

## **Tree Planting & Maintenance Scheme**

The Poplars  
Cock Bank Lane  
Marchwiel  
Wrexham  
LL13 0SU

**Ref:**  
TPS/PCB/01/23

**Date:**  
11<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Commissioned by:**  
Mr D. Edwards  
On behalf of  
Blueprint Architectural Services LTD

**Prepared by**  
S. Shields

---

## Tree Planting and Maintenance Scheme

The Poplars  
Cock Bank Lane  
Marchwiel  
Wrexham  
LL13 0SU

*This report, including appendices and attached plans, is the property of Shields Arboricultural Consultancy and is issued for the sole use of the client as identified in section 1.1 on the condition it is not reproduced, retained or disclosed to any unauthorised person, either wholly or in part without the written consent of Shields Arboricultural Consultancy. Ordnance Survey material is used with permission of The Controller of HMSO, Crown copyright 0100031673.*

---

## **Contents**

|            |                                               |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                           |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Scope &amp; Limitations</b>                |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Policy &amp; Strategy</b>                  |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Site Evaluation &amp; Constraints</b>      |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Species / Planting Stock Selection</b>     |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Planting, Protection &amp; Maintenance</b> |

---

## Introduction

- 1.1 Shields Arboricultural Consultancy received instructions from Mr D. Edwards on behalf of Blueprint Architectural LTD to provide a Tree Planting Scheme to support a planning application for the construction of a replacement dwelling.

## 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 To enhance the natural features on the site and to comply with condition 5 of planning permission ref: MAR P/2022/0499 and meet with the requirements of Policy EC4 of the Wrexham Unitary Development Plan.

### *Statutory controls*

- 3.2 Trees are planted subject to a planning condition.

### *Environmental considerations*

- 3.3 The local landscape is rural. No specific environmental constraints affect tree planting in this area.

## Site Evaluation & Constraints

### *General*

- 4.1 The site is situated off Cock Bank Lane and is within open countryside to the south of the village of Marchwiel. It extends to 0.12 hectares and is generally level and at an elevation of 40m AOD. The site has boundaries with the road to the southwest, and open countryside to the north and east and south.

### *Ground assessment*

- 4.2 Soils at the site appear to be free draining and with the exception of the pond to the northeast of the site, no indication of waterlogging. Geological maps indicate deposits of Devensian till over mudstone, siltstone and sandstone bedrock. Existing vegetation indicates that the soil is amenable to rooting although the areas of new hard standing areas would act as a barrier to root development.
- 4.3 Soil was assessed manually and classed as a silt 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 slightly exposed and is at an elevation of 40m 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 The site supports a variety of trees including poplar, sycamore, oak, grand fir and Norway spruce.
- 4.8 There is adequate space available for crown development of small to medium 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. It is proposed to plant 3 Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) 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 |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| Field Maple<br>FM<br>( <i>Acer campestre</i> ) | Standard | 8cm – 10cm     | 2.5m – 3m | 45 lts.          | Container grown   |

- 5.3 The trees and shrubs 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](http://www.greenblue.com) as the preferred planting product and Barcham Trees [www.barcham.co.uk](http://www.barcham.co.uk) as the preferred supplier for the planting stock.

### *Site Preparation Trees & Shrubs*

- 6.2 The proposed planting sites are situated in the existing soft landscape adjacent to the north and southwest boundaries of the site. 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 Tree Protection Plan)

### *Removal of Hard Surface*

- 6.3 Not required.

### *De-compaction of Sub-soil*

- 6.4 Not required.

### *Soil Addition and Improvement*

- 6.5 Not required.

### *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 drawing below. If services are not required beneath the pit then the design can be amended to remove the root barrier. Once the soil has consolidated, the 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.

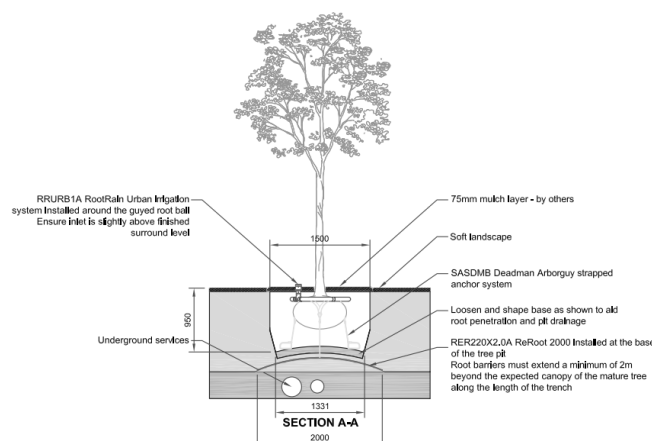


Figure1 Soft Landscape Tree Pit © GreenBlue Urban

---

### *Planting Trees & Shrubs*

- 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, **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 or through the irrigation system after planting. Once planted and firmed the tree must be secure using the Arborguy® system as specified in the drawing or alternatively staked using a double low stake.
- 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 Trees & Shrubs*

- 6.11 The 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 and shrubs 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 where possible. (6.2)                                                 |
| During development                                                        | Undertake planting site restoration (6.2 – 6.5)                                                                                               |
| 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. (6.9 – 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 trees to establish if there are any health or growth problems.                                                                        |
| August of third year                                                      | Carry out formative pruning of the trees. 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 and plants that become seriously weakened, damaged or die are to be replaced.                                                           |

### **S.J.A. Shields**

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

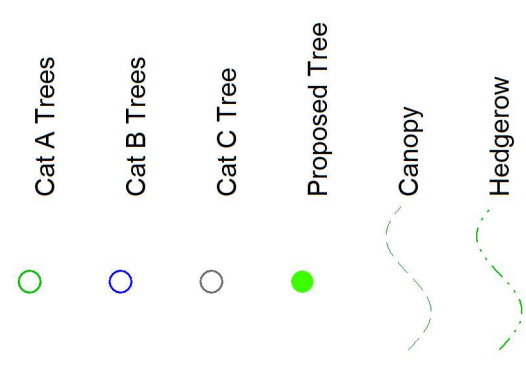
P. Dip. Arb. (RFS), MSc. Arb. & Urban For. (UCLan)

M.Arbor.A, MICFor.

Chartered Forester

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Tree Planting Plan  
The Poplars  
Cock Bank Lane  
Marchweil  
Wrexham



Drawing No: PCB/TPS/01/23

Drawn By: S. Shields

Scale: 1:200 @ A2

Date: 11th January 2023

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

© Shields Arboricultural Consultancy

© Crown copyright and database rights 2022

