

DUNSBURY PARK PLOTS 500-502

Portsmouth

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STATEMENT

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BARRY CHINN ASSOCIATES LTD.

Harbury Road
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1.0 Generally

The soft landscape strategy for the proposed development is shown on Barry Chinn Associates drawing no. DP-BCA-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0002 'Landscape Concept Plan' and DP-BCA-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0003 'Landscape Cross Sections'.

2.0 Landscape Design Objectives

The landscape design for the development has been guided by the design objectives set out below to ensure the scheme provides significant benefit to the environment and that the new development integrates within its location. The design objectives are:

- a) Respect existing local landscape character and utilise this to inform the layout and design of the landscape proposals;
- b) Maintain and enhance wildlife corridors around the development site linking to establish corridors/GI assets in the wider environment;
- c) Minimise any potential landscape or visual effects through the application of best practice design principles and careful attention to design throughout all stages of the development process;
- d) to enhance the amenity value of the site and provide an attractive and welcoming environment sympathetic with the existing landscape character of the area;
- e) Create a high quality and robust new landscape framework including woodland and structure planting to maximise bio diversity gain and provide areas for habitat creation;
- f) to reflect and complement the Architecture of the building;
- g) to establish a structural landscape utilising both landform and planting appropriate to the scale of the building and external spaces;
- h) to create a 'feel safe' environment for site users;
- i) to provide comprehensive easy to use pedestrian and vehicular circulation with changing but interlinked experiences;
- j) to take account of the future maintenance requirements by careful selection of plant species and their relationship, with emphasis on achieving good establishment whilst minimising maintenance costs;

3.0 Existing Features

Existing trees on or adjacent to the site were surveyed by Greengage Ltd (August 2021) in accordance with BS5837:2012 "Trees In Relation To Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations." The report and associated Tree Constraints Plan have been used to influence the design and retain as many of these important features as possible.

4.0 Landscape Design Proposals

The scale and nature of the built development proposal and of those already existing within the immediate context of the site are important factors in the landscape design approach to be adopted. A robust and strong landscape structure forms an essential requirement of the overall approach and for the detail design of the landscape concept.

Emphasis throughout the design development has been to prepare a scheme that respects the character of the adjoining local landscape, enhances the ecology of the site and provides a stimulating, coherent and well-structured landscape and therefore a positive setting for the development. A significant proportion of the planting will be native, including tree, thicket, and hedgerow and wildflower/species rich grassland to extend and integrate the surrounding landscape character and species distribution into the site. Where a higher level of amenity is required, ornamental species are included around the building envelope and within prominent locations throughout the car park and adjacent to footpaths.

Along the entire length of the eastern boundary, Mature existing trees, hedgerow & grassland edge have been retained forming a robust native green corridor running from north to south, dissecting plots and providing a 'pre made' natural screen which can be enhanced and managed to promote biodiversity & ecology within the site. A strip of species rich grassland is proposed down this boundary to integrate the proposed landscape with the existing landscape buffer creating a seamless transition.

Internally within the site, services yards will be screened by mixed native hedge planting that will be managed to create a high level boundary treatment restricting views into the working areas of each plot. Where practical, blocks of mixed native planting will also be incorporated to create little planting pockets enhancing bio-

diversity and re-enforcing the divide between plots. Around the edges of parking areas more formally managed *Carpinus* hedging will serve to create a clean edge to the plot, filtering views of the parked cars beyond.

To the southern boundary, between spine road and unit 500 a belt of mixed tall & low ornamental & groundcover shrubs have been proposed in bold blocks to provide a variety in height, colour and texture to the car park edge. Backed by a formally clipped mixed native species hedgerow maintained at fence height with an avenue of extra heavy standard trees running parallel will provide screening between road-scene & plot while softening & breaking up the building mass.

Adjacent to main footpaths low ground cover planting and mown grass verges provide well-defined open routes creating a safe and unobstructed environment for pedestrians. At key locations specimen shrubs situated within areas of low ground cover planting provide a contrast in height, texture and colour whilst a mix of deciduous and evergreen plant species offers a diverse range of seasonal interest.

Within car parking and areas of pedestrian access the approach will be kept reasonably open to provide a 'feel safe' environment. This will assist in security monitoring the areas. The planting to the car park edges will comprise of predominantly ornamental ground cover species planted in bold blocks.

The proposal will take account of the future maintenance requirements by careful selection of plant species and their relationship, with emphasis on achieving good establishment whilst minimising maintenance costs. Overall the landscape strategy for the site will integrate the development into its surrounding context, and will provide an attractive and functional working environment.

6.0 Establishment, Maintenance and Management

The establishment and future success of the landscape is largely dependent on the standard and frequency of the subsequent maintenance and management it receives. Throughout the development period and thereafter a maintenance and management regime will be adopted with the following aims and objectives so the landscape develops in a manner commensurate with the original design intentions:

- To ensure the successful establishment and continued growth through to maturity of the woodland edge, trees, shrubs, grassland areas.

- To enhance the biodiversity of the site through careful management of the woodland / thicket, shrub and grass areas;
- To ensure the tree planting establishes as quickly as possible to filter views of the development.
- To secure a long term future for the existing retained trees and hedgerows with particular emphasis on their integration with the new landscape elements.
- To optimise ecological enhancement.
- To manage the landscape in a manner commensurate with the safety of site users by maintaining visibility splays, maintaining good surveillance, the removing of dead, dying or diseased branches, etc.;

The soft landscape will, for the initial 1 year period after Practical Completion be maintained by the Landscape Contractor responsible for implementation of the works. The contract will include a defects liability clause to ensure replacement planting is carried out and successful establishment achieved. Thereafter, maintenance contracts will be organised by the persons responsible for facilities management at intervals to be determined to achieve continuity.

7.0 Conclusion

Ultimately the landscape strategy aims to create a development that sits comfortably within its surroundings and is in keeping with the character of the area. This will help to create a positive relationship between the development and its surrounding environment. It is envisaged that over time the shrub and tree planting proposed for the development will mature to provide an attractive landscape setting, which assimilates the new development into the immediate surroundings. The landscape created will be managed in accordance with sound ecological principles to improve the overall bio-diversity of the site.

8.0 Tree Protection

Where existing trees and hedges are to be retained they will be protected in accordance with BS 5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations. The protective fence will be fixed prior to commencement of the works and retained throughout the construction phase of the development.

9.0 Supporting Documentation

The following documentation is submitted in support of the landscape proposals for the development:

Barry Chinn Associates Drawings and Documents:

DP-BCA-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0002 'Landscape Concept Plan'

DP-BCA-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0003 'Landscape Cross Sections'