

## Management Plan



(Figure 1, Birds eye view of the proposed site with details of boundaries and proposed planting, Source: Google Maps)

### Key:

- Site Boundaries
- Neutral Grassland
- Mixed Native Hedging
- Mixed Native Trees

### Management:

#### Neutral Grassland:

The neutral grassland will be managed by keeping the grass short as to allow access to caravans and vehicles.

However, to improve its ecological value some grass around the borders which verge onto the native hedging will be kept longer as to provide a habitat for invertebrates (Spiders,

Beetles (Coleoptera) and 7-Spot Ladybirds (*Coccinella septempunctata*), and small mammals (Wood mouse (*Apodemus sylvaticus*), Dormouse (*Muscardinus Avellanarius*)).

Allowing this grass to produce seeds may also provide a food source to a range of bird species (Blackbirds (*Turdus Merula*), Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*), Blue tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) and Great tit (*Parus major*)).

In the long-term management this habitat will be maintained by reseeding areas that may become exposed soil as well as allowing other low growing evergreen plants to grow such as Clover (*Trifolium Repens*)).

#### Mixed Native Hedging:

This mixed native hedging will consist of the following plant species: Hawthorn (*Crataegus*), Hazel (*Corylus*), Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)).

These species will be ecologically valuable as all these species flower which will provide a food source to a range of pollinators such as species of bees and butterflies as well as hover flies and ladybirds. Many of these species also produce berries or other seeds which provide a food source for a range of bird species, they also benefit bird species by providing a habitat which provides protection during harsh weather.

A range of invertebrates will also benefit from these plants such as the Hawthorn Shieldbug (*Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale*), Stag beetles (*Lucanus cervus*) and Holly blue butterfly caterpillars (*Celastrina argiolus*)).

The management of these species will include pruning to avoid excessive growth, however this pruning will be done in times of the year to avoid compromising the flowering and seeding processes of these plants (such as in Autumn or Winter) to better benefit the local wildlife. Another method of management will include replacing any plants that may die along the hedgerow.

#### Mixed Native Trees:

These mixed native trees will include species such as White Willow (*Salix alba*), Silver Birch (*Betula Pendula*), Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), Oak () and Apple Trees (*Malus x domestica*)).

These species will be ecologically valuable as many of these species' flower which will provide a food source to a range of pollinators such as species of bees and butterflies as well as hover flies and ladybirds. Many of these species also produce berries or other seeds which provide a food source for a range of bird species, they also benefit bird species by providing a habitat which provides safe perching opportunity and some shelter.

Many invertebrates will also benefit from the planting of these trees as it provides a habitat and food sources for a range of insects such as Aphids (*Aphidoidea*), Beetles, Spiders, Centipedes (*Lithobius forficatus*) and Millipedes (*Diplopoda*)).

The management of these native trees will include utilising wooden supports when the trees are first planted in order to prevent damage from strong winds. Also being utilised will be tree guards to prevent excessive grazing from Deer or livestock.

Pruning may be implemented if there is excessive growth that needs to be managed however this may only be done if absolutely necessary. If excessive growth becomes a problem in the future pollarding or coppicing techniques may be implemented.

If any trees die, which will be more likely to occur while they are still becoming established, the possible reasons of the tree's death will be investigated, such as looking for signs of disease, and the tree will be replaced. This tree will be replaced either with the same species or an alternative native species that may be more suited to the soil type, light levels, etc.