacent to the farm complex.
- 1.1.8 The rural landscape character of the site is influenced by the proximity and busy nature of the adjacent motorways. There are no landscape designations within it, although the site falls within the Colne Valley Regional Park and is therefore valued as part of this wider landscape.
- 1.1.9 Views of the site are typically in close proximity from its boundaries. Roadside vegetation along Seven Hills Road, Alderbourne Lane and Hawkswood Lane which includes hedgerow and some mature trees provide screening albeit with gaps allowing for glimpsed views through.
- A** Northern woodland/tree belt with mature trees to providing visual separation and screening.
  - B** Existing hedgerows.
  - C** Young woodland planting along M25 J16 Slip Road, screens cars but not high sided vehicles.
  - D** Mature tree line along River Alder Bourne
  - E** Browns Wood, ancient woodland with dense canopy and understory limiting any views from the east.
  - F** Hedgerow and tree line providing visual separation and screening to the Seven Hills Road.
  - G** Hedgerow and tree line providing visual separation and screening to the Alderbourne Lane, gappy nature allows for glimpsed views.
  - H** Mature leylandii hedgerow screening farm complex from views from the north.



## 1.2 LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

1.2.1 The proposed landscape strategy will provide a strong landscape framework, resilient to future climate change. It applies to both the proposed nature reserve in the north and the backlot development to the south. It has been informed by separate appraisals on landscape and visual, arboriculture and ecology. The strategy will realise the opportunities identified in these appraisals reinforcing, extending and enhancing landscape and ecological assets in an integrated manner.

1.2.2 The key existing landscape features and habitats will be central to this process with their assets used and enhanced to create significant and lasting landscape and ecological benefits. The opportunity exists to retain and extend these assets to enhance both the nature reserve and green/ blue infrastructure that surrounds the backlot development. These works will provide screening and landscape/ ecological connectivity in keeping with local landscape character.

1.2.3 The following objectives are proposed as part of the landscape strategy and align with those listed in the Colne Valley Regional Park Action Plan:

- Protect: restore and strengthen the landscape character, focusing on key habitats providing resilience and long term sustainability
- Manage: existing habitats and features including veteran trees to conserve and enhance biodiversity
- Enhance: creation of new woodland, heathland and acidic grassland and wetland habitats
- Enhance waterscape/watercourses
- Enhance landscape/wildlife value/create public open space
- In relation to Brown's Wood better management of small woodlands/ancient woodlands. Opportunities for appropriate recreational access into the woods, improved signage/interpretation and enhanced biodiversity and habitat connectivity.

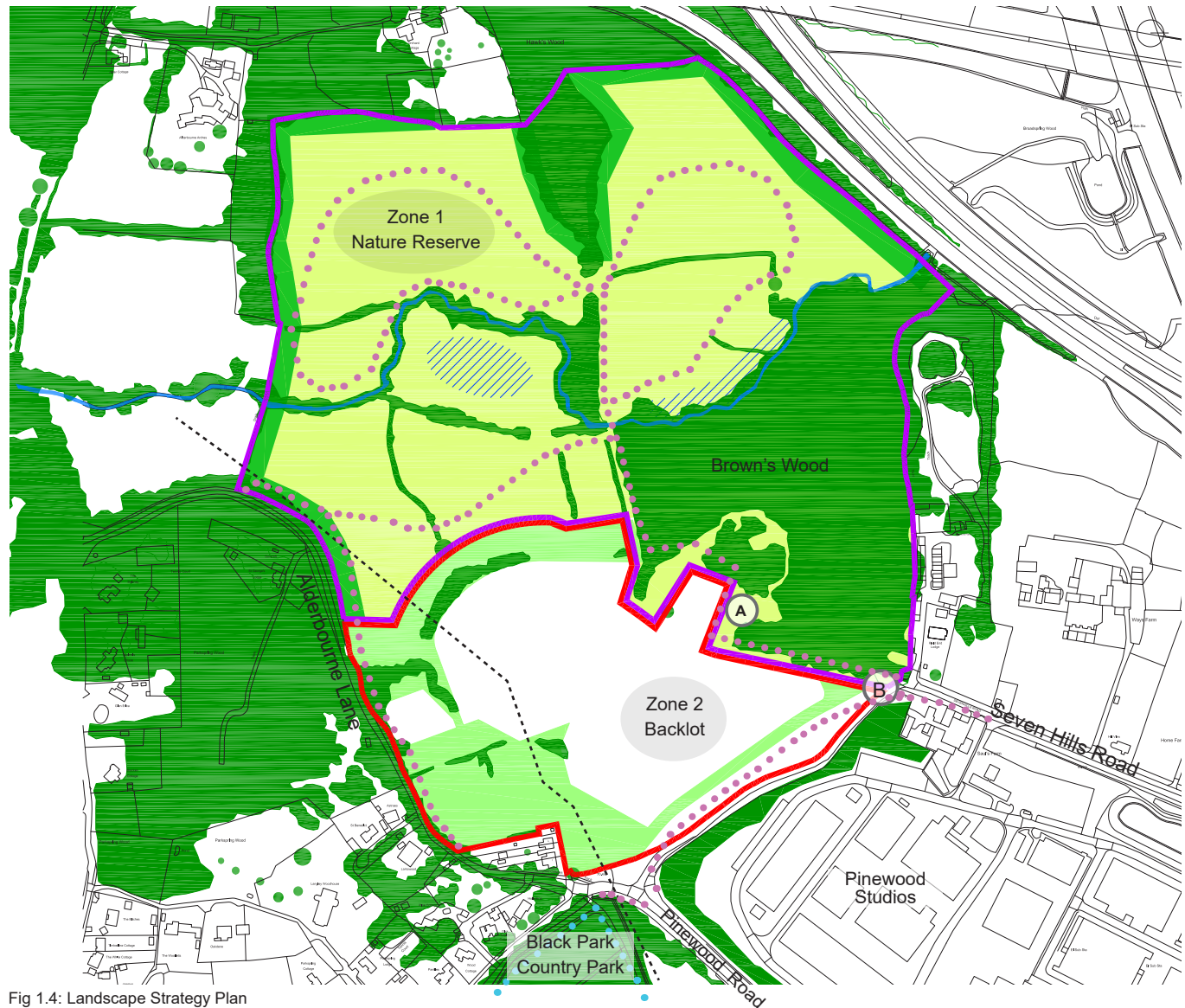


Fig 1.4: Landscape Strategy Plan

### Legend

Nature Reserve	Proposed woodland strengthening	Existing Public Right of Way	Public car park
Backlot area	Proposed landscape buffer to backlot	Indicative new permissive path	Indicative external site access
Existing trees retained	Wetland creation	Underground pipeline (approx. location)	





Perimeter vegetation - retention and strengthening of perimeter vegetation to create ecological connectivity and mitigate views to adjacent motorway



Alderbourne Lane - retention of existing hedgerows and trees with opportunities to strengthen and infill gaps with new boundary vegetation



Existing access - retention of existing hedgerow and access track for a new permissive path, proving separation and a vehicular buffer to the ancient woodland (Brown's Wood)



Central hedgerow - Opportunity to replace the leylandii hedgerow over time with a significant new woodland belt connecting Brown's Wood to other woodlands



Perimeter trees - retention of existing mature trees, with potential to provide additional new native tree planting to provide improved ecological connectivity, woodland framework and filtering of views



River Alder Bourne - opportunity to enhance the riparian corridor through marginal planting, management of overshadowing and further wetland/marshy habitat creation

1.2.4 There are four key strands that will help deliver the strategy:

1. An enhanced woodland framework - the strengthening and management of existing woodland and the potential creation of new woodland and scrub planting to create meaningful woodland corridors.
2. The creation of ecological corridors - the strengthening and enhancement of existing corridors and their significant extension through the design of new woodland, planting and meadows supported by ecological features such as log piles.
3. An integrated SuDS provision and wetland expansion - the provision of any required attenuation and infiltration facilities, designed to provide associated landscape and ecological benefit.
4. Significant amenity benefits via new public access (public car park and permissive paths) and interpretation.

### 1.3 LANDSCAPE OPPORTUNITIES

1.3.1 The images adjacent show a number of integrated landscape and ecological opportunities within the existing site, that could be delivered as part of the landscape strategy.

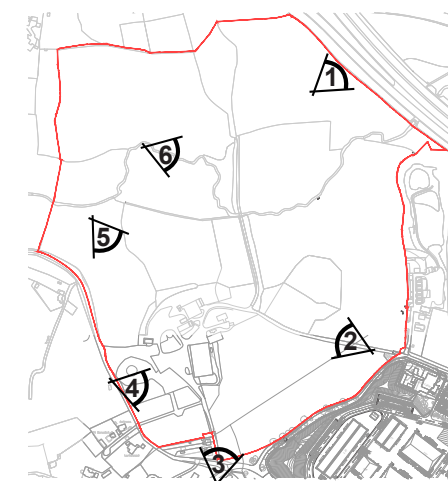


Fig 1.6: View Location Plan

Fig 1.5: Existing site photos - landscape opportunities



## 1.4 ILLUSTRATIVE GREEN LINKS

1.4.1 The diagrams opposite illustrate the indicative landscape layers that combine to create a series of robust and interwoven green links across the site. The green links together ensure:

- significant biodiversity and public amenity benefits can be achieved
- creation of a robust and resilient nature reserve
- the backlot development is well integrated into the surroundings with an appropriate landscape framework
- views into the backlot development site are filtered
- a positive visitor experience for nature reserve users is provided, that links to adjacent PRow's and permissive paths
- majority of existing trees and hedgerows are retained
- existing woodlands are strengthened and reinforced
- important habitats such as the ancient Brown's wood are retained and managed positively
- significant ecological connectivity is created across the site linking important existing habitats, i.e Brown's Wood
- biodiversity enhancement is at the core of the development

1.4.2 A number of these landscape links and ecological corridors would be provided and delivered by the green infrastructure parameter for the backlot development and consist of:

- the retention and strengthening of the Alderbourne Lane tree belt
- provision of a 30m wide landscape corridor to the north of the existing farm complex
- provision of a 10m wide landscape corridor to Seven Hills Road and a substantial landscape corridor to the front of Springfield Cottages

1.4.3 The following plans show the combined landscape and ecological concepts for these key green links and indicative designs illustrating how these may be realised.

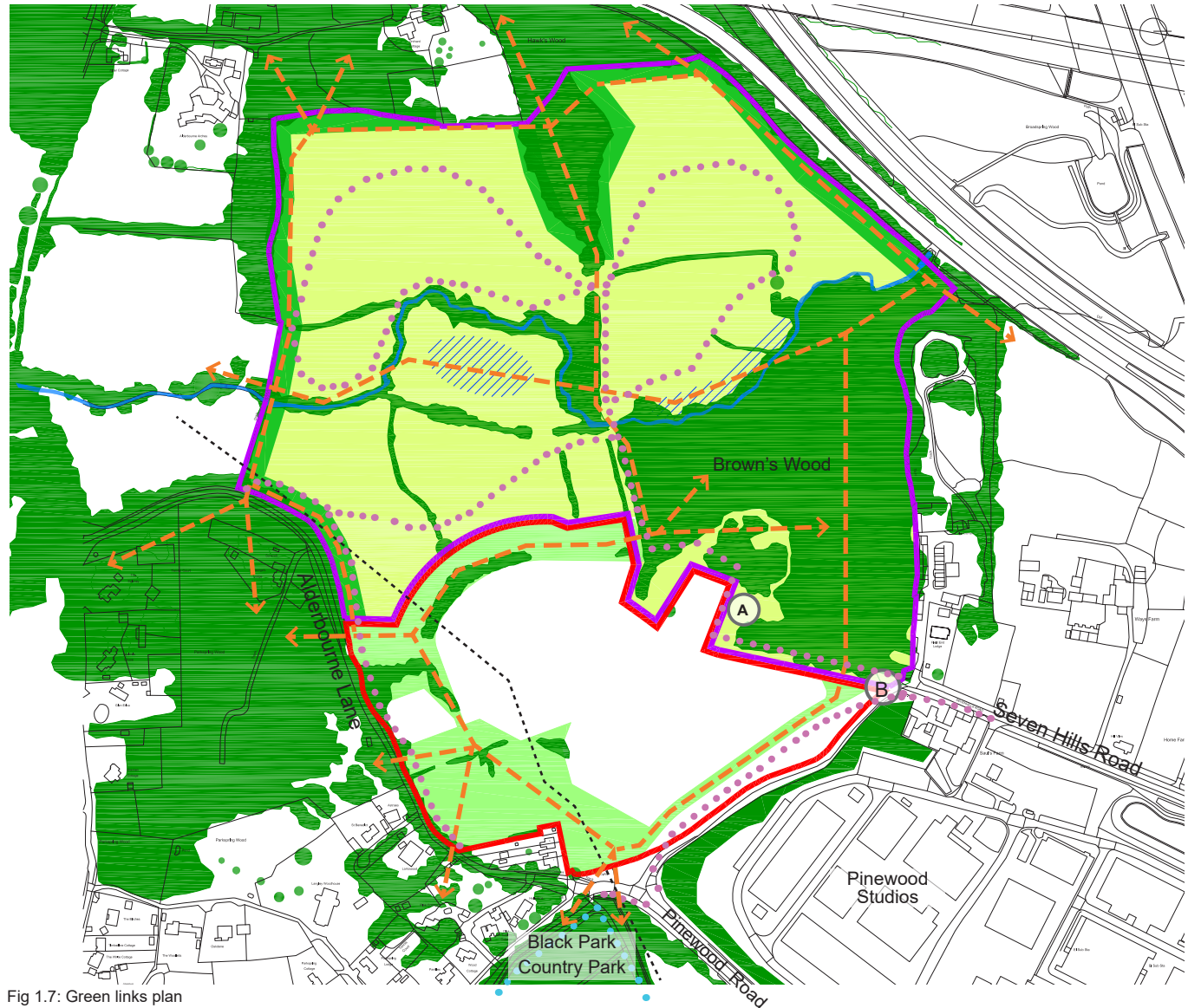


Fig 1.7: Green links plan

### Legend

- |                         |                                      |                                  |                                 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Nature Reserve          | Proposed woodland strengthening      | Enhanced ecological connectivity | Public car park                 |
| Backlot area            | Proposed landscape buffer to backlot | Existing Public Right of Way     | Indicative external site access |
| Existing trees retained | Wetland creation                     | Indicative new permissive path   |                                 |



## ILLUSTRATIVE GREEN LINKS BACKLOT

### Northern Tree Belt

#### 1.4.4 Proposals for the northern tree belt boundary:

- provide new ecological habitat via the introduction of a new native woodland belt, tree and scrub planting
- enhances biodiversity value and ecological connectivity through the introduction of a new wildlife corridor linking woodland to south and west of Alderbourne Lane to Browns Wood
- provides effective screening to views from the north allowing the existing non-native hedge to be removed in time
- defines and provides visual separation between the backlot development and nature reserve

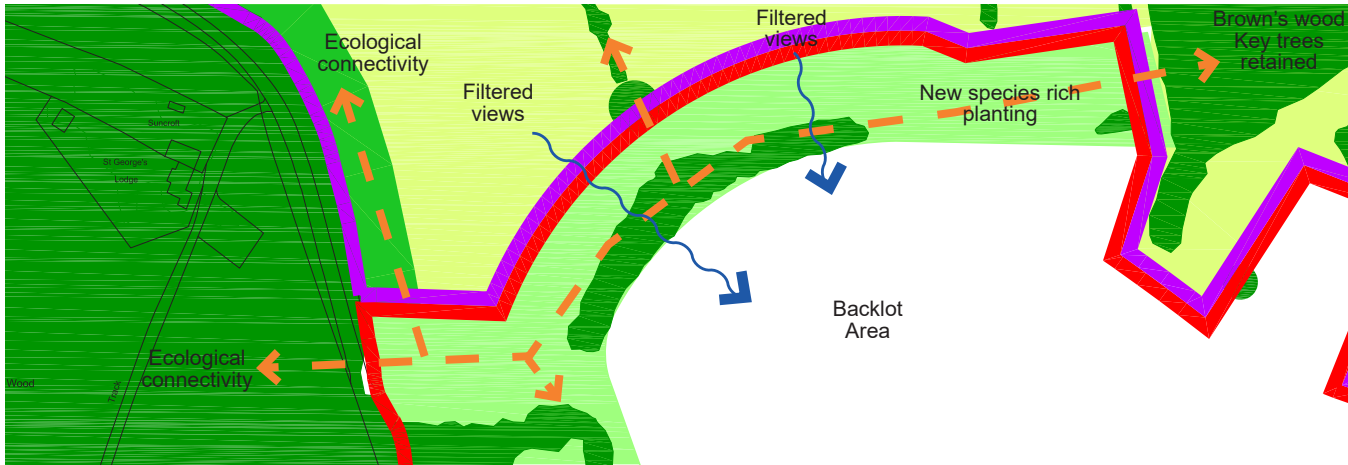


Fig 1.8: Northern Tree Belt boundary concept

#### Legend

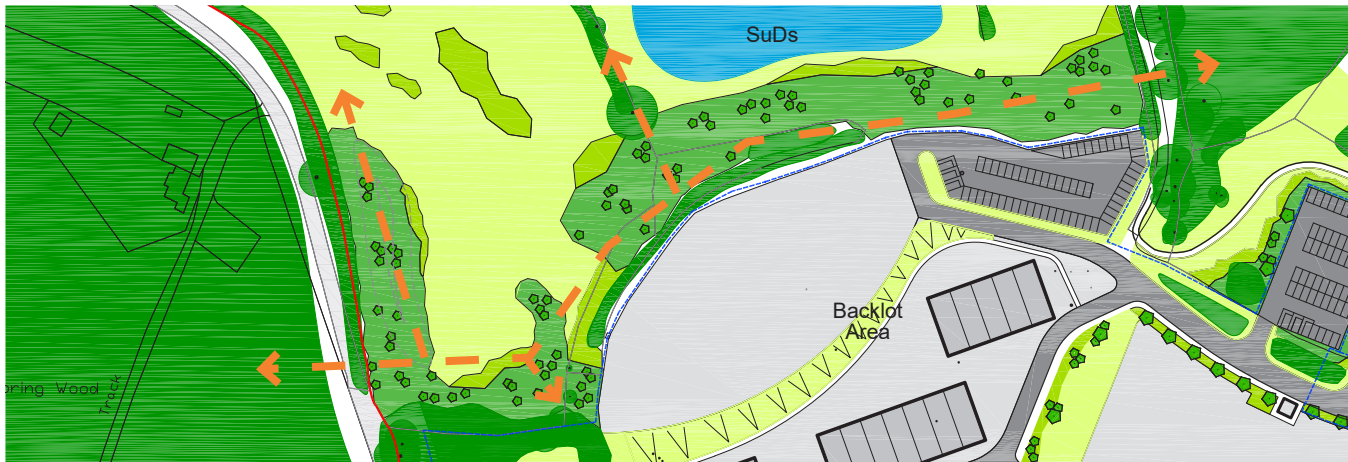
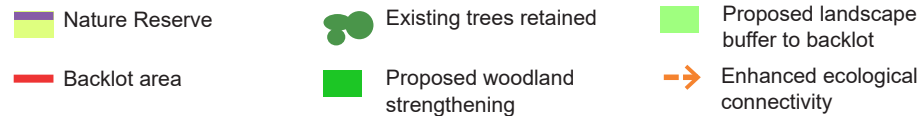
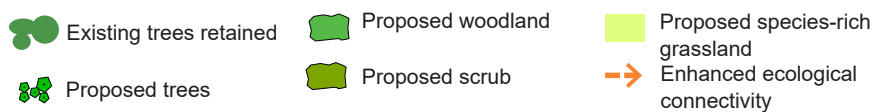


Fig 1.9: Northern Tree Belt boundary Illustrative design

#### Legend





ILLUSTRATIVE GREEN LINKS BACKLOT (Contd)

Alderbourne Lane Boundary

1.4.5 Proposals for the Alderbourne Lane boundary:

- retain the key existing boundary hedgerows and trees on site
- provides effective screening to views from Alderbourne Lane
- strengthens and enhances species provision via new native tree and scrub planting
- provides new ecological habitat via the introduction of a significant new native woodland belt, tree and scrub planting and species rich grasslands
- enhances biodiversity value and ecological connectivity through strengthening of boundary vegetation

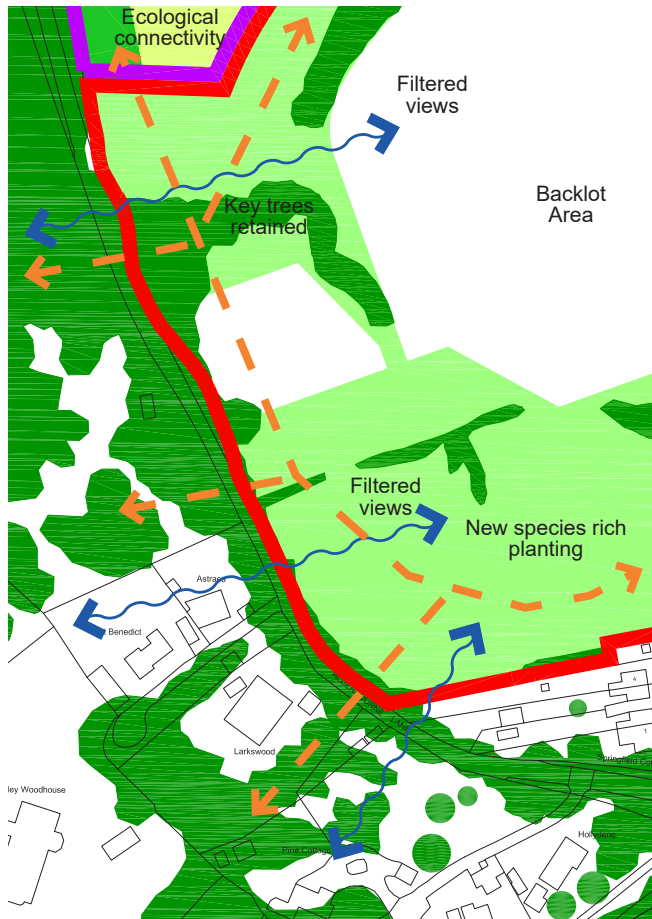


Fig 1.10: Alderbourne Lane boundary concept

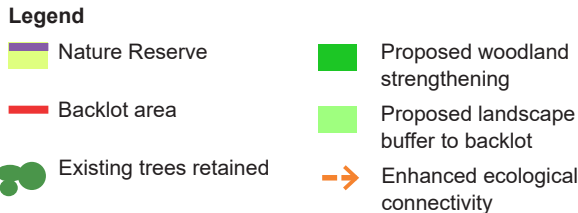


Fig 1.11: Alderbourne Lane boundary illustrative design





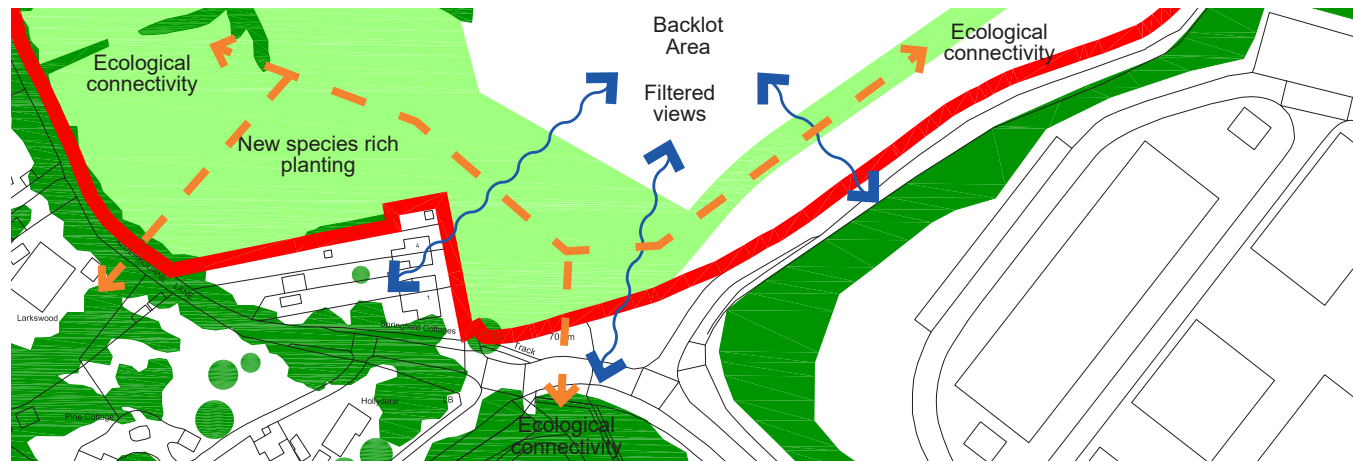


Fig 1.12: Seven Hills Road boundary concept

#### Legend

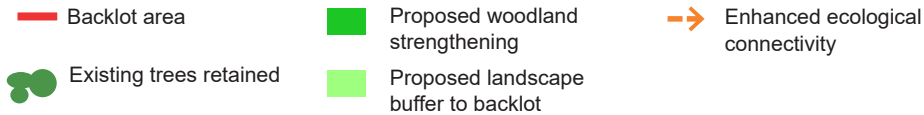
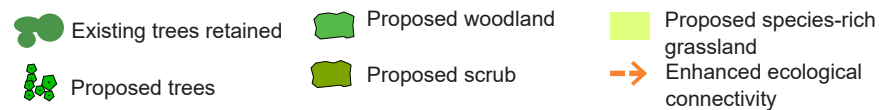


Fig 1.13: Seven Hills Road boundary illustrative design

#### Legend



## ILLUSTRATIVE GREEN LINKS BACKLOT (Contd)

### Seven Hills Road Boundary

#### 1.4.6 Proposals for the Seven Hills Road boundary:

- provide new ecological habitat via the introduction of a new native woodland belt, tree and scrub planting
- enhances biodiversity value and ecological connectivity through the introduction of a new wildlife corridor linking Black Park to Brown's Wood
- provides effective screening to views from Seven Hills Road and the PRow within Black Park
- provides effective screening to views from Spring Field Cottages via a significant landscape buffer



1.5 ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN



Amenity Enhancements

- (A) Car park
- (B) Permissive paths
- (C) Signage and Interpretation panels
- (D) Benches
- (E) Links to Black Park

Biodiversity Enhancements

- (F) New woodland buffer planting for ecological connectivity
- (G) Tree clumps
- (H) Enhanced existing woodland management & ancient woodland ground flora restoration
- (I) Enhanced grassland management
- (J) Riparian corridor planting and enhancement
- (K) Creation of wetland / seasonal flooded areas
- (L) New wildlife pond
- (M) Species specific enhancements (birds/bats/ otter/vole etc.)
- Proposed timber waymarkers
- Proposed map/ interpretation boards
- Proposed timber bench
- Creation of log/ brush pile using on site materials from tree work
- Proposed Bird Boxes woodcrete construction mounted on existing trees (min. ht. 4m) in sheltered wind-free areas, facing north and east
- Proposed Bat Boxes woodcrete construction mounted on existing trees (min. ht. 4m) in sheltered wind-free areas, facing south and west
- Proposed Otter Habitat artificial pre-cut/ flat-pack or created using timber and brush, built into the bank of the River
- Proposed King fisher Bank artificial box, built into bank at side of pond.
- Proposed Bat Barn

Legend

- Red line boundary
- Existing trees retained
- Proposed trees
- Proposed woodland
- Proposed scrub
- Proposed species-rich grassland
- Wetland creation
- Proposed pond
- Natural regeneration area
- Proposed swale/attenuation
- Existing Public Right of Way
- Indicative new permissive path
- Indicative section locations

Fig 1.14: Illustrative Masterplan





Fig 1.15: Illustrative Masterplan - Nature Reserve



## 1.6 NEW HABITATS (NATURE RESERVE)

- 1.6.1 The Nature Reserve sits within and will positively contribute to the objectives of the Colne Valley Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) in a number of ways.
- 1.6.2 A biodiversity impact assessment has been carried out to determine the level of biodiversity net gain that could be achieved at the Nature Reserve and this has been factored into the landscape and ecological design strategy, using the Biodiversity Metric calculation tool Defra 3.1 developed by Natural England and informed by biodiversity net gain guidance developed by CIRIA, CIEEM and IEMA.
- 1.6.3 The strategy seeks to include for extensive priority habitat creation, ranging from open grasslands and wetlands to native scrub, hedgerow and broadleaved woodlands, all of which fall within habitat restoration objectives for Colne Valley BOA. This will ensure that the habitats support as wide a range of flora and fauna as possible once they achieve their target condition. Grassland, scrub, hedgerow, wetland and woodland habitat creation also provides a high quality mosaic of connected habitats.
- 1.6.4 Crucially, no irreplaceable, very high or high distinctiveness habitats will be lost during the works. Medium and low distinctiveness losses will be offset by the creation of areas of high and very high distinctiveness habitat, as well as overall existing habitat enhancement, achieved through new planting and a new management regime
- 1.6.5 Wetland, woodland and hedgerow habitats present on-site pre-development and also those to be created are assigned a 'high' strategic significance within the metric for the BOA. Other habitat types, although located within the BOA are assigned a 'low' strategic significance unless they have particular features of ecological value and are then identified as having 'moderate' significance.

### 1.6.6 Habitats (Generally):

- The design includes for a biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirement of at least 10%;
- There will be creation of new habitat types, including wet meadows, reedbed and open water ponds and new management regimes of existing areas for ecological enhancement through green infrastructure and natural woodland regeneration;
- New habitat creation and enhanced connectivity will be provided for existing bat and badger populations and greater opportunities for birds using the area;
- There will be a strengthening of important ecological corridors;
- Removing/repairing existing negative factors such as light spill, fragmented planting and invasive species.

### 1.6.7 Artificial Habitats:

- The design includes for the provision of numerous bat, bird boxes and invertebrate, from smaller interventions such as sculptural log piles, to artificial bird boxes and potentially a bat barn.

### 1.6.8 Ancient Woodland (Brown's Wood) and established trees and hedges

- The design includes for the retention of all mature trees of high ecological value and those with bat roosting potential, as well as retention and enhancement of tree lines and hedgerows. This incorporates widening, increasing and strengthening woodland belts through supplementary planting, and implementing favourable management in perpetuity, including woodland regeneration.



Fig 1.16: Bat Barn Image courtesy of Crossman Associates  
<https://www.crossmanassociates.co.uk/>



Fig 1.17: Log piles and deadwood to be encouraged throughout



Fig 1.18: Meandering path to deter visitors from sensitive habitats





Fig 1.21: Neutral Grassland



Fig 1.19: Priority habitats will be created including wet meadow



Fig 1.20: Established woodland to be improved through new management

#### 1.6.9 New Tree Planting

- Native trees will be planted within the grassland and around wetland habitats (ponds/reedbed ) to create small copses of trees with associated ground flora. These will be managed so to maintain them as edge habitats within their respective grassland and wetland habitats preventing successional spread.
- Planting of new tree belts around the perimeter of the site will help to connect to existing woodlands, strengthen wildlife corridors and ensure ecological habitat connectivity. The tree belts would be planted with a mixture of native trees and shrubs, both evergreen and deciduous, to maximise both their screening and biodiversity value.

#### 1.6.10 Hedgerows

- Existing native hedgerows within the nature reserve will be gap infilled to increase connectivity for wildlife. Management will focus on improving the shape of the hedges, whilst balancing the needs of fauna using them.

#### 1.6.11 Grassland Enhancement

- Areas of neutral grassland will be seeded with a wildflower mix containing a range of neutral grassland species and subject to a traditional management regime. This may be achieved via green hay from a nearby donor site

#### 1.6.12 Wetland/Marginal planting and wet grassland

- Objectives for Colne Valley BOA include the restoration of wetlands as a Priority Habitat.
- The design includes for the creation of new habitats suitable for supporting species of importance which are not currently present or limited within the site, such as reed bunting,

common frog, common toad, great crested newt, and dragonfly and damselfly species.

- Wet meadows will further enhance the diversity of the grassland habitat and benefit from a wide range of plant species, whilst strengthening populations of grass snake and amphibians.

#### 1.6.13 Open water

- A large pond will be created as a priority habitat with a mix of aquatic, emergent, floating and riparian vegetation, managed to achieve a good condition.

#### 1.6.14 Heathland and Scrub

- Areas of native scrub planting, will be established to include a minimum of three woody species. A well-developed edge and good age range will be developed over time and planting will be managed as an edge habitat between woodland and grasslands.

#### 1.6.15 Education and Interpretation

- Provision of education and interpretation opportunities, including directional and information signage as part of the wider wayfinding strategy.
- Permissive paths will be created to allow visitors to experience different habitat areas, whilst encouraging them away from sensitive areas and keep to clearly maintained routes.

## 1.7 NEW HABITATS - GREEN/BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE

1.7.1 The Backlots (developable part of the site) is located within the South Bucks Parklands and Heaths Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA). The objectives for South Bucks Parklands and Heaths focus on priority habitats, including hedgerows and woodland.

1.7.2 The Backlots maintain the overall style of the local nature reserve, but will be managed to a more formal standard. There are also a number of additional habitat types.

1.7.3 Woodland, individual trees and scrub planting

- The backlots zone will include for substantial new woodland and scrub planting for screening and habitat connectivity. This includes an overall increase in the number of species present.
- Improved management will be established to increase tree layers and ages within the woodland. This will include encouraging dead wood material to be left, and the removal of litter to reduce nutrient input and improve ground flora composition.
- Native and non-native trees will be planted within the major hard surfacing as landscaping features of the development to create aesthetic appeal and continue biodiverse connectivity into and through the development from adjoining habitats.

1.7.4 Orchard

- An area of planted traditional fruit trees will be set within an area of semi improved and improved grasslands. Grasslands will be managed to accommodate the use of the orchard but maintain a richness of wildflower content where possible for the lifetime of the development.

1.7.5 Hedgerows

- Gaps in existing native hedgerows will be filled to increase connectivity for wildlife. Management will focus on improving the overall shape, whilst balancing the needs of fauna.

1.7.6 SuDS Attenuation Pond

- A SuDS attenuation pond will be created to capture runoff from the development area during storm events. It is designed to support native planting of both wetland and damp grassland/marshland native species.

1.7.7 Heathland and Scrub – Mixed Scrub

- A design includes for the conversion of bramble scrub into more diverse mixed scrub through management and some additional planting, where required.

1.7.8 Neutral Grassland

- Continued grassland management will convert modified grassland into neutral grassland with an increase in floristic richness. This can be achieved through sowing of seed mix or through the use of green hay from a nearby suitable donor site and a continued conservation grazing or mowing regime.

1.7.9 Shrub Planting Pockets

- Small pockets of mixed planting will be created within the major hard surfacing as landscaping features and to continue biodiverse connectivity. These will be a mix of native and non-native planting and may consist of perennials, annuals and shrubs.

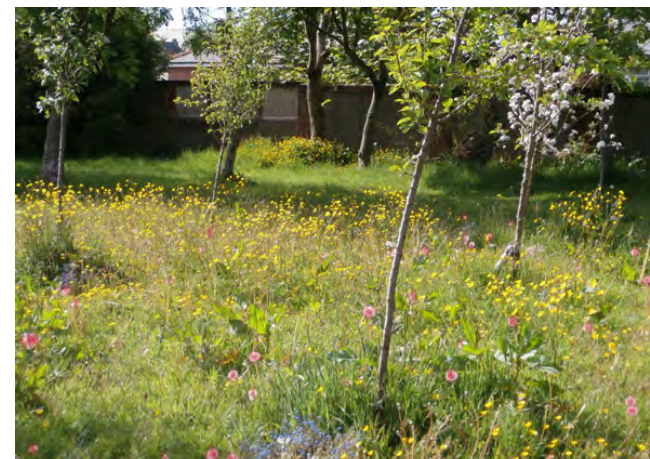


Fig 1.22: New Orchard within wildflower meadow



Fig 1.23: Strengthening green infrastructure through hedge planting



Fig 1.24: SuDS pond





Fig 1.25: Illustrative Masterplan - Backlot Zone



## 1.8 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER - NATURE RESERVE

1.8.1 Existing landscape and native ecological habitats will be retained, enhanced and managed for the benefit of ecological biodiversity. The potential treatments include:

- existing woodland and tree management
- new woodland and scrub planting
- creation of new wetlands
- creation and management of extensive species-rich grasslands
- new and enhanced existing native hedges
- areas for natural regeneration
- wetland creation
- alder and willow carr creation
- parkland and wood pasture creation
- species specific installations for birds, bats and invertebrates

1.8.2 The landscape proposals have been specifically selected to reference local habitats found in and around the River Alder Bourne, Black Park and Iver Heath. These habitats will provide positive biodiversity net gain, ecological connectivity and resilience.

1.8.3 The nature reserve will also provide significant amenity benefits to local residents for informal recreation. Access will be encouraged to the nature reserve via a small visitor car park, permissive paths, wayfinding and interpretation boards.



Interpretation boards



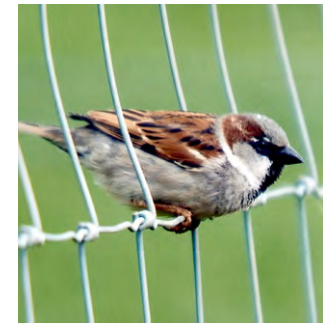
Wetland creation and riparian corridor planting and enhancement



Creation and management of a mosaic of native habitats



Ancient woodland management



Bird boxes



Informal permissive paths mown within meadows





Scattered native tree planting



New heathland scrub



New native woodland belts and successional planting providing screening and wildlife corridors



New native wetland/ marginal planting (reed beds etc) associated with attenuation swales



Marshy vegetation associated with wetlands and attenuation swales



Provision of bird and bat boxes



Installation of invertebrate habitats

## 1.9 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER - GREEN/ BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE

1.9.1 A mosaic of landscape treatments are proposed within the green/ blue infrastructure parameter surrounding the backlot development. The potential treatments include:

- woodland and scrub planting
- wet grassland/ swales
- species-rich grassland
- new and enhanced existing native hedges
- retention and enhancement of existing trees & vegetation

1.9.2 The various treatments have been specifically selected to reference local habitats in and around Black Park and Iver Heath including acidic grassland, heathland vegetation and pine trees within the woodland planting.

1.9.3 These habitats will provide positive biodiversity net gain, ecological connectivity and screening of the development. Added ecological benefits will be provided by the installation of bird and bat boxes along with invertebrate habitat features.



Open grasslands managed as meadow



## 1.10 INDICATIVE SECTIONS - GREEN/ BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE

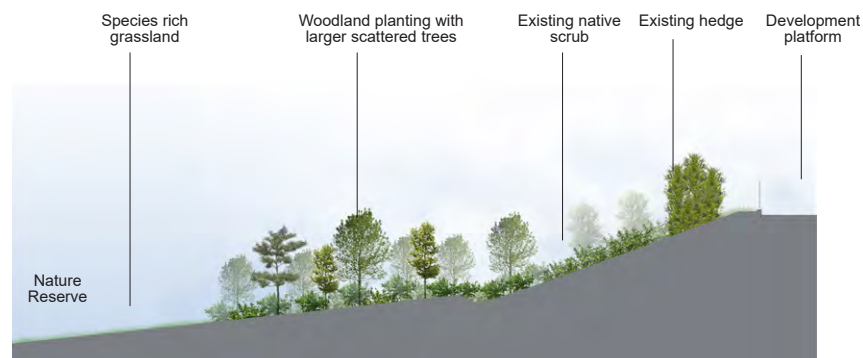
1.10.1 The indicative sections opposite illustrate the potential boundary landscape treatments within the green/ blue infrastructure around the backlot zone.

1.10.2 Extensive consideration has been given to the boundary treatments, including filtering of views and provision of screening where residential properties adjoin the site.

1.10.3 As a result a strategy has been developed to address these concerns. The key elements of this strategy are:

- existing boundary trees and hedgerows would be retained where possible
- existing tree belts/ hedgerows would be reinforced and strengthened with native species to provide additional filtering of views where appropriate
- a minimum 15 metre zone for planting/ screening would be provided adjacent to residential areas
- a minimum 10 metre zone for planting/ screening would be provided along Alderbourne Lane and Seven Hills Road
- a substantial landscape buffer will be provided to the front of Springfield cottages
- landform could be incorporated into these screening zones, where appropriate and possible

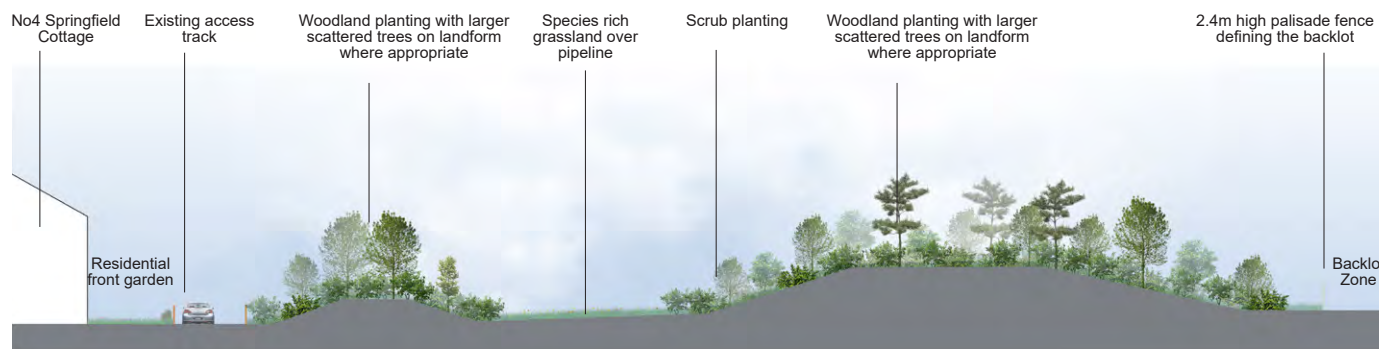
1.10.4 The potential new tree belts around the perimeter of the development would connect to existing woodlands, strengthen wildlife corridors and ensure ecological habitat connectivity. The tree belts would be planted with a mixture of locally native trees and shrubs, both evergreen and deciduous, to maximise both their screening and biodiversity value.



Section A - A'



Section B - B'



Section C - C'



Fig 1.27: Section location plan

Fig 1.26: Indicative sections (A-C) - green/ blue infrastructure





Quercus robur - English Oak



Prunus spinosa - Blackthorn



Crateagus monogyna - Hawthorn



Euonymus europea - Spindle



Ulex europaeus - Gorse



Pinus sylvestica - Scots Pine



Ilex aquifolium - Holly



Corylus avellana - Hazel



Acer campestre - Field Maple



Cytisus scoparius - Broom

## 1.11 SOFT LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

1.11.1 The planting palette has been predominantly developed to extend and enhance the ecological habitats found on and surrounding the site.

### Trees

1.11.2 Trees are an intrinsic part of the landscape of the site and bring a sense of scale and balance against the built development. All tree species proposed around the boundary are native species and include good species for pollinators to maximise biodiversity.

### Woodland

1.11.3 Extensive areas of native woodland are proposed to integrate the development into its context, create additional wooded habitats and filter boundary views.

### Scrub

1.11.4 Extensive areas of scattered scrub and woodland edge species are proposed these are quick to establish with excellent ecological value. Species such as Gorse and Broom will reflect the local Black Park acidic/ heathland vegetation.

### Hedgerows

1.11.5 New native species rich hedgerows are proposed to provide ecological connectivity and boundary definition.

### Grasslands

1.11.6 The remaining soft landscape will be formed of swathes of species-rich wildflower meadow (including slightly acidic and marshy grassland areas).

1.11.7 The images adjacent illustrate a small sample of the proposed tree/ woodland planting palette.

Fig 1.28: Planting palette images

## 1.12 SOFT LANDSCAPE STRATEGY - OUTLINE INDICATIVE PLANT SCHEDULE

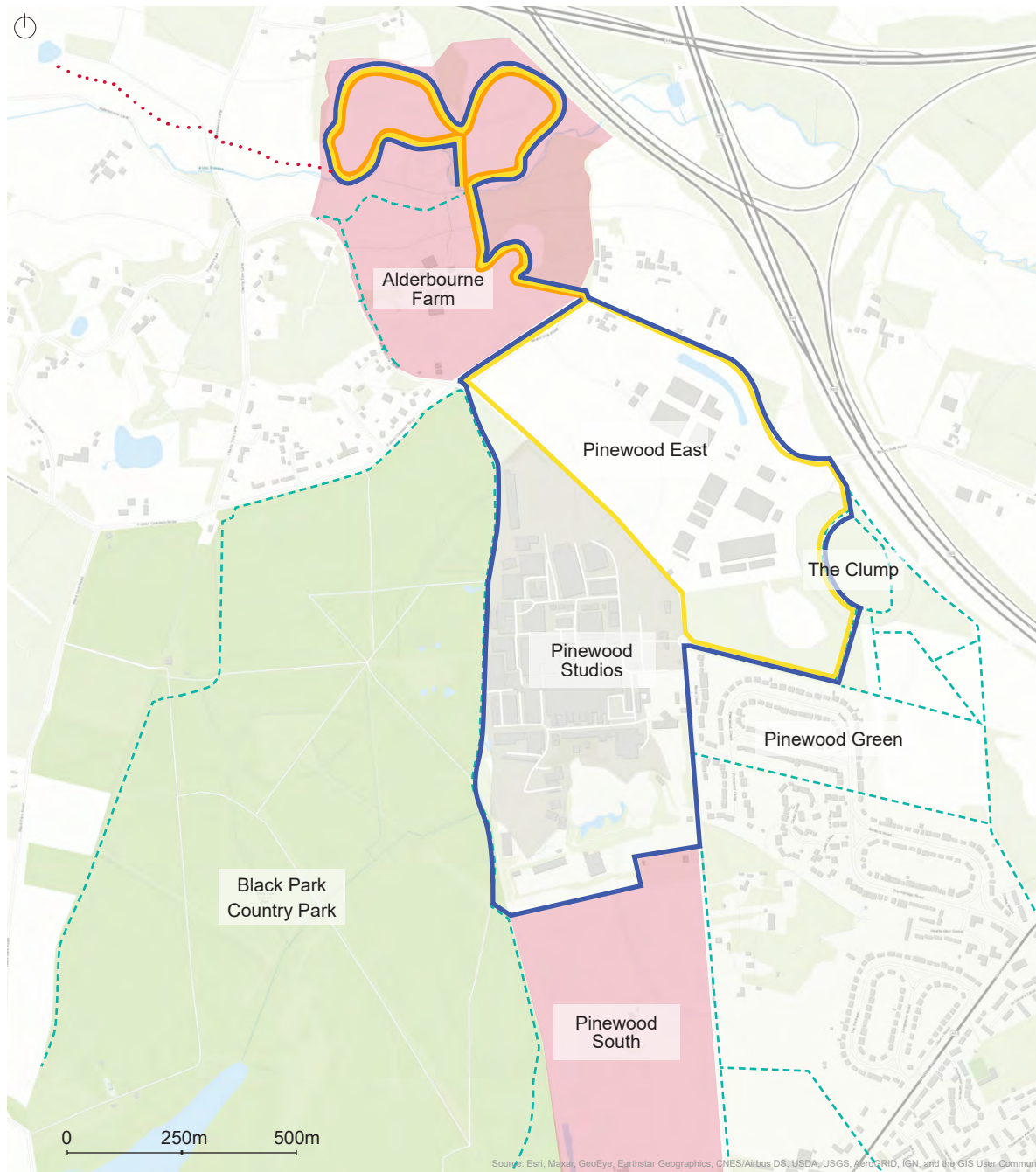
1.12.1 Further indicative details with regards to species proposed within the scheme are shown on the following outline plant schedule.

Alderbourne Farm: Indicative Plant Schedule and Specification				
Species	Name	Height/ specification	Planting density	% of mix
<b>Woodland Planting</b>				
Acer campestre	Field maple	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	14%
Acer campestre	Field maple	3.5m high fully furnished feather	1m ctr	2%
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	2%
Betula pubescens	Downy birch	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	2%
Carpinus betulus	Common Hornbeam	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	2%
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	5%
Corylus avellana	Hazel	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	10%
Crataegus monogyna	Common Hawthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	15%
Crataegus monogyna	Common Hawthorn	3.5m high fully furnished feather	1m ctr	2%
Euonymus europaeus	Spindleberry	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	3%
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	60-80cm container grown	1m ctr	1%
Pinus sylvestica	Scots pine	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	7%
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	5%
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	10%
Quercus robur	English Oak	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	10%
Quercus robur	English Oak	3.5m high fully furnished feather	1m ctr	2%
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	3%
Ulmus glabra	Wych elm	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	1%
Taxus baccata	Yew	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	1%
Viburnum opulis	Gelder Rose	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	3%
<b>Scattered Tree Planting</b>				
Acer campestre	Field maple	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Betula pendula	Siberian birch	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Carpinus betulus	Common Hornbeam	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Crataegus monogyna	Common Hawthorn	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Pinus sylvestris	Scots pine	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Quercus robur	English Oak	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
Tilia cordata	Small Leaf Lime	3.5m height, rootballed standard	As shown	N/A
<b>Orchard Trees</b>				
Prunus domestica Sp	Plum species	Standard	As shown	N/A
Pyrus Sp	Pear species	Standard	As shown	N/A
Malus Sp	Apple species	Standard	As shown	N/A
Prunus avium Sp	Cherry species	Standard	As shown	N/A
Morus Sp	Mulberry species	Standard	As shown	N/A
<b>Native Hedgerow Planting</b>				
Acer campestre	Field maple	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	20%
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	10%
Corylus avellana	Hazel	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	10%
Crataegus monogyna	Common Hawthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	25%
Euonymus europaeus	Spindleberry	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	1%
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	2%
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	1%
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	25%
Rosa canina	Dog rose	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	5%
Viburnum opulis	Gelder Rose	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	0.45m ctr, double staggered row	1%
<b>Scattered Shrub</b>				
Crataegus monogyna	Common Hawthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	20%
Cytisus scoparius	Broom	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	10%
Pinus sylvestris	Scots pine	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	10%
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	25%
Rubus fruticosus	Blackberry	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	20%
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1 Ctr planted in groups of 5no. min	15%
<b>Wet woodland</b>				
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	25%
Betula pubescens	Downy birch	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	25%
Salix caprea	Goat willow	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	25%
Salix cinerea	Grey willow	60-80cm 1+2 whip, Bareroot	1m ctr	25%

Fig 1.29: Outline plant schedule

Marginal & Aquatics				
Butomus umbellatus	Pink flowering rush	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Caltha palustris	Marsh Marigold	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Iris pseudocorus	Yellow flag	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Juncus effusus	Common Rush	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Juncus inflexus	Hard Rush	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Menhtha aquatica	Water Mint	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Nymphaea Alba	Water lily	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
Sagittaria sagittifolia	Arrowhead	9cm pots	7 per sq.m	NA
New Species Rich Slightly Acidic Grassland				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Specification		
Autumn Hawkbit	Leontodon Autumnalis	<b>Native Wildflower British Meadow Seed Mix for Acid Soils</b> <b>MAS-WMEAD2</b> Supplier: <b>MAS Seeds Ltd.</b> 14 Goding Avenue Marlborough Wiltshire, SN8 1TH Application rate: <b>5g/m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus Corniculatus			
Common Cat's Ear	Hypochaeris radicata			
Corn Poppy	papaver Rhoeas			
Cowslip	Primula Veris			
Devil Bits Scabious	Succisa pratensis			
Lady's Bedstraw	Galium Verum			
Meadow Buttercup	Ranunculus acris			
Musk Mallow	Malva Moschata			
Ox Eye Daisy	Leucanthemum Vulgure			
Red Campion	Silene Dioica			
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago Lanceolata			
Self heal	Prunella Vulgaris			
White Campion	Silene Alba			
Wild Carrot	Daucus Carota			
Yarrow	Achillea Millefolium			
Yellow Rattle	Rhinanthus Minor			
Brown-top bent	Agrostis capillaris	<b>N7 Wetland Meadow Mixture</b> Supplier: <b>Naturescape British Wild Flowers</b> Maple Farm Coach Gap Lane Langar Notts NG13 9HP Sowing rate: <b>5g/m2</b>		
Crested Dogtail	Cynosurus cristatus			
Sheeps Fescue	Festuca ovina			
Chewings Fescue	Festuca rubra subsp. Commutata			
Slender Creeping Red Fescue	Festuca rubra			
Yellow Oat Grass	Trisetum flavescens			
Marshy Grassland				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Specification		
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	<b>N7 Wetland Meadow Mixture</b> Supplier: <b>Naturescape British Wild Flowers</b> Maple Farm Coach Gap Lane Langar Notts NG13 9HP Sowing rate: <b>5g/m2</b>		
Common Knapweed	Centaurea nigra			
Meadowsweet	Filipendula ulmaria			
Meadow Vetchling	Lathyrus pratensis			
Oxeye Daisy	Leucanthemum vulgure			
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus corniculatus			
Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus pedunculatus			
Ragged Robin	Lychnis flos-cuculi			
Common Restharrow	Ononis repens			
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolata			
Cowslip	Primula veris			
Self Heal	Prunella vulgaris			
Meadow Buttercup	Ranunculus acris			
Yellow Rattle	Rhinanthus minor			
Common Sorrel	Rumex acetosa			
Goatsbeard	Tragopogon pratensis			
Sawwort	Serratula tinctoria	<b>Wetland Meadow Mixture</b> Supplier: <b>Naturescape British Wild Flowers</b> Maple Farm Coach Gap Lane Langar Notts NG13 9HP Sowing rate: <b>5g/m2</b>		
Betony	Stachys officinalis			
Devilbit Scabious	Succisa pratensis			
Goatsbeard	Tragopogon pratensis			
Wild Red Clover	Trifolium pratense	<b>Wetland Meadow Mixture</b> Supplier: <b>Naturescape British Wild Flowers</b> Maple Farm Coach Gap Lane Langar Notts NG13 9HP Sowing rate: <b>5g/m2</b>		
Tufted Vetch	Vicia cracca			





## 1.13 CONNECTIONS

1.13.1 The plan adjacent illustrates the potential connections and pedestrian loop walks that would be possible if the proposed permissive footpaths are provided as part of the Alderbourne and Pinewood South development.

### Legend

- Route 1 - Alderbourne Nature Reserve loop via the new permissive paths - circa 2 km (20mins)
- Route 2 - Alderbourne Nature Reserve & Pinewood East loop via the new permissive paths around Alderbourne and along Pinewood Road - circa 5km (50mins)
- Route 3 - Alderbourne Nature Reserve & Pinewood Estate loop, via the new permissive paths around Alderbourne, Seven Hills Road and north of Pinewood Green - circa 6.5km (65mins)
- - - Wider permissive paths, public rights of way and cycle paths
- . . . Future opportunities on third party land to provide pedestrian connections to Fulmer



