

Boorley Green

Landscape Management Document
Version 1.5

Prepared by Tetra Tech Limited on behalf of Linden Homes, Bovis Homes
and Bloor Homes



Document control

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1.0 Introduction

This landscape management report has been produced to identify the landscape operations required as part of the ongoing maintenance and management of the external spaces to be created as part of the Boorley Green residential development.

The document covers a maintenance period of 5 years following completion of the works and it has been based on the principle that the contractor implementing the works will carry out the maintenance of the landscape areas.

The operations and activities identified in this document represent the long term input necessary to achieve the intended landscape character and appearance.

In addition, the aesthetic requirements the landscape also needs to provide a range of habitat types as part of the overall ecology and biodiversity of the development and in order to provide a network of wildlife corridors and connections. These include:

- Retained and proposed hedgerows
- Areas of species rich grass and a varied maintenance regime to general grass areas
- Retention of existing specimen trees and woodland
- Woodland edge/scrub planting
- Coppice planting
- Existing and proposed water bodies and SUDs features
- Creation of 'Green Fingers' running through the development

Planting associated with the development itself includes the following:

- Avenue and street trees
- Orchard trees
- Espalier tree planting
- Amenity planting within the development
- Grass verges and incidental green spaces, including bulb planting

1.1 Standards and supporting documents

Reference is to be made to the following documents with regard to standards and operations:

- Tetra Tech Infrastructure – Habitat Protection, Management and Monitoring Plan
- Tetra Tech Phase 1 – Habitat Protection, Management and Monitoring Plan
- Tetra Tech Phase 2 - Post Construction Ecological Management and Monitoring Plan
- BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations
- BS 4428:1989 General Landscape Operations
- BS 7370 Part 3: 1991 and Part 4: 1993
- Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) National Plant Specification (NPS)
- Tree survey and supporting method statements for works around retained trees, woodland and hedgerows
- Surveys and any as-built drawings and information relating to below ground utilities and connections
- Surveys or records of invasive species present adjacent to the site
- Landscape Specification document
- Landscape drawings and proposals

All operations are to be carried out by suitable qualified and experienced staff, evidence of training and qualifications of operatives are to be provided on request.

1.2 The site

The development at Boorley Green covers an area of approximately 81.5 ha and when completed will provide around 1,400 new dwellings. The site has been split into 2 phases for the purposes of the planning application, although the landscape will stitch these together and create a single, legible sequence of routes, connection and open spaces.

Much of the site was previously laid out as a golf course; as a result there are a number of existing landscape features on site. Where possible these have been retained and incorporated into the development to provide an existing landscape structure and setting. In addition there are a number of significant woodland blocks associated with the site

boundaries and extending into the site itself; with several of these designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).

Phase 1 is located adjacent to Winchester Road, which runs along the western edge of the site, together with the existing Macdonald Botley Park hotel. Phase 2 covers the remaining extents of the site, with the eastern and northern edges defined by existing woodland associated with Ford Lake, a tributary of the River Hamble.

2.0 Objectives and Landscape Proposals

The layout for the new residential development is shown on drawing **A073968-5 514** and includes a range of different landscape areas and features which vary in terms of their role and function within the development. This includes informal recreation spaces, habitat areas and more formal planted areas.

The management approach and operations required will vary depending on the use and objectives of each area, but the overall objective is to create a high quality and attractive setting to the new development. Consideration has been given to the habitat areas and biodiversity on the site to ensure that they contribute to the overall 'look and feel' of the site while achieving the intended outcomes in terms of maintenance of existing, or the creation of new wildlife areas.

The success of the external spaces is largely dependent on the quality, frequency and timing of operations initially, together with the regular maintenance and management regime which is adopted and implemented in the long term.

The maintenance and management of the landscape will be required to achieve the following aims and objectives:

- To ensure the successful establishment and continued growth through to maturity of the soft landscape works;
- To manage the areas of existing woodland, hedgerows and specimen trees to ensure their continued health and long term contribution to the site;
- Management of the wildlife corridors to ensure they contribute to green links and enhanced biodiversity on the site;
- To ensure landscape areas are maintained free of litter;
- Management of trees to ensure they do remain safe and do not represent a potential hazard to residents, property or users of the open spaces;

- To allow planting to establish and develop to suppress weed growth and the effective control of weed growth on site;
- To manage the SUDs areas to ensure their effective function, while providing a further on-site habitat;
- To manage water features and ponds to ensure they contribute to the on-site landscape features; and
- To develop and work with the client team to identify improvements or alternative methods for delivering the management aims and objectives.

2.1 SUDS Features

The site contains a mixture of SUDS features the majority of which will need to be maintained by the local or parish council or management company. Underground storage to be adopted by Southern Water will require an initial 12 month maintenance period until adoption is formalised.

All surface water networks have a vortex flow control device mounted in an accessible manhole. Networks with minimal natural storage features also have a water quality device chamber present (Downstream Defender or similar).

Dry detention basins are present in approximately half of the networks with 1:3 side slopes and a gabion mattress between inlets and outfalls to minimise scouring during low flow periods. Swales where provided have a 0.5m base with 1:3 side slopes. Where swales are steep, baffle weirs are present to maximise the time within the swale system.

All inlets and outfalls within detention basins are constructed of bagwork with final 'sheet flow' outfalls constructed of gabion baskets with a sump to collect remaining silt.

Maintenance operations covered in this document relate to the management and maintenance of planting, operations relating to the maintenance of the flow control and other devices are to be carried out separately by a specialist contractor.

3.0 Existing Habitats and Designations

3.1 Habitats within the site

There are a number of habitats on or adjacent to the site, which the contractor needs to be aware of to ensure that maintenance operations do not harm or damage these. For example the use of herbicides in areas where run-off could enter Ford Lake will not be acceptable.

Key habitats recorded on the site include the following:

- Botley Park Wood SINC
- SINC with fen meadow remnant
- Woodland SINC
- Pond adjacent to Ford Lake SINC
- Scrub Planting
- Landscape Buffers
- Grassland Buffers

Further details of these, their location and extents is included in the various Ecological Management and Monitoring Plans prepared by Tetra Tech for the site. This includes information on the timing of works and any restrictions associated with these.

Implications on the maintenance of the various landscape areas and associated operations as a result of these restrictions should be identified by the contractor as part of the tender submission process.

3.2 Restrictions

It should be noted that the presence of these designations will have implications of the type of maintenance operations that can be carried out. This includes the use of herbicides in proximity to watercourses or in areas where run-off will enter watercourses.

3.3 Site photos

Example images of the key landscape features to be retained are shown below, this is intended to provide a sample and is not an exhaustive list of all areas of existing planting present. A site walkover should be carried out as part of the Tender process to ensure

familiarity with the site, the retained landscape and the management requirements associated with this.

Woodland/tree groups	
Examples of woodland found on-site or associated with site boundaries.	 
Example of existing woodland edge planting thinned and managed to create varied structure	

Example of existing field layer/rough grassland vegetation to woodland edge. Note: Brambles to be retained, but extent controlled to maintain woodland edge structure	
Existing tree copse to be incorporated into Chancellor's Park.	
Specimen trees	
Example of existing specimen trees, ongoing maintenance to allow for control of ivy growth where present	

Hedgerows	
Native hedgerows to be retained and managed to maintain ecological value.	 

Protected / notable species

A number of protected and notable species have been recorded on the site. These include:

- Badger
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Hazel dormouse
- Bats
- Plants (native goldenrod)

The timing of landscape maintenance operations should avoid causing potential harm or disturbance to these species which in some instances is an offence. Reference is to be made to the Tetra Tech Ecological Management and Monitoring Plans for the site.

4.0 Proposed Habitat Creation

The proposals include the creation of a number of areas and features focussed on the creation of new habitat areas to support species currently found on site and to encourage further biodiversity.

While these areas will contribute to the overall character and appearance of the development, long term maintenance activities are focussed on achieving the required habitat types and as a result will have a less 'manicured' appearance, although litter and weed control will remain a key maintenance requirement.

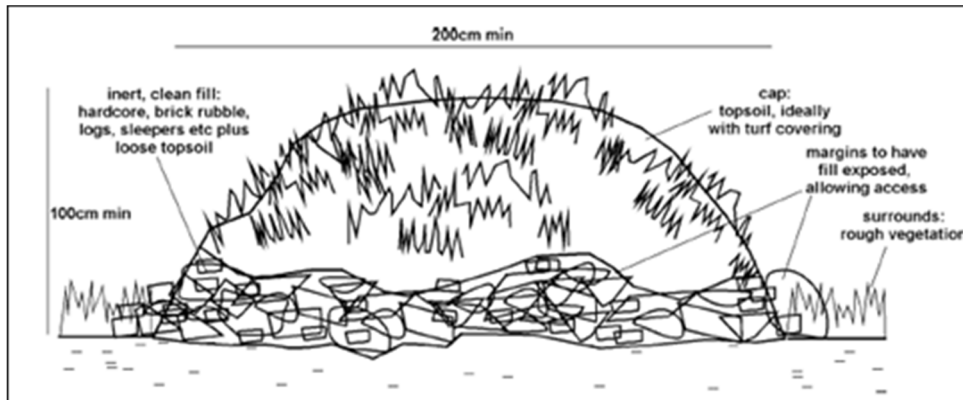
Further details of the ecological objectives can be found in the Post Construction Ecological management and Monitoring Plans for the site.

In addition felled timber in woodland areas is to be cut and used to form hibernacula.

The design of the hibernacula is to follow English Nature Guidelines 2001 (refer to diagram below) and include the use of logs and loose topsoil, with an optional covering of turf.

Materials for the hibernacula will be sourced from the surrounding woodland /scrub areas, and the turf, if provided, to be obtained from the area beneath the hibernacula itself.

Hibernacula are to be circa 1 x 2 metres in diameter and circa 0.5 metre in height, subject to available space in woodland areas.



5.0 Maintenance Operations

5.1 Regular maintenance operations

These are tasks to be undertaken as part of the day to day activities on the site to ensure it is safe, useable and an attractive setting for the new development. Operations on site have been split between Year 1 and Years 2-5 to differentiate between requirements as part of the initial establishment and the longer term requirements to deliver the intended landscape.

5.2 Year 1 Operations

The year 1 operations for the various landscape types are set out below; visits are to be carried out monthly with the operations required varying depending on the growing and dormant season

Ref	General/site wide:	Timing/frequency	Notes
1	Litter pick – collect and remove rubbish, litter etc. from soft landscape areas. Repeat as part of each maintenance visit. (Includes swales, ponds and water features).	As part of regular maintenance visits	
2	Check for pests and diseases and treat as necessary.	As required	
3	Check all plant material and firm in as required.	6 times	
4	Check all shelters and adjust as required, remove any weed growth. Remove guards once they have degraded to ground level.	As part of regular maintenance visits	
5	Water all planting as necessary to ensure establishment and continued health. Note: Watering of all new tree planting is critically important in first year after planting.	As required	
6	Maintain mulch to specified depth to all planting beds/tree surrounds, topping up as necessary. Clear any mulch 'spill' onto adjacent paths or grass areas.	As part of regular maintenance visits	
7	All arisings to be removed from site, unless otherwise agreed e.g. retention of cut branches to form hibernacula, refer to typical detail.	As required	
8	Remove and replace any dead, dying, or diseased planting in the first planting season following failure using matching species.	As required	

Ref	Tree Planting:	Timing/frequency	Notes
9	Check, adjust and replace tree ties as necessary. Remove once trees are established, approximately after 3 years. Prune, water, and feed new trees as required.	As part of regular visits and during extreme dry periods (defined as no rain for more than 10 consecutive days), trees shall be watered a minimum of 30 litres per tree twice per week.	
10	Carry out tree works to remove any dead, dying or diseased branches to maintain a healthy and structurally sound tree canopy. Any operations to be carried out by Arboricultural Association approved contractor in accordance with BS 3998.	As required	Operations to be agreed prior to commencing works.
11	Adjust below ground tree guys as required if trees become windblown or dislodged.	As required	
11A	Any tree that dies shall be replaced with matching species in the first planting season following failure.	As required	

Ref	Native tree, shrub and hedgerow planting:	Timing/frequency	Notes
12	Control weed growth through spot herbicide treatment (accept where ecological restrictions apply) and hand/mechanical weeding from April-October.	As required	
13	Carry out selective thinning, pruning and coppicing as appropriate to species present to remove overcrowding and encourage development of a diverse canopy and age range.	Allow for one operation to existing woodland areas	
14	(PROVISIONAL) Remove low or overhanging branches to adjacent footpaths. Remove any swings/structures or other items.	Allow for 2 operations	
15	Manage growth of brambles or other invasive vegetation to maintain field layer adjacent to woodland and grass margins to perimeter paths/routes.	Allow for two operations	
15A	Manage native buffer planting by formative pruning. On planting reduce strong, tall and over extended stems.	Carry out formative pruning for first five years	
16	Prune existing hedgerows on a 3 year cycle alternating cutting, between each side and the top of hedge to maintain habitat value. E.g. Year 1 – cut left face, Year 2 – cut right face, Year 3 cut top face.	Operations to commence in Year 1	Refer also to Ecological mitigation strategy for requirements/timing.
16A	Any native tree, shrub and hedgerow species that dies shall be replaced with matching species in the first planting season following failure.	As required	

Ref	Ornamental shrub and herbaceous planting:	Timing/frequency	Notes
17	Maintain planting beds free of weeds by hand weeding and use of spot herbicide in accordance with supplier's guidelines.	As required during growing season	
18	Prune as necessary to prevent more aggressive species from dominating and to remove any growth overhanging adjacent paths or paving.	Allow for one operation	
19	Lightly cultivate planting beds to break up soil evenly.	Allow for one operation to planting beds	
20	Apply slow release fertilizer as part of establishment of new planting.	Allow for Autumn application	
21	Formative pruning to formal hedges to encourage good form and to achieve required heights. Timing to relate to species.	Allow for one operation	
21A	Any ornamental shrub or herbaceous plant which dies shall be replaced with matching species in the first planting season following failure.	As required	

Ref	Amenity grass areas:	Timing/frequency	Notes
22	(PROVISIONAL) Maintain grass areas at a height range of 35-65mm.	As required	
23	Maintain grass areas on a reduced mowing regime at a height of 150 – 250mm.	As required	
24	Maintain grass area to 'The Knoll' (1:3 slope) on a reduced mowing regime at a height of 150 – 250mm.	As required	
25	(PROVISIONAL) Spot treat weed growth using suitable herbicide in accordance with supplier's guidelines.	As required	
26	(PROVISIONAL) Where grass areas are located adjacent to planting beds, use appropriate tools to form neat edge.	Allow for two operations	
27	(PROVISIONAL) Apply Autumn fertilizer to amenity grass areas only, in accordance with supplier's guidelines.	Allow for one application	

Ref	Species rich grass areas:	Timing/frequency	Notes
28	YEAR 1 Maintenance operations are to control weed growth and encourage a diverse sward. Grass to be maintained at a height of 40-60mm, collect arisings and remove from site. Maximum 2x cuts per annum.	March/April - August	
29	(PROVISIONAL) Spot treat weed growth using suitable herbicide in accordance with supplier's guidelines.	As required	

Ref	Rough grassland:	Timing/frequency	Notes
30	Grass to be topped every 3 years, maintenance regime to be adopted to ensure not all areas are cut at the same time. Cut to height of 300mm, extent of area to be cut in Year 1 to be agreed.	September	Arisings to be left on site to form reptile habitat.

Ref	SUDs planting:	Timing/frequency	Notes
31	(PROVISIONAL) Remove weeds by hand/mechanical methods due to location.	As part of regular visits	Herbicides are not to be used in SUDs features.
32	Maintain grass areas as per mowing regimes outlined above, based on seeding mix used.	As required	Remove arisings
33	(PROVISIONAL) Inspect SUDs features and remove any debris which has been washed into the feature. Check that outfalls are free from obstructions and are not blocked.	As required/after periods of heavy/intense rainfall	
34	Coppicing of willow species planted within SuDS shall be undertaken as required to rejuvenate the plants.	In late winter or early spring (February to March)	

Ponds/water bodies

Ref	Ponds/permanently wet water bodies	Timing/frequency	Notes
50	Maintenance of existing reeds/planting, through thinning and removal control of any invasive species present.	As required	Removal/control of any invasive species must be done at the appropriate time of year (i.e. Himalayan balsam, if present must be pulled before or during flowering and not be allowed to seed).
51	(PROVISIONAL) Control of invasive species through appropriate methods such as pulling or mechanical cutting.	As required	Herbicides are not to be used adjacent to water bodies.
52	Inspect ponds/water features and remove any debris. If outfalls are present check they are free from obstructions and are not blocked.	As required	

5.3 On-going operations – Works to be carried out in Years 2-5

Operations – General/Site wide	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Litter pick – collect and remove rubbish, litter etc. from soft landscape areas. Repeat as part of each maintenance visit.		x	x	x	x
Check for pests and diseases and treat as necessary.		x	x	x	x
Check all plant material and firm in as required.		4 visits	2 visits		
Check all shelters and adjust as required, remove any weed growth. Remove guards once they have degraded to ground level.		4 visits	4 visits	4 visits	2 visits
Water all planting as necessary to ensure establishment and continued health. As a general guide to provide an adequate soaking of dry soil, the following are minimum quantities required: • 1.5 - 2.0m high: 10 litres • 3.0 - 5.0m high: 20 litres • 6.0 – 8.0m high: 40 litres • 9.0 – 10.0m high: 100 litres Watering of all new planting will be critically important in the first year after planting (including any replacement plants in subsequent years).		x	x		
Maintain mulch to specified depth to all planting beds/tree surrounds, topping up as necessary. Clear any mulch 'spill' onto adjacent paths or grass areas.		x	x	x	x
All arisings to be removed from site, unless otherwise agreed e.g. retention of cut branches to form hibernacula.		x	x	x	x
Remove and replace any dead or diseased planting.		x	x	x	x

Existing woodland and hedgerows	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Carry out annual check of existing trees to identify any defects, hazards or remedial work required.		x	x	x	x
(PROVISIONAL) Obtain sign-off for any tree works and carry out agreed works, any operations to be carried out by Arboricultural Association approved contractor in accordance with BS 3998.		x	x	x	x
Manage growth of existing brambles/bracken to control growth and prevent footpaths/grass margins to footpaths from becoming overgrown		x	x	x	x
Prune native hedgerows on a 3 year cycle alternating cutting, between each face and top of hedge to maintain habitat value. Cutting of lengths of hedge to be on an alternating 1/3 approach so full face on any one face is not completely cut in any one year.		x	x	x	x
Manage grass margin as rough grassland, top to height of 300mm on 3 year cycle, arisings to be left on site. Areas to be topped to vary to provide range of habitat areas.		x	x	x	x

Tree planting	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Check, adjust and replace tree ties as necessary. Remove once trees are established, approximately after 3 years. Prune, water and feed new trees as required. Note: during extreme dry period (defined as no rain for more than 10 consecutive days), trees shall be watered a minimum of 30 litres per tree, twice per week.		x	x		
Carry out tree works as required to remove any dead, dying or diseased branches to allow the tree canopy to develop. Any operations to be carried out by Arboricultural Association approved contractor in accordance with BS 3998.		x	x	x	x
Adjust below ground tree guys as required if trees become windblown or dislodged.		x	x		
Prune orchard trees to establish good shape and form and to promote fruiting.			x	x	x
Remove and replace any dead, dying or diseased planting following failure, using matching species. Any tree that dies shall be replaced with matching species in the first planting season following failure.		x	x	x	x

Native tree, shrub and hedgerow planting	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Control weed growth through spot herbicide treatment (accept where ecological restrictions apply) and hand/mechanical weeding from April-October.		x	x	x	x
Manage new woodland edge planting to achieve canopy with diverse age range. This should be established gradually to create a varied structure and achieved through selective thinning, pruning and coppicing as appropriate to the species.			x		x
Remove low or overhanging branches to adjacent footpaths. Manage growth of brambles or other vegetation to maintain grass margin to perimeter paths.		x	x	x	x
Provide formative pruning for landscape buffers to create thicker growth habit. After planting cut back to just above an outward facing well-placed bud, to encourage the development of an open-centred shrub. Remove inward and downward facing shoots. Once established only prune 1/3 rd of each shrub at any one time.	x	x	x	x	x
Prune native hedgerows on a 3 year cycle alternating cutting, between each face and top of hedge to maintain habitat value. Cutting of lengths of hedge to be on an alternating 1/3 rd approach so full face on any one face is not completely cut in any one year.		x	x	x	x
Prune native hedgerow planting alongside cycle route (between 1-3 Maddoxford Lane) on a 3 year cycle, alternating yearly cutting between each face and top of hedge to maintain habitat value. Hedge to be maintained at a height of 1.5m.		x	x	x	x
Management of new coppice planting, cut approx 1/3 of shots to encourage varied structure and help maintain field layer.					x
Remove and replace any dead, dying or diseased planting following failure, using matching species. Any plants which die shall be replaced with matching species in the first planting season following failure.		x	x	x	x

'Ornamental' shrub and herbaceous planting	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Maintain planting beds free of weeds by hand weeding and spot herbicide treatment.		12 visits	12 visits	10 visits	8 visits
Prune as necessary to prevent more aggressive species from dominating and to remove any growth overhanging adjacent paths or paving.		x	x	x	x
Lightly cultivate planting beds to break up soil evenly.		x			
Apply slow release fertilizer as part of establishment of new planting.		x			
Prune formal hedges to required heights, cut sides and top to form straight and true lines. Timing to relate to species.		x	x	x	x
Remove and replace any dead, dying or diseased planting following failure, using matching species.		x	x	x	x

'Amenity' grass areas	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
(PROVISIONAL) Maintain grass areas under an 'intensive' mowing regime at a height range of 35-65mm.		x	x	x	x

'Amenity' grass areas	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Maintain grass areas on a 'reduced' mowing regime at a height of 150 – 250mm, including 1:3 slope to 'The Knoll'.		x	x	x	x
(PROVISIONAL) Where 'intensively' managed grass areas are located adjacent to planting beds, use appropriate tools to form neat edge. To be carried out twice per year.		x	x	x	x
(PROVISIONAL) Apply Autumn fertilizer to amenity grass areas managed under an 'intensive' mowing regime only, in accordance with supplier's guidelines.		x	x		

Species rich/wildflower grass areas	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Carry out annual 'hay' cut in late summer (End August –early September), arisings to be left on site for several days and removed after max. 7 days.		x	x	x	x
Carry out Autumn cut, cut grass to height of 40-75mm height, depending on height of growth after hay cut.		1 visit	1 visit		
Note: maximum 2x cuts per annum.					
(PROVISIONAL) Spring cut to 40-75mm height (March/April timing) to control weed growth as required.		x	x		
(PROVISIONAL) Spot treat weed growth using suitable herbicide in accordance with supplier's guidelines.		x	x	x	x
SUDs planting	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
(PROVISIONAL) Remove weeds by hand/mechanical methods due to location.		x	x	x	x
Maintain grass areas as above.		x	x	x	x
Remove any debris which has been washed into the feature. Check outfalls are free from obstructions.		x	x	x	x
Coppicing of willow species planted within SuDS shall be undertaken as required to rejuvenate the plants.					x

Ponds and permanently wet water features	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Remove weeds by hand/mechanical methods due to location.1		x	x	x	x
Manage wetland vegetation by cutting back, allow for cutting 1/3 total vegetation cover in any one year.		x	x	x	x
(PROVISIONAL) Remove excess vegetation as required to maintain capacity/performance of water feature.			x		x
Remove any debris which has been washed into the feature. Check outfalls are free from obstructions.		X	x	x	x

5.4 Cycle Route/Footpath 1-3 Maddoxford Lane

There is a newly constructed combined footpath/cycleway between existing residential properties 1-3 Maddoxford Lane. The path is 3.0 m wide with grass verges on either side. On the north-western side of the path, the grass verge is approximately 2.8 m wide with no planting which continues for a length of approximately 35 m from the entry point onto the path from Maddoxford Lane. On the south-eastern side of the path, the grass verge is about 0.5 m wide. On this side of the path, there is a single line newly planted native hedge between the verge and the existing resident's boundary fence.

It is proposed to plant another native hedge on the north-western side of the path to match the species of the new hedge opposite. The hedge will be planted adjacent to the existing resident's boundary of 1 Maddoxford Lane, with a grass verge seeded in front of it. The hedge will be planted as a double staggered row with planting centres to match the existing hedge on the opposite side of the path.

The precise location of the proposed hedge adjacent to 1 Maddoxford Lane will need to ensure that existing residential access is retained where necessary. The hedges on both sides of the path will need to be maintained at a minimum height of 1.5 m and no greater than 1.8 m.

Once established, the proposed hedges shall be maintained in accordance with the management prescriptions as detailed above (refer to 5.3 On-going operations Native tree, shrub and hedgerow planting table, page 22). This includes pruning the native hedgerows adjacent to 1-3 Maddoxford Lane every three years, or as appropriate, to ensure that the hedge does not grow too wide or grow too tall (maximum height 1.8m) to avoid overly enclosing the footpath route. All other existing vegetation shall also be managed and maintained as required.

Detailed prescription

Generally: any existing vegetation to be retained shall be protected during the construction phase in accordance with BS 5837:2014 "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations".

Existing hedges along Maddoxford Lane will require pruning to keep hedges thick and dense, however hedges shall have periods of growth without pruning to avoid the hedge becoming

gappy and unhealthy. Refer to 5.3 On-going operations: Existing woodland and Hedgerows Table, page 21.

Pruning should occur during January and February when most of the fruit has been taken by local wildlife and is outside of the bird-nesting season. Any pruning/trimming operations shall be carried out in accordance with best practice guidance. Pruning/trimming should not be undertaken during severe frosts, or during the bird nesting season (generally between March to September).

Following pruning operations, all significant arisings (cuttings) such as branches should be removed from the site, or alternatively and occasionally they can be piled in small designated areas to encourage the creation of hibernacula habitat where appropriate.

6.0 Review, reporting and monitoring

As part of the on-going management and maintenance, it is expected that the contractor will provide regular monthly feedback to the client and project Landscape Architect. This is to be achieved through on-site meetings and formal written feedback. This is intended to discuss the maintenance of the site, an issues identified or alternative methods/approaches to the landscape operations.

As part of this the management and maintenance of the site the contractor will be required to maintain a log book or similar method of recording of site visits, the date these took place, operations completed, issues encountered and future actions/operations identified, including any requirements outside the current scope.

There will be a requirement for an annual site walkover with the client and project Landscape Architect to review the site the maintenance carried out and discuss actions required for the following year.

Given the need for the site to maintain existing and create new habitat areas it is anticipated that there will be monitoring of the site by Eastleigh Borough Council to review the maintenance of the various landscape areas. Based on comments received this could result

in adjusting the maintenance operations carried out to specific areas or the frequency of these.

In addition Tetra Tech ecologists will retain a monitoring role for the site post completion, as part of this advice will be provided relating to habitat creation on the site and any requirements to vary or adjust maintenance operations to achieve this.

At the end of the 5 year maintenance period a hand-over meeting will take place on site where the contractor will be required to provide information relating to the site and the maintenance carried out.