Paddock Road Residential Develoment

RHM Properties Ltd

Landscape Maintenance & Management Report

September 2024

URBAN WILDERNESS

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The following Landscape Maintenance and Management Report has been prepared by Urban Wilderness Ltd (UW) on behalf of RHM Properties Ltd. The document has been produced to set out the future maintenance and management requirements and to support the discharge of planning conditions relating to a residential development at Paddock Road, Barnsley.

1.2 This Report covers a 15 year period after which it should be reviewed. Monitoring and review of operations within the 15 year period covered by the Report should be carried out as detailed on page 13.

1.3 This Report provides details to promote the successful establishment and maintenance of the soft landscape proposals, and sets out the maintenance of hard areas and materials within the development boundary. It should be read in conjunction with information and specification included within the appendix of this report:

- 483-UW-P-001 - Hardworks & Street Furniture Plan 1 of 2
- 483-UW-P-002 - Hardworks & Street Furniture Plan 2 of 2
- 436-UW-P-003-Soft Landscape Plan-Sheet 1 of 4
- 436-UW-P-004-Soft Landscape Plan-Sheet 2 of 4
- 436-UW-P-005-Soft Landscape Plan-Sheet 3 of 4
- 436-UW-P-006-Soft Landscape Plan-Sheet 4 of 4
- 436-UW-P-007-Softworks Schedule

1.4 The drawn planting proposals detail the positioning and extent of the soft landscape features within the site-wide areas of the application boundary including trees, hedgerows, meadow, amenity grassland, scrub and the retained landscape areas. On-plot landscape design proposals have been specified by UW but will be managed by residents upon occupation of new homes.

1.5 This document sets out the aspirations for the landscape and prescriptions for maintenance and management of open spaces and landscape features that promote the fulfillment of these aspirations. The management of the site-wide landscape features will be completed in accordance with the agreed prescriptions within this document. They will be undertaken by a specific management company with the aim of achieving the successful establishment and maintenance of hard and softworks.

1.6 Existing vegetation to be retained will be protected in accordance with arboricultural guidance and BS5837. Additionally, proposed hard and soft works are to be implemented in accordance with specifications noted on the drawings and industry best practice.

1.7 The following points set out the site-specific landscape aspirations that are considered within this management plan:

- Enhanced structural planting within the site to bridge isolated habitats to the west with existing green space to the east. This will provide valuable wildlife connections within and across the site.
- New hedgerows and gapping up of existing hedgerows along site boundaries and key properties within the site to create east-west and north-south wildlife corridors.
- Retained and proposed trees to enhance the appearance of the streetscape, soften the visual impacts of new buildings and 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.
- The establishment of areas of meadow to support a range of wildlife and managed to create a rich mosaic with varied species and structure.
- The creation of a new play area with natural play features.
- The creation of a new community orchard underplanted 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.
- The creation of shared amenity spaces containing areas of amenity grassland, set within ecological rich green space containing trees, shrubs, hedgerows, trim trails, natural play features, seating and signage.

BASELINE CONDITIONS

1.8 The planning application is for a development of up to 45 dwellings in a site that covers a total area of 2.4ha. The baseline for the site was as follows:

- The site itself has been cleared for development. Previous surveys show the site contained mostly grassland with some scrub. There is a length of existing native hedgerow defining the site's eastern boundary that is of low diversity and containing gaps of vegetation. Hedgerow to the south and south west 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.

VISION & SITE WIDE AIMS

1.9 The overarching aim of the report is to ensure that the high-quality environment embodied within landscape drawings is implemented and maintained to ensure the successful establishment and enduring success of the landscape proposals.

1.10 The management of the landscape will be completed in accordance with the prescriptions agreed within this document and will be undertaken by a suitably qualified landscape management company.

1.11 There are four long-term landscape and ecological management aims for the site:

- **Aim 1:** Maintain and enhance the existing landscape and ecological features within the development.

- **Aim 2:** Create new habitats to increase site-wide diversity, compensate for the loss of previous habitats and provide connectivity to the wider landscape.

- **Aim 3:** To monitor and manage both retained and created landscape features and habitats throughout the management period to ensure increasing ecological diversity is maintained in the long-term.

- **Aim 4:** Deliver and maintain landscape structure through appropriate hard and soft landscape interventions. These will provide (i) a strong sense of place, (ii) wildlife corridors connecting surrounding habitats, (iii) softening and filtering of new built form to reduce visual impact, and (iv) an attractive, safe and functional landscape framework. .

2. PRESCRIPTIONS

2.1 The management prescriptions that follow set out the operations and regimes required to achieve the site wide aims and the objectives set out above.

2.2 The following sections should be read in conjunction with the hard and soft landscape proposals included in the appendix.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE PRESCRIPTIONS

2.3 The appointed contractor will visit the site a minimum of once a month throughout the year, and additionally as necessary, to undertake the operations required to fulfill the prescriptions listed below and the management objectives of the site.

2.4 Management and maintenance operations will be carried out by competent landscape contractors, to the highest possible standards and in accordance with industry best practice, all relevant codes of practice and British Standards. All tools and machinery employed will be fit for purpose, suitable for site conditions and only used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. All operations are to fully comply with relevant Health & Safety regulations.

2.5 **Cleanliness:** At the end of each visit, the contractor shall remove from site all litter/rubbish, arisings, trimmings, and superfluous materials, leaving the works in a clean and tidy condition. Particular attention shall be paid to ensuring all areas of hard surfacing, drains and gullies are left in a clean condition, free from any soil, mud, leaves, cuttings, and plant pruning. In the event of reported and substantial litter accumulation (e.g., fly tipping) the contractor shall remove material from site within two days.

2.6 **Weed and Pest Control:** All areas shall be kept free from weeds, pests and diseases. Planting is to be inspected on a monthly basis and any remedial action taken immediately. Weeding & the removal of self set seedlings (within the meadow areas) may be carried out by hand, with chemical, or through a combination of both methods in a manner consistent with the requirements of this management plan. Chemical treatments are to be applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and relevant safety regulations. Application of chemicals must be restricted to affected areas and spray drift or spillage must be prevented. Upon agreement with the client, weeds, clippings and grass cuttings could be composted on site at a designated location, or removed to a composting area off site. Other debris will be removed from site at the end of each visit.

2.7 **Mulch:** Mulch levels to the ornamental planting areas, native scrub mix, native hedge and tree stations should be inspected on a monthly basis and restored to the original depth (50mm) where levels are below 25mm. Medium grade bark mulch should be applied, where required, until the time when shrub/scrub canopies are touching.

2.8 **Watering:** Planting (particularly mature trees) should be monitored for signs of drought stress every two weeks during dry periods for the first five years of planting. Trees and shrubs showing signs of drought stress are to be watered to field capacity until signs of drought stress are no longer visible. Local water restrictions should be adhered to.

2.9 **Fertiliser:** Any approved and appropriate fertiliser to be applied to the planted areas listed below in Years 1, 2 and 3 in early spring to ensure rapid establishment (meadow, scrub and native hedgerows are not to be included):

- Specimen Tree Planting
- Ornamental Planting

2.10 **Replacement Planting:** An audit of all planting should be made in August/September of each year in the first five years. Where plants fail, they should be replaced in accordance with the original specification on the drawings. Planting should be replaced in suitable weather conditions during the next winter planting season and maintained in accordance with this report.

2.11 **Hard Landscape Defects:** Damaged furniture and surfaces to be made good within one month, with areas made safe in the meantime.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES TO BE RETAINED, PROTECTED AND ENHANCED

2.12 Existing landscape features have been retained where possible within the development and management should be undertaken to deliver against objectives and in accordance with all relevant British standards.

Existing Trees:

2.13 Detailed descriptions of management operations throughout the initial 15 year period to include:

- Undertake works as recommended by Arboriculturist to ensure continued health and safety of trees. Approval of tree works should be sought from the local authority, as necessary, to confirm with relevant legislation eg. TPO's.
- Checks on safety and condition of trees annually, or as required (e.g. after high winds) to ensure continued health of trees and safety of site.
- Prune any diseased or rotten wood (including the removal of main stems and limbs) back to sound wood. In addition, prune trees to promote health and vigour true to natural form.
- Any ash trees within the site will be monitored for ash dieback, and where this occurs will be reported to the forestry commission, specimens would need to be cut down and burnt on site, to avoid spreading;
- Any tree management and/or removal will require the assessment for bat roosting potential by a licensed bat ecologist;
- Where publicly accessible remove from tree all stems and limbs which are unsafe or are in danger of falling or breaking during gales. Use removed material (if suitable) to create wood piles and hibernaculum;
- Any necessary tree surgery should (ideally) be undertaken at times appropriate to promoting the health of each tree.

2.14 The ongoing management of the retained trees may result in the requirement to fell dead, damaged or diseased trees or to remove limbs. Arisings, where possible should be used to provide opportunities for invertebrates and bryophytes by forming micro-habitats from piles of dead wood or recumbent dead logs. Where possible, and where health and safety constraints permit, standing dead wood will be left in-situ to provide additional dead wood habitats to maximise saproxylic invertebrate biodiversity. Any fallen deadwood above 10cm girth should be left in situ where reasonably safe to do so.

Existing Hedgerows:

2.15 The proposed design looks to retain existing hedgerow where possible. The hedgerows to be retained will be protected from damage and soil compaction during the construction period via the use of fenced RPA's of at least 4m width, which is in accordance with guidance in British Standard 5837 (2012) – Trees in Relation to Construction.

2.16 Detailed descriptions of management operations throughout the initial 15 year period to include:

- Trim hedge in February (outside of bird nesting season and allowing for fruit to remain over winter) to a height of 2m.
- Prune any diseased or rotten wood (including the removal of main stems and limbs) back to sound wood.
- Trees located within the hedgerows will be allowed to mature into standard trees to provide nesting and foraging opportunities for local wildlife and a varied habitat structure.
- Gaps within any retained hedgerows will be filled where possible via supplementary planting, using a mix of native species consistent with the planting plan, to increase the diversity of hedgerows and to provide increased foraging opportunities for local wildlife.
- Any dead or dying plants should be removed and replaced during the next available planting season.
- The recommended period for planting of woody species is between October and March however, it is recommended that hedgerow species are planted in October and November before the onset of colder weather to avoid periods of inundation or prolonged ground frost. During the first five years of establishment selective 'spot' spraying or strimming of weeds is required to reduce competition.
- New infill planting will be inspected 12 months after planting. Any failed planting will be identified and replaced, with inspections taking place annually for the first 5 years from initial planting. Up to 5% failure rate will be allowed, but if more than 5% failure of supplementary planting occurs, replacement planting of the same species will be provided with an aim of attaining an 85% success rate after 5 years.

PROPOSED SOFT LANDSCAPE FEATURES

2.17 The key sub-components of the proposed soft landscape features are as follows:

- Specimen Tree Planting
- Native Hedgerows
- Native Scrub Mix
- Orchard Planting
- Amenity Grassland Areas
- Wildflower Meadow Areas

2.18 All planting will be undertaken in accordance with British Standard 8545.

Specimen Tree Planting:

2.19 The following are management operations that apply to the specimen tree planting areas. Undertake to ensure that trees remain in a healthy, attractive and safe condition.

2.20 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 1-5 are set out below:

- Specimen trees should be watered as required to ensure that they establish and thrive. Trees should be monitored for signs of drought stress every two weeks during dry periods for the first five years of planting and watered to field capacity until signs of drought stress are no longer visible. Water in the morning or in the evening to restrict water evaporation.
- Maintain mulch to original levels (50mm depth).
- Keep trees upright and examine tree stakes and ties for their effectiveness and requirement. If the tree has yet to establish, replace or adjust ties, spacers and tree tubes as appropriate. If the tree has established well, then remove all stakes, ties, spacers, tubes etc. and make good surfaces disturbed, filling any holes with suitable topsoil.
- Check guards and replace if necessary on annual basis.
- Aeration of compacted soils as required.
- Formative prune in years one and five and as necessary to remove any dead, damaged and diseased growth. Undertake works at times appropriate to promoting the health of each tree and as recommended by an Arboriculturist to ensure continued health and safety of trees.
- Regular investigations of failed growth of trees and subsequent removal and replacement. Any tree that dies or is necessarily felled as a result of storm damage, vandalism, mechanical damage, fungal decay or other such cause, shall be replaced like for like. Such replacement shall be with a tree of either the same species or similar species as those existing. This is to allow some flexibility and to avoid problems encountered with 'Same Tree Disease.

2.21 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 6-15 are set out below:

- After establishment continue to water only if deemed to be required.
- Checks on safety and condition of trees annually, or as required (e.g., after high winds) to ensure continued health of trees and safety of site.
- Undertake works as recommended by Arboriculturalist to ensure continued health and safety of trees.
- Safe removal of dangerous or potentially dangerous trees.
- All checks and reports on trees to be carried out by a qualified Arboriculturist. Undertake works as recommended to ensure continued health and safety of trees.

Native Hedgerows:

2.22 The following are management operations that apply to the proposed native hedgerows. Undertake to ensure the creation and maintenance of healthy, attractive and dense boundary, with seasonal and ecological interest.

2.23 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 1-5 are set out below:

- Keep base of planting free of weeds by hand or chemical control throughout the year.
- Maintain mulch to original levels (50mm depth)
- Prune in spring and autumn as necessary to remove any dead, damaged or diseased growth.
- Undertake inspections to ensure the creation

and maintenance of healthy, attractive and dense boundary, with seasonal and ecological interest.

- Trim hedge in February (outside of bird nesting season and allowing for fruit to remain over winter) to a height not greater than 2m. During the establishment period trim to encourage dense growth.

- Check spiral guards and replace if necessary on annual basis. Remove subject to growth after 3-5 years.

2.24 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 6-15 are set out below:

- Keep base of planting free of weeds by hand or chemical control throughout the year.

- Prune in spring and autumn as necessary to remove any dead, damaged or diseased growth.

- Trim hedge in February (outside of bird nesting season and allowing for fruit to remain over winter) to a height of 2m.

Native Scrub Mix:

2.25 The following are management operations that apply to the proposed native scrub mix. Undertake to ensure the creation and maintenance of healthy, attractive plant mixes, with seasonal and ecological interest.

2.26 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 1-5 are set out below:

- Keep 1.0m diameter circle around base of plants free of weeds by hand or chemical control throughout the year.

- Maintain mulch to original levels (50mm depth)

- Prune in spring and autumn as necessary to remove any dead, damaged or diseased growth and to promote dense growth.

- Check spiral guards and replace if necessary on annual basis. Remove subject to growth after 3-5 years.

2.27 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 6-15 are set out below:

- Keep base of planting free of weeds by hand or chemical control throughout the year until the plant canopies have closed.

- Prune in spring and autumn as necessary to remove any dead, damaged or diseased growth and to promote dense growth.

Orchard Planting:

2.28 A key consideration of orchard management is that it should be low intensity, avoiding the use of chemical pesticides and fertilisers wherever possible to maximise the biodiversity of the site.

2.29 Pruning is an essential part of orchard management as it helps to develop and maintain tree size and shape and stimulate new growth. Both formative pruning of young trees and maintenance of more established ones should aim to keep an open crown which lets in light and air and avoids the crossing over of branches.

2.30 The following are management operations that apply to the orchard planting areas. Undertake to ensure that trees remain in a healthy, productive, attractive and safe condition.

2.31 Formative Pruning (Years 1-10): Formative pruning is the most important period of pruning during the tree's life and should usually be carried out for a period of approximately 10 years.

2.32 The ideal is to create strong, well spaced laterals (horizontal branches which will bear the leaves and fruit) to support the weight of the fruit and ensure it gets as much sun as possible to help the fruit ripen.

2.33 Small growth should be cut back to an outward facing bud to encourage new growth away from the centre of the tree. Larger cuts should be made cleanly, taking them back to the trunk or a major branch to enable the tree to heal and reduce the risk of disease getting in.

2.34 The style of pruning and final tree shape varies across the country. Trees should be pruned to the shape and style of those found locally.

2.35 Pruning of apple and pear trees should be carried out in winter when the tree is dormant, while stoned fruit (e.g. cherries and plums) should be pruned during the growing season to reduce the risk of infection from fungal disease.

2.36 Stone fruits do not respond to pruning as well as

apple and pear trees so their formative pruning should be kept to a minimum.

2.37 Refer to Natural England's Technical Information Note TIN016 for detailed guidance on formative pruning of traditional orchards.

2.38 Maintenance Pruning (Years 11-15): After approximately 10 years of formative pruning, and as the tree matures, the emphasis of pruning shifts away from shaping its vegetative growth and towards fruit production.

2.39 The degree, method and timing of pruning varies considerably depending on the species and variety of fruit tree. A healthy tree needs a balance between mature fruiting wood and vegetative growth. The general rule for maintaining balance is:

- strongly growing shoots (>25 cm annual growth) should be left alone;
- moderately growing shoots (10-25 cm annual growth) should be pruned lightly; and
- poorly growing shoots (<10 cm annual growth) should be pruned hard.

2.40 Refer to Natural England's Technical Information Note TIN017 for detailed guidance on maintenance pruning of traditional orchards.

2.41 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 1-5 are set out below:

- Fruits trees should be watered as required to ensure that they establish and thrive. Trees should be monitored for signs of drought stress every two weeks during dry periods for the first five years of planting and watered to field capacity until signs of drought stress are no longer visible. Water in the morning or in the evening to restrict water evaporation.
- During establishment and crown development young fruit should be removed from trees.
- Maintain mulch to original levels (50mm depth) to maintain a vegetation-free circle of roughly one metre diameter around new trees.
- Keep trees upright and examine tree stakes and ties for their effectiveness and requirement. If the tree has yet to establish, replace or adjust ties, spacers and tree tubes as appropriate. If the tree has established well, then remove all stakes, ties, spacers, tubes etc. and make good surfaces disturbed, filling any holes with suitable topsoil.
- Check guards and replace if necessary on annual basis.
- Aeration of compacted soils as required.
- Prune as per Natural England's Technical Information Notes TIN016 and TIN017. Prune stoned fruit trees in spring/summer. Prune apple/pear trees in winter
- Regular investigations of failed growth of trees and subsequent removal and replacement. Any tree that dies or is necessarily felled as a result of storm damage, vandalism, mechanical damage, fungal decay or other such cause, shall be replaced like for like. Such replacement shall be with a tree of either the same species or similar species as those existing. This is to allow some flexibility and to avoid problems encountered with 'Same Tree Disease.

2.42 Detailed descriptions of management operations for Year 6-15 are set out below:

- After establishment continue to water only if deemed to be required.
- Prune as per Natural England's Technical Information Notes TIN016 and TIN017. Prune stoned fruit trees in spring/summer. Prune apple/pear trees in winter.
- Checks on safety and condition of trees annually, or as required (e.g., after high winds) to ensure continued health of trees and safety of site.
- Undertake works as recommended by Arboriculturalist to ensure continued health and safety of trees.
- Safe removal of dangerous or potentially dangerous trees.
- All checks and reports on trees to be carried out by a qualified Arboriculturist. Undertake works as recommended to ensure continued health and safety of trees.

Amenity Grassland Areas:

2.43 The following are management operations that apply to the amenity grassland areas only. Undertake as required to achieve a good sward of even colour and a maximum height of 70mm.

2.44 Detailed descriptions of management operations for effective establishment post seeding are set out below:

- Once seedling grasses are established, (typically in good growing conditions about three to four weeks after sowing), lightly roll or tread to firm and level the soil around the grass roots ready for the first cut. (Do not roll if the ground is wet and saturated with water).
- When the grass has picked up (typically after a few days), it will be ready for its first cut. Cut with the mower set on a high setting (+50mm), aiming to trim the sown grass back by about one-third of its height.
- Thereafter, mow regularly as needed.
- Water as required during dry spells to ensure establishment.

2.45 Detailed descriptions of management operations following establishment and throughout the initial 15 year period are set out below:

- Remove litter and debris at every visit before each cut.
- Cut back to 50mm and remove arisings. Maintain to between 50-70mm.
- Where bulbs are located in grass, only cut the affected grass once the bulbs have flowered, and the foliage and flowers have withered and turned brown.
- Repair eroded areas as required. Rotovate to 150mm, 100mm topsoil and reseed between May-September.
- Lightly scarify in March annually as required.
- Grass areas may be treated to control invasive or unsightly weed growth in spring and late summer.
- Fertilise in spring (up until Year 3).

Wildflower Meadow:

2.46 The following are management operations that apply to the wildflower meadow areas. Undertake the following to ensure the establishment of an attractive and diverse perennial meadow.

2.47 Detailed descriptions of management operations in Year 1 are set out below:

- Remove litter and debris at every visit.
- Most sown meadow wildflower and grass species are perennial; they will be slow to germinate and grow and will not usually flower in their first growing season. There will often be a flush of annual weeds from the soil in the first growing season which may grow up and obscure the meadow seedlings beneath. This annual weed growth is easily controlled by topping or mowing.
- If autumn sown: First cut early July, then monthly during August, September and October. Cut back sward to 70-100mm.
- If spring sown: First cut mid-September, then again during October. Cut back sward to 70-100mm.
- Leave arisings in situ for 1-2 days then remove and compost.
- Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

2.48 Detailed descriptions of management operations from Year 2 onwards are set out below:

- Remove litter and debris at every visit.
- In the second and subsequent years sowings can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, which will determine the character of the grassland. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn and possibly spring mowing.
- Meadow grassland is not cut from spring through to late July/August to give the sown species an opportunity to flower.
- Cut back sward to 70-100mm from mid July to early September. Cut in sections, leaving between a week and two weeks between cuts. Leave arisings in situ for 1-2 days then remove and compost.
- Lightly mow the sward down to 70-100mm as required throughout the winter months until March, collect the clippings and compost.
- Spot spray and/or remove weeds annually in March or April.

PROPOSED HARD LANDSCAPE FEATURES

2.49 General litter picking to be undertaken at each site visit, to ensure the site is maintained with a tidy appearance.

2.50 Fencing and Gates: Ensure all fencing and gates are secure, undamaged and in a good state of repair. Should any part of a fence or gate be deemed below standard obtain guidance and/ or repair or replace as required. Carry out a twice annual inspection in spring and autumn. Record inspections/any actions arising from inspections.

2.51 Steps, Pathways and Hard Surfacing: In general:

- Ensure all pathways and hard surfaces are free from weeds, trip hazards, debris, litter, chewing gum, snow and ice or other obstructions throughout the year.
- Carry out inspections at each site visit and as required by the weather/likely conditions on site.
- Make good damaged surfaces to maintain safe and accessible routes that are fit for use throughout the year as required.
- Check levels of loose gravel areas on an annual basis and top up as required.
- Pathways which are bound by a 1m mown grass strip should be mown regularly to maintain a sward height of 50-70mm. All cuttings to be removed.

2.52 Walls: Ensure all walls are secure, undamaged and in a good state of repair. Should any part of a wall be deemed below standard obtain guidance and/ or repair or replace as required. Carry out a twice annual inspection in spring and autumn. Record inspections/any actions arising from inspections.

2.53 Erosion Control Matting: No maintenance of the erosion control matting is required. This will be fitted with biodegradable pins and both the matting and pins will biodegrade within approximately 4 years of installation. During years 1-3 areas of wildflower meadow planted over the erosion control matting should be cut with a strimmer or sycthe with care taken not to damage the erosion control matting.

FURNITURE

2.54 Maintain all furniture, i.e. benches, litter bins and natural play elements etc. in good condition. Should any part of a structure be deemed below standard, prohibit use, obtain guidance and/ or repair or replace as required.

2.55 Bird and Bat Boxes: To be maintained to ensure they are structurally sound. Make good any damage that has occurred due to weathering or vandalism. Replace as required. Bird boxes should be cleaned annually outside of the nesting season.

2.56 Waste Bins: Will be provided at appropriate locations throughout the site and waste will be collected at each site visit and removed to avoid harm to wildlife or encouragement of pests.

2.57 Natural Play Elements: Ensure all play elements and surrounding surfaces are in good condition and safe to use for intended purpose. Clean, repair or replace as required. Wooden structures will rot over time, requiring periodic replacement. Replacements should be to original specification or similar. Check at each site visit, ensuring structures are stable and there are no entrapment hazards. Carry out twice annual inspections in spring and autumn. Record inspections/any actions arising from inspections.

2.58 Hedgehogs Fencing: Wildlife friendly boundaries will be installed throughout the development, this is to allow the free movement of hedgehog and other small mammals. Carry out a twice annual inspection in spring and autumn to ensure gaps remain unobstructed where possible. Record inspections/ any actions arising from inspections.

2.59 Homeowners will be issued with information about management of the site for wildlife including information about hedgehog highways.

3. MONITOR AND MANAGE THE SITE FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE LONG TERM

3.1 In order to ensure that the landscape features created within the site reach and maintain their maximum recreational, educational and aesthetic value, all landscape features are recommended to be monitored annually by a qualified landscape architect.

3.2 In order to ensure that habitat created within the site reaches and maintains it's maximum value to nature conservation. Habitat should be monitored every year by a qualified ecologist.

3.3 Results of this monitoring should be used to inform changes to the management plan and five year work programme. The prescriptions provided here should be altered if required to reflect any change in needs of the local community or habitats and species of interest. Changes to the procedures that have been set out in this report must ensure the site wide aims set out in this report are achieved.

3.4 The Landscape Management Plan should be reviewed every 5-years by those responsible for the landscape management and maintenance of the site. The review will identify if there are any additional management procedures that are required and any changes to the procedures that have been set out in this report to ensure the design vision that is set out in this report is achieved.

4. APPENDIX

4.1 The following drawings, referred to in the Maintenance and Management Report, are included below for reference:

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