

Tree Planting & Maintenance Scheme

Land at
Marford Community Centre
Pant Lane
Marford
Wrexham

Ref:
TPS/MCC/02/22

Date:
10th February 2022

Commissioned by:
Mr J. Gee
on behalf of
Elite Systems (GB) LTD

Prepared by
S. Shields

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Introduction

- 1.1 Shields Arboricultural Consultancy received instructions from Mr J. Gee on behalf of Elite Systems (GB) LTD to provide a Tree Planting Scheme to support a planning application at Marford Community Centre.

Scope & Limitations

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to provide a Tree Planting Scheme for the above site.
- 2.2 The report takes account of the recommendations of the British Standard Document BS 8545: 2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations.
- 2.3 This report is not an ecological assessment and does not identify habitats or constitute a protected species survey.

Policy & Strategy

Planting objectives

- 3.1 Replace trees lost through development to maintain canopy cover and landscape quality in Marford and provide an attractive setting for the new building. To enhance the trees on the site which are elements of the urban forest and amenity assets.

Statutory controls

- 3.2 Trees are planted subject to a planning condition.

Environmental considerations

- 3.3 The local landscape is typical of a residential settlement. No specific environmental constraints affect tree planting in this area. The movement of ash planting stock is banned under a Plant Health Order in the UK.

Site Evaluation & Constraints

General

- 4.1 The site is at the Marford Community Centre located off Pant Lane, Marford. The development area is part of a grassed area to the south of the existing building and is currently used as a recreation area. The site is level and even and at an elevation of 70 AOD. It is accessed via Pant Lane. There are a number of trees on the site, situated in a small group to the west of the existing building. There is a large car park to the north of the building. It is proposed to plant the new trees in the soft landscape area to the west, close to the north boundary.

Ground assessment

- 4.2 The site is free draining with no areas of waterlogging. Geological maps indicate sand and gravel over a sandstone lithology. The highway to the south and parking areas and existing structures would create barriers to root development. Existing vegetation indicates that

the soil is amenable to rooting although the areas of hard standing areas would act as a barrier to root development.

- 4.3 Soil was assessed manually and classed as a sandy loam.
- 4.4 Soil pH of 6.5
- 4.5 No drainage, percolation test was undertaken, but soils appear to be free draining, but water retentive.

Climatic conditions

- 4.6 Site is sheltered and is at an elevation of 70m AOD in an area of moderate rainfall with no regular droughty periods. It is well-lit receiving full sunlight for the majority of the day during the growing season.

Site features and existing vegetation

- 4.7 There are a variety of trees present on the site including sycamore, Norway maple, lime, and Leyland cypress.
- 4.8 There is adequate space available for crown development of medium to large sized trees at the selected planting locations.
- 4.9 No evidence of underground services, however it is recommended that a CAT scan is undertaken prior to excavating the planting pits.

Species / Planting Stock Selection

- 5.1 Selected species must be capable of becoming attractive, long lived specimens that can tolerate the prevailing site conditions and are suitable to the site use and local landscape. It is proposed to plant 3 Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) and 2 Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) in the locations indicated on the planting plan. The trees must be selected and planted in accordance with the following specifications. It is preferable that the trees are inspected and selected in the nursery prior to delivery on site.

5.2 Planting Stock Specification

Species	Shape	Stem Girth @1m	Height	Container Volume	Production Method
Scots Pine SP (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>)	Standard	8cm – 10cm	1.75m – 2.0m	45 lts.	Container grown
Field Maple FM (<i>Acer campestre</i>)	Standard	8cm – 10cm	2.5m – 3m	45 lts.	Container grown

- 5.3 The tree should be supplied packed in accordance with the recommendations of BS 8545: 2014. The trees must be delivered in good condition and be free from damage, if transported in open lorries, trees must be protected by opaque sheeting. Root systems must be moist and protected during transport and. Trees should be inspected

and approved prior to accepting delivery. If planting is not undertaken immediately after delivery, the tree should be placed in a sheltered location and the container covered with sand to prevent drying or freezing. Trees will be inspected on delivery in accordance with the standards set out in table 1 BS 8545: 2014. Trees that do not meet the standard will be rejected and returned to the nursery.

Tree Planting, Protection & Maintenance

- 6.1 To ensure that the landscape planting is to the highest standard, it is recommended that a quality planting materials and products are used. This report specifies the use of the GreenBlue Urban Arborsystem® www.greenblue.com as the preferred planting product and Barcham Trees www.barcham.co.uk as the preferred supplier for the planting stock.

Site Preparation

- 6.2 The proposed planting sites are situated in the existing soft landscape adjacent to the north boundary in the west part of the. All tree planting areas are to be protected from compaction and contamination during the construction phase of the development using either protective fencing or load spreading ground protection. (See Arboricultural Impact Assessment)

Removal of Hard Surface

- 6.3 Not required

De-compaction of Sub-soil

- 6.4 Not required

Soil Addition and Improvement

- 6.5 Addition of Carbon Gold ® Tree Soil Improver [Biochar Tree Soil Improver - Carbon Gold](#) follow manufactures guidelines for application rate (around 2.3 litres of bio char per tree).

Tree Pits

- 6.6 All trees are to be pit planted in the locations identified on the attached Tree Planting Plan. Tree planting pits are to be prepared as follows, in accordance with the drawings (GBU2002) provided in appendix A. If services are not required beneath the pits then the design can be amended to remove the root barrier. Tree pits are to be excavated to the size of 1.5m diameter and to the depth of the root container of the planting stock. The bottom and edges of the pit are to be lightly broken up to using a fork, to improve root penetration. Tree pits are to be back filled with excavated soil, which must be stored loose tipped adjacent to the tree pit. Care must be taken to ensure that topsoil and sub-soil are stored in separate piles. The base plate of the guying system is to be installed in the base of the pit in accordance with manufactures recommendations.

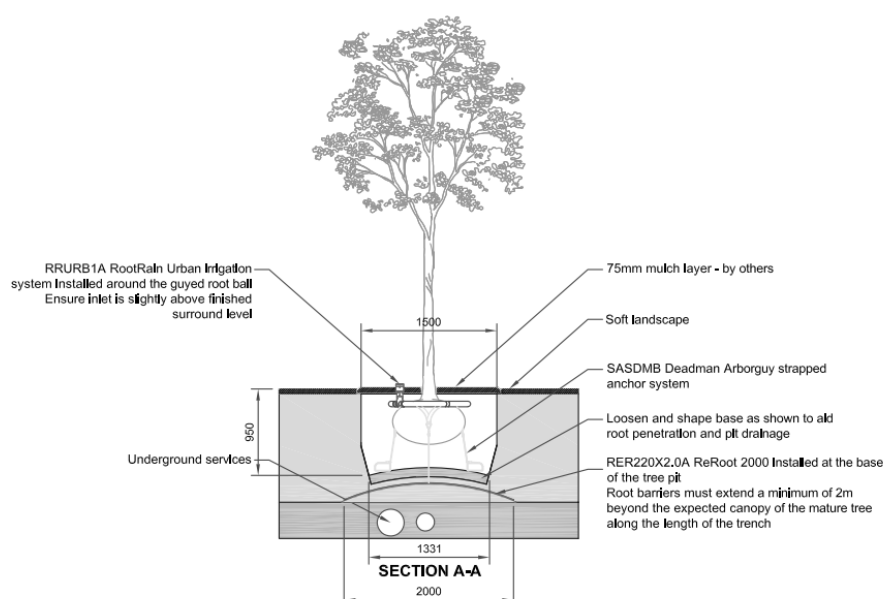


Figure1 Soft Landscape Tree Pit © GreenBlue Urban

Planting

- 6.7 Trees should not be planted when the ground is frozen or waterlogged. It is recommended that trees are planted during the winter period. Prior to planting, remove any damaged or rubbing branches in accordance with BS 3998: 2010 good practice guidelines. Remove and tags or labels and any stem wrapping. The tree **must** be planted at its original root collar soil depth. The soil mark on the stem is an indication of this and it should be maintained on the finished level, allowing for settling of the soil after planting. If required, the pit should be partially backfilled to 'bed up' the tree to the desired height. The compost / growing medium in container grown trees must be moist before planting and before containers are removed. The growing medium in the soil cells should be thoroughly watered prior to planting.
- 6.8 Once the container is removed and immediately before planting, any broken or damaged roots must be cut back to sound growth and to an appropriate point; heavily coiled or spiralling roots should be eased from the rootball or pruned back. Once the tree is satisfactorily positioned and the pit should be backfilled using the excavated soils mixed with appropriate amount of soil improver, **it is important to ensure that topsoil is not used below the depth of the original topsoil layer**. The backfill should be added in layers of around 150mm and lightly firmed to ensure close contact with the roots. Trees should have 20 lts of water applied around the base after planting. Once planted and firmed the tree must be secure using the Arboguy® system as specified in the drawing.
- 6.9 A woven, water permeable polypropylene mulch mat (600mm x 600mm) is to be placed around the base of the tree and secured using pegs or pins and then an over laid with 20mm of sterilised bark

chippings. Chippings should be pulled back from the base of the stem of the tree.

6.10 Remove all debris leaving site clean and tidy

On-going maintenance

- 6.11 All newly planted trees should be inspected in the first few weeks after planting and after periods of frost or strong winds. The trees should be re-firmed where heave or movement has occurred and the guying system adjusted as necessary.
- 6.12 The mulch mats around each tree are to be inspected and maintained in good condition and the area they cover maintained free from weeds, grasses or other vegetation for a period of 3 years after planting.
- 6.13 The trees are to be watered during dry spells. Trees are to be inspected following periods of more than 10 days without significant rain fall. This inspection should assess the moisture content of the soil and, if required sufficient quantities of water are to be applied around the base of the tree or through the irrigation system to ensure soil reaches field capacity. This should be repeated every second day until the dry spell ends.
- 6.14 Trees are to be formatively pruned to remove crossing, dead and rubbing branches and to single any multiple leaders. This is a one-off operation and should be undertaken in the third year after planting.
- 6.15 Trees which fail to establish or become weakened, damaged or die must be replaced in the following planting season.
- 6.16 Trees should be inspected annually for the first 5 years following planting. This should be undertaken in mid-summer and any problems rectified as required.

Schedule of Operations

Date / Stage	Operation
Prior to commencement of development	Erect protection fences around tree planting locations to protect soils. (6.2)
On completion of construction activities	Take delivery of trees and store correctly on site. (5.3). Trees to be inspected at time of delivery.
On completion of construction activities	Prepare tree planting pits. (6.6)
On completion of construction activities	Plant trees. (6.7 – 6.10)
Two weeks after planting	Undertake inspection of trees and check for instability. Re-firm soil and check tree ties
Three months following planting, and then every April, August and October	Check and adjust tree ties. Check mulch mat and bark chippings, make good if required

Annually every August	Inspect tree to establish if there are any health or growth problems.
August of third year	Carry out formative pruning of the tree. This should be in accordance with BS 3998 guidelines. Remove tree ties and stake, remove mulch mat.
As required during summer months	Water trees as specified. (6.13).
As required	Trees that become seriously weakened, damaged or die are to be replaced.

S.J.A. Shields

Uni Cert For. & F.P. (Bangor)

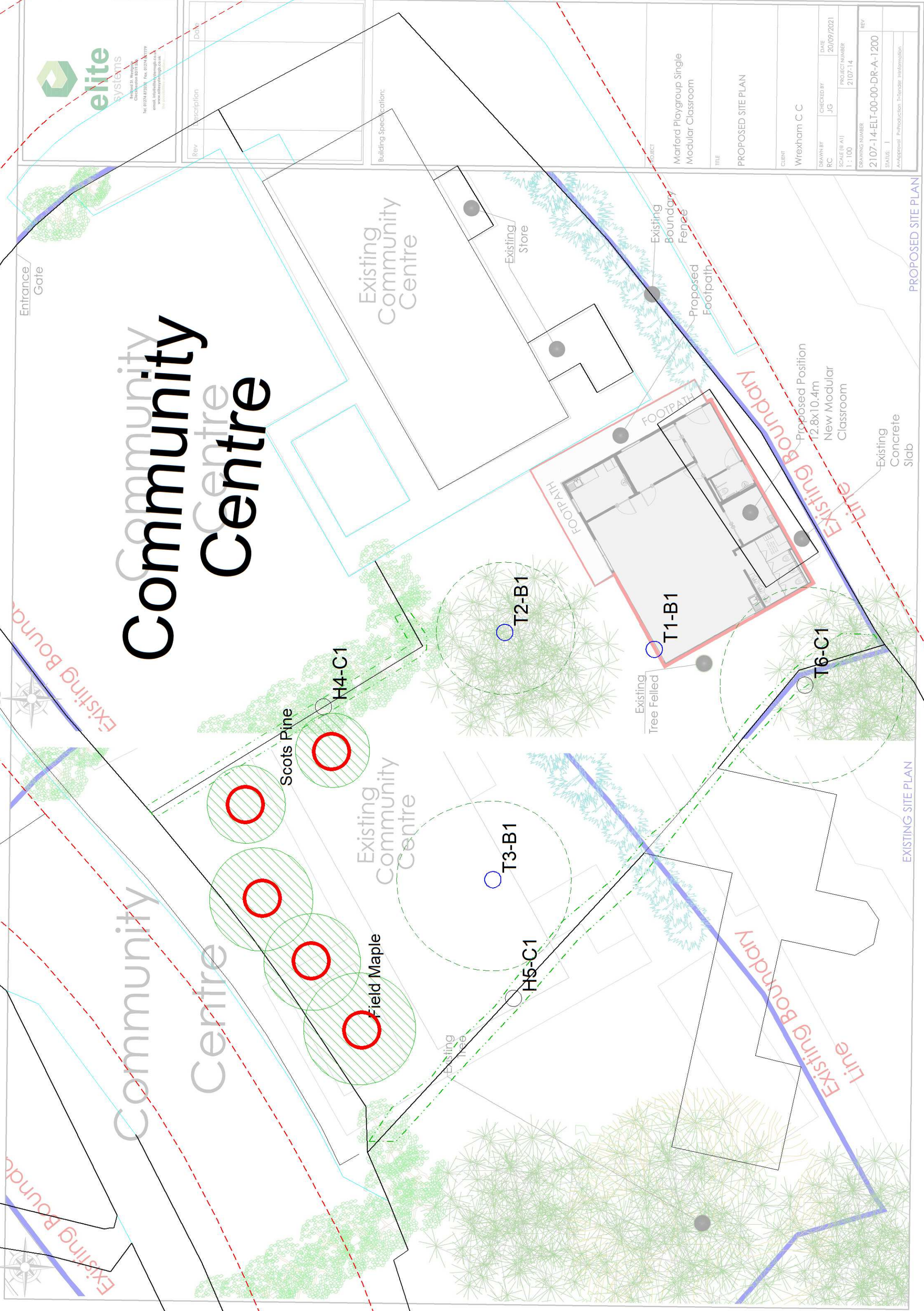
P. Dip. Arb. (RFS), MSc. Arb. & Urban For. (UCLan)

M.Arbor.A, MICFor.

Chartered Forester

10th February 2022

Tree Planting Plan
Overlay
Marford Community Centre
Pant Lane
Marford



- Cat B Tree
- Cat C Tree
- Proposed New Tree
- Canopy Spread Existing
- Projected Canopy Spread New Planting Year 25

Drawing No: MCC/TP/LP/OL/02/22/

Drawn By: S. Shields

Scale: 1:200 @ A2

Date: 10th February 2022

Revision:

Do not scale from this drawing all dimensions to be checked on site
Drawing is colour coded and a monochrome copy should not be relied upon