



**Paddock Road,
Barnsley Development
August 2022**

Introduction

Urban Wilderness were appointed by RMH Properties LTD to develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy for proposed development to the south of Paddock Road.

The strategy focuses on two aspects;

1. Creating opportunities for habitat creation within the site; and
2. Ensuring the connectivity of habitats between the site and its wider environs to develop wildlife corridors

The strategy first presents an overview of the site and its baseline condition and then proposes a Green Infrastructure Framework to meet the above objectives.

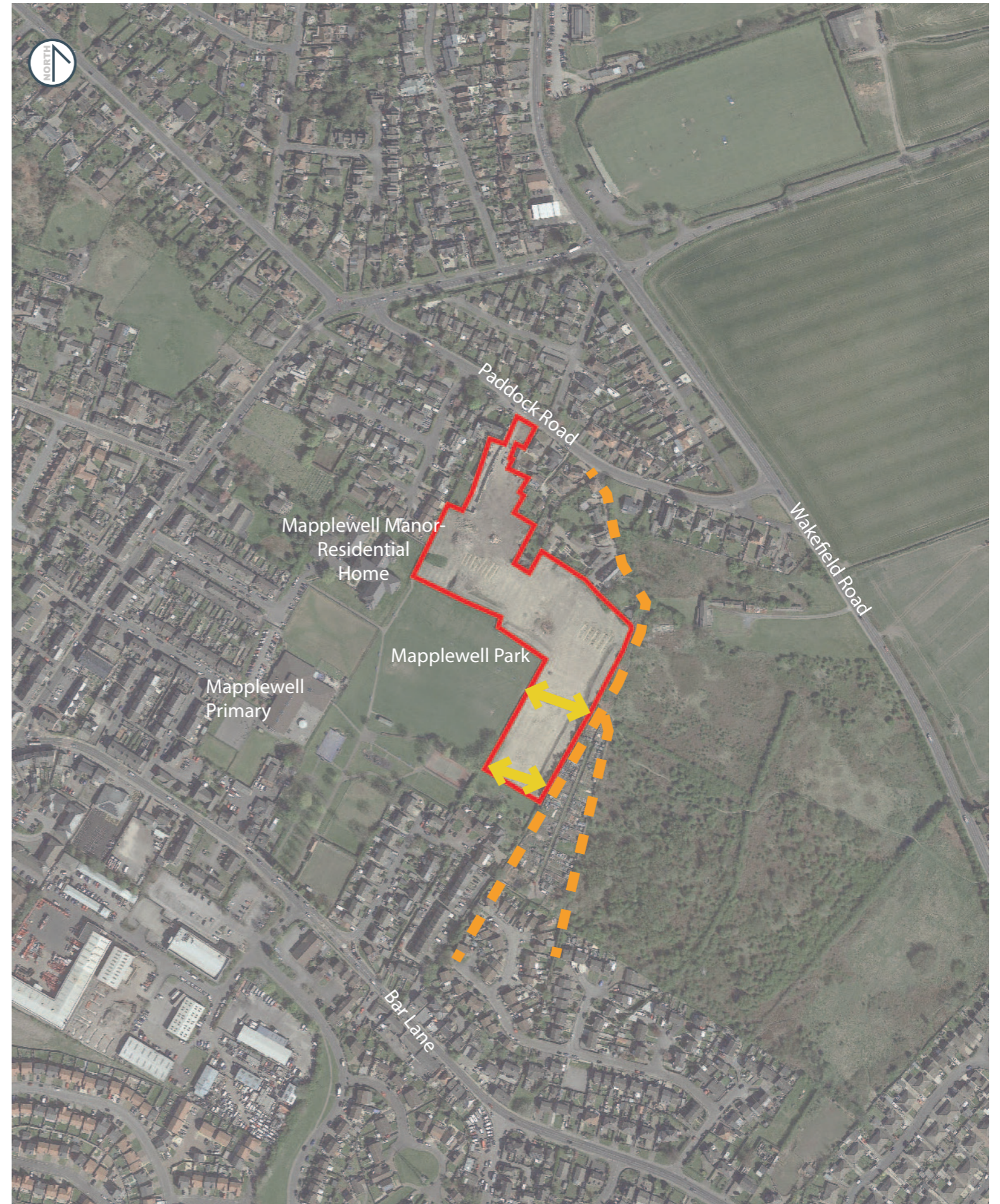
This strategy is to be read in conjunction with the ecological appraisal prepared by Whitcher Wildlife LTD.


Site Location


The site is located off Paddock Road in Mapplewell Barnsley. It is easily accessible from the M1 and Darton Train Station.


The site is accessed to the north via a single junction with Paddock Road but also benefits from pedestrian connectivity via a Public Right of Way as indicated on plan and described below.

There are Public Rights of Way (Public Rights of Way no. 30 & 31) running along the east side of the site. A proposed route passes through the site to Mapplewell Park. This route has been explored for Green Infrastructure Connections.



 Site Boundary

 Existing PROW

 Existing Public Access Point

Green Infrastructure-Existing Conditions

Existing Green Infrastructure

The site itself has been cleared for development. It was thought to have mostly grassland with some scrub. There is a length of existing native hedgerow defining the site's eastern boundary and a gappy hedge to the south and south west. This later hedge features a number of mature willow trees.

The Site's wider context comprises a mix of existing urban development, amenity parkland and semi natural scrub. To the north west, north and south east existing residential properties back onto the site. To the west the grounds of the Mapplewell residential home adjoin the site. These urban neighbours include boundary hedge planting, grassland, shrub planting and specimen trees. Importantly 'green' links through the grounds of the Mapplewell residential home connect further west to an existing cemetery off Greenside Road.

To the south and south west of the site lies Mapplewell Park, a large open amenity grassed space with scattered trees and scrub towards its southern extents.

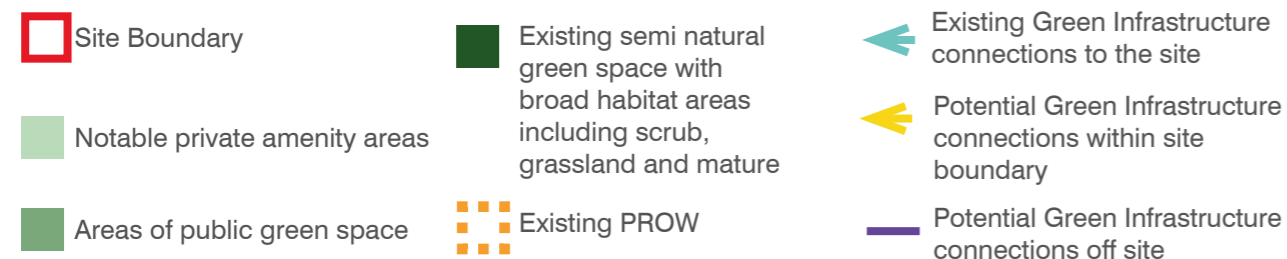
To the east lies a large area of scrub and semi natural common through which informal paths have been cut.

GI Concept

The site occupies a bridging position between existing habitat to the east, Mapplewell Park to the south and the Mapplewell residential home and cemetery to the west. It there has the potential to provide wildlife connection between these spaces for a variety of species.

The plan to the right illustrates how the site could combine internal Green Infrastructural links alongside the potential for off site planting to the north of Mapplewell Park to reinforce and enhance habitat connectivity across the area.

Offsite planting to the north of Mapplewell Park would enhance existing planting within the park, reinforce the site's boundary and provide additional security between the development and the park. This section of the park has limited use given its rising topography.



Plan not to scale

View from site of South Eastern Boundary-Image 1



View of site from Mapplewell Park-Image 2



As seen in images 1, 2, and 3., the site borders local green space to the east, south and to a lesser extent west. To the east green space includes the sites hedged boundary with tree groups beyond, whilst to the south Mapplewell park provides amenity green space. As shown on image 2, existing properties to the west of the site include a good number of trees and smaller pockets of green space.

The site and Mapplewell Park in combination could be enhanced with additional structural planting to bridge isolated habitats to the west with existing green space to the east. In doing so the site could provide a valuable wildlife connection enabling nesting and foraging east to west.

View from site over Southern Boundary-Image 3



Landscape Strategy

The Landscape Strategy illustrated to the right aims to create green corridors, maximise biodiversity and create usable spaces for people.

Native Hedgerows

Existing and proposed native hedgerows will line site boundaries and penetrate into the site alongside key properties creating east to west and north to south corridors through the site. Home owners purchasing housing with hedged boundaries will be required to maintain hedge planting. A legal mechanism to ensure occupiers retain and maintain boundaries is currently being explored. Existing hedgerows will be gapped up and supplemented with specimen hedgerow trees.

Where fencing is planned gaps will be provided for hedgehog movement between gardens.

Community Orchard

A community orchard (priority habitat) is proposed to the north west of the Site. This will provide relief to the urban form of the development, it will punctuate the street scene and help create a sense of arrival and welcome to the development. Fruit trees will be under planted with wild flower meadow. The orchard will provide nesting and foraging habitat as well as an early source of nectar in the spring for pollinators.

Bin Collection Point

The bin collection point for the upper portion of the site has been relocated to the south eastern corner of the orchard (see plan point A). This is to minimise its visual impact from the road as people enter the site.

Street Trees

Proposed trees will enhance the appearance of the streetscape, soften the visual impacts of buildings and will positively contribute towards establishing a green network through the development. Trees will mainly be planted outside the curtilage of new homes to help safeguard them from being removed by future residents. Each will be planted within a rain garden capturing and attenuating surface water run off.

In strategic locations, and where space allows, a larger specimen capable of growing to a wider spread such as Oak, for example, will be planted to create local hop overs. These specimens will, in time support bat migration through the site. In locations that are restricted by space and closer to buildings smaller, columnar trees, such as columnar Oak varieties will be specified.

Play Area

A local play space is proposed to the north of the Site. This area will comprise natural play in the form of boulders, logs and changes in landforms. Some fixed play equipment may also be appropriate. This area will be surrounded by trees and grassland to create a bio-diverse area where children can explore and interact with the landscape.

Wildlife Pond

A proposed wildlife pond set within green space to the centre of the Site is also proposed. This feature will be well overlooked for safety, it will feature shallow side slopes to enable easy egress along with reed planting and an area of open water. Interpretative signage will identify this as a wildlife pond.

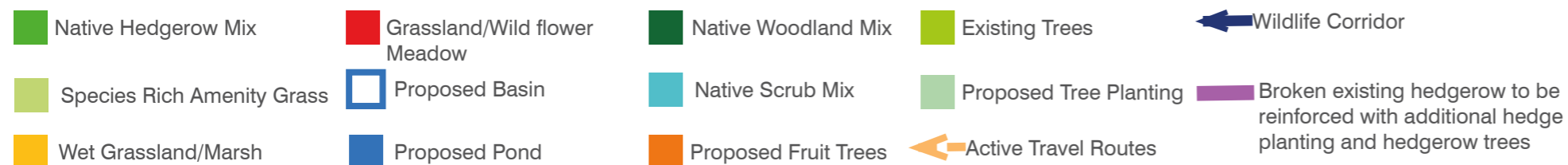
Grasslands/Wild Flower Verges

Grasslands are a key habitat for a variety of species and are assumed to be the main habitat type to have existed on the site. It is important to incorporate these habitats into design where feasible. These are proposed to occupy the community orchard, play area and open space in the south.

Offside Native Woodland

In order to maximise potential biodiversity gains, maximise east to west wildlife connectivity and to visually enhance both the development and Mapplewell Park, a 5-10m wide belt of native woodland is proposed between the site and Mapplewell Park to help contain the site, increase habitat potential and to help establish east to west Green Infrastructure connectivity. Planting in this location would significantly reinforce the existing landscape and habitat structure of the area.

This land is owned by Barnsley Council and is part of Mapplewell Park and as such further negotiations regarding the acceptability of this planting will be necessary. The applicant proposes to implement this planting and pay a commuted sum for its ongoing management.



A. Bin Location



THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED BY URBAN WILDERNESS



Revision	Date Issued	Author	Checked by
A	6 Dec 2021	RS	NJE
B	18 Mar 2022	RS	NJE
C	17 Aug 2022	RS	CH