577.Dragon Park, Merthyr Tydfil

planting aftercare

Maintenance operations shall include:
- Litter clearance;
- Watering;
- Control of insects, fungus and other diseases;
- Control of weeds;
- Pruning and trimming;
- Refirming and other operations necessary for proper growth; and
- Regular checking and repair / removal of tree guys/stakes and ties as necessary.

number of visits to site
Sufficient visits must be made to site over the maintenance period and at the appropriate time in order to achieve the standard of maintenance described. A minimum of 6 visits will be required per year, with additional visits during drought or after strong winds or other disturbances.

health & safety legislation
All operations must comply with relevant sections of the following legislation:
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974;
- Control of Pollution Act 1974;
- Food and Environment Protection Act 1985;
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; Schedule 9 Section 14 makes it an offence for anyone to knowingly introduce Japanese Knotweed into the wild.
- The Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986; these regulations require all those who handle or use pesticides (including herbicides) to hold approved Certificates of Comptetence. Only approved pesticides as covered under this Act may be used.
- The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991; these regulations require all producers, carriers and disposers of waste to follow a Code of Practice and keep records. Any material contaminated with Japanese Knotweed is a 'waste' unless treated for re-use.
- The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981; and
- Guidance notes produced by the Health and Safety Executive with respect to safe working practices.

generally

REINSTATEMENT
Reinstate disturbance to soil structure, mulch or planting to original condition

CONTROL OF PESTS
Combat any attack by mammals/fungus/insect/other pests. Submit proposals for control method to CA for approval

WATERING
Supply: Potable mains water.
Quantity: Draw back mulch and wet full depth of topsoil.
Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to root zone.
Frequency: as often as necessary to maintain healthy plant growth.

DISPOSAL OF ARISINGS
Remove from site to approved tip.
Compostable material to be removed to Local Authority recycling collection point.

LITTER/TIPPED MATERIALS
Collect and remove from site.

INVASIVE SCRUB
Cut down to ground level and dig out roots.

KNOTWEED
Appearance of knotweed should be reported to CA for instruction.

PROTECTION OF PAVED AREAS
Protect areas affected by maintenance operations using boards/tarpaulins. Do not place excavated or imported materials directly on paving.

CLEANLINESS
Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
Wherever works impede pedestrian or vehicular access the Contractor shall provide and maintain safe alternative routes alongside the affected work area

WATERING
During establishment and for duration of maintenance period ensure that sufficient water is applied using a hose to maintain healthy growth. During very dry summer spells, trees to be watered at rate of 10L per plant per week during establishment. Where watering tube is not fitted, draw back mulch and water with hose. Do not use sprays or sprinklers as these just wet the top of the mulch and do not penetrate the root zone.

trees and shrubs

REFIRMING OF TREES AND SHRUBS
Timing: After strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
Refirming: Tread around the base until firmly bedded.
Collars in soil at base of tree stems, created by tree movement: Break up by fork, avoiding damage to roots. Backfill with topsoil and refirm.

Ensure trees are vertical and adjust tree guys, stakes or ties as necessary.

If present, ensure that stakes are self supporting and reduce in height by one third each year to complete removal at end of third year. Adjust tie and spacer to top of stake. Ensure stakes do not come into contact with tree directly. If sufficient anchorage has not been established at the end of the third year then tree is to be replaced.

Loosen off tree ties regularly to accommodate new growth.

PRUNING
In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice and at appropriate season for the type of plant.
Prune to remove dead, dying or diseased wood and to promote healthy growth.
Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem.
Wounds: Keep as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood.
Cutting: Make cuts above and sloping away from an outward facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area.
Larger branches: Prune neither flush nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
Appearance: Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well balanced natural appearance.
Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
Disease or fungus: Give notice if detected.
Growth retardants, fungicide or sealant: Do not use unless instructed.
Compostable material to be removed to Local Authority recycling collection point.

FORMATIVE PRUNING OF YOUNG TREES
In accordance with BS3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Work
Time of year: Do not prune during the late winter/early spring sap flow period.
Young trees up to 4 m high:

- Crown prune by removing dead branches and reducing selected side branches by one third to preserve a well balanced head and ensure the development of a single strong leader.
- Remove duplicated branches and potentially weak or tight forks. In each case cut back to live wood.

Whips or feathered trees: Do not prune except to remove damaged wood.

FAILURES OF PLANTING: Plants which have failed to thrive, which are apparent during the maintenance period,may be made good by replanting at discretion of the CA. Review the reason for failure to inform consideration of selecting alternative species, location or replacement soil as directed by CA.

WEED CONTROL GENERALLY
First 3 years: keep planting areas and mulched beds underneath trees clear of pernicious weeds by hand weeding
Weed tolerance: weed cover 5% and not to reach more than 100mm high. Do not damage adjacent plants, trees.

HAND WEEDING
Remove entire weed, including roots.
Remove the minimum quantity of soil, and disturb plants, bulbs and mulched surfaces as little as possible.
Completion: Rake area to a neat, clean condition.

HORTICULTURAL CHEMICALS
Seek approval for use from CA. Are to be used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's latest written instructions and current government regulations and shall only be used by persons holding the relevant NPTC certificate of competence.

MAINTENANCE OF MULCH
Maintain mulch for 3no. years.
Top up mulch annually to maintain 50mm settled depth of bark mulch to specification given below.
Weeding: Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by hand.

HEDGES
New hedges cut in first year late winter to encourage thickening up and thereafter annually in late summer

Subsequently, native hedges to be maintained annually or every 2 years in late winter at 3-4m; garden hedges (except lavender, see below) to be maintained at 1.2m-1.4m by biennial cutting in late summer/winter. Manage so as not invade adjacent footpaths or compromise boundary treatments.

Tall, thick hedgerows are of more value to wildlife than low overly-managed hedges, and provide better screening and softening of the built landscape.

All equipment used for Hedge Cutting shall be appropriate for the task, and must be kept properly maintained and in a well sharpened condition.

grass and wildflowers

CUTTING OF GRASS
The Contractor shall inspect all areas to be mown, and remove litter, stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension and other debris immediately prior to cutting or treatment being undertaken. Cut when grass is reasonably dry.

Grass shall not be cut in adverse weather and ground conditions. Cutting shall only recommence when it is safe to do so without danger of damaging the sward, surface levels or contours of the ground.

LONG GRASS & WILDFLOWERS
These areas provide valuable wildlife habitat including cover for fledgling birds.

First year management of seeded areas (not turf): mow lightly and regularly in between waterings to enable sward to establish; mow at a height of 8-10cm to 5cm, and subsequently every 2 months during the first growing season

Thereafter, and for wildflower turf, 1 cut early in the year, before mid April, then grass and wild flowers allowed to flower and produce seed. Final cut of year at end of summer, using rotoscythe or suitable equivalent.

Allow all arisings to lie on ground for 2 days before removal to allow seed to set. All arisings to compost heap as below, with any excess removed to local authority recycling point

CLOSE MOWN including 1.0m strip along wildflower areas adjacent to paths, seating and all planting beds but not hedgerows. In addition, mow paths through longer areas of flowers in the play area

EDGES
At the time of each cut, trim all grass edges round the base of trees, manholes, etc. and remove arisings. Sweep all adjoining hard areas clear of cuttings and remove.

Form edges to planting beds and around newly planted trees with a suitable edging tool, to clean straight lines or smooth curves. Draw back soil from edges to permit use of edging shears and remove all arisings.

REMOVAL OF ARISINGS
Arisings to be removed to on-site compost heap.

WEED CONTROL
Keep the sward substantially free of pernicious broad leaved weeds by hand removal, ensuring that wild flower species thrive. During first year, ensure that sufficient visits are made to keep complete control over weed growth.

FAILURES OF GRASS: Bare areas, areas of dead grass/flowers that have failed to thrive, which are apparent during the maintenance period, must be made good by recultivation and reseeding with appropriate seed with species and at times agreed with the CA.

FERTILISER
Do not use

PARTICULAR REQUIREMENT FOR SPECIFIC SPECIES:

HYDRANGEA spp
Cut back by one third in late winter/early spring. Allow dried flowerheads to persist during winter for pollinator habitat.

VIBURNUM OPULUS in shrub mixes
Cut back in late winter/early spring to prevent invasive growth into adjacent shrubs

CORNUS spp except Csk
Coppice every 2 years

LAVENDER (in hedges or groups)
Trim lightly each autumn to remove old flower stalks and to shape. Do not cut into old wood

WILLOW POLLARDS (Salix alba)
Pollard branches annually to existing knuckle

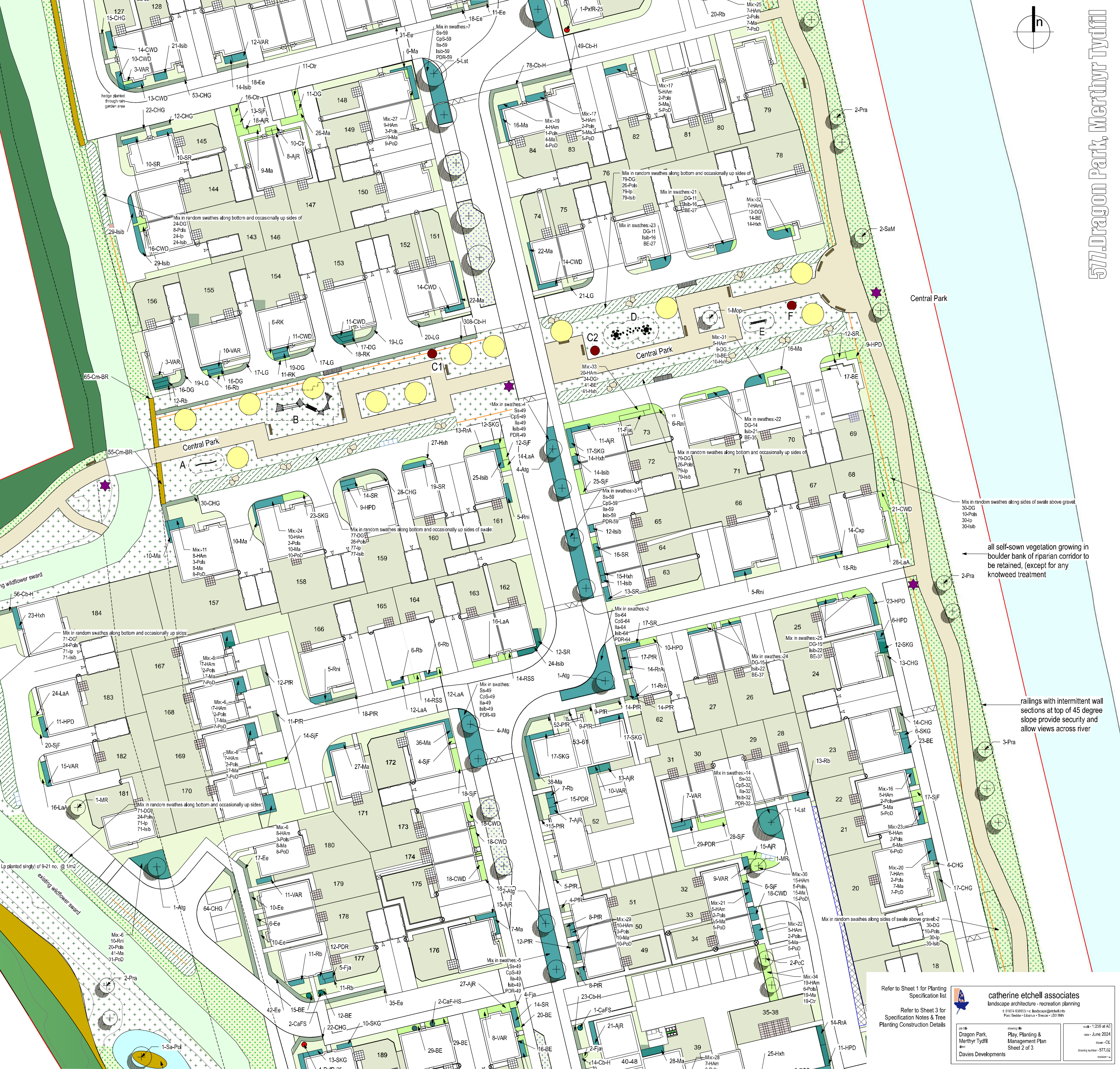
BLACKCURRANT (Ribes nigra)
Prune 30% stems to base each year, cutting oldest stems

MULBERRY (Morus platanifolia)
Trim annually to maintain shape

TOPIARIES (Photinia half standards; Cupressus half standards and spirals)
Trim annually to maintain shape

WILLOW TUNNEL
Trim biennially to maintain shape

ALL STANDARDS AND TREES IN GRASS
Ensure an edged, grass- and weed-free mulched circle 1.2m in diameter is permanently maintained around the base of each stem


n
Central Park
Central Park
Central Park
A
B
C1
C2
D
E
F
G
H
existing wildflower sward
existing wildflower sward
Mix in random swathes along bottom and occasionally up sides of
Mix in random swathes along sides of swale above gravel:
30-DG
10-Pols
30-Ip
30-Isib
all self-sown vegetation growing in boulder bank of riparian corridor to be retained, (except for any knotweed treatment
railings with intermittent wall sections at top of 45 degree slope provide security and allow views across river
hedge planted through rain garden area
Plant in groups (except Lp planted singly) of 9-21 no. @ 1/m2
95-Ca-1
79-Cm-BR
32-Rca
16-Lp
32-Cs
32-Ia-H
32-Psp
1-Qr-fthrd
65-Cm-BR
55-Cm-BR
56-Cb-H
308-Cb-H
78-Cb-H
49-Cb-H
1-PxfR-25
2-Pra
2-SaM
3-Pra
1-Sa-Pol

Plant in groups (except Lp planted singly) of 9-21 no. @ 1/m2
150-Ca-1
125-Cm-BR
50-Rca
25-Lp
50-Cs
50-Ia-H
50-Psp

Central Park

edged gravel path and 'Dinefwr' bench bounded by planting and grass

A
Jupiter Play balancing snake

Fitzpatrick Woolmer waymarkers

B Jupiter Play Scramble Path 906182550R

C1&2
Jupiter Play Talk Tubes

D Jupiter Play totem path

E Jupiter Play Balance Bridge

F
Time Circle 'Polo stone' from timecircles.co.uk

Natural Play Corridor

G suitable site felled or imported tree trimmed to use as climbing feature/informal seating

H
Tunnel built across slope with boulders built into slopes around tunnel

J sand, gravel and selected boulders with stepping stones across edge of pond

K
timber stepping stones

L
logs concreted into turfed slope

M
growing willow tunnel

Refer to Sheet 1 for Planting Specification list

Refer to Sheet 3 for Specification Notes & Tree Planting Construction Details

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job title
Dragon Park,
Merthyr Tydfil
client
Davies Developments

drawing title
Play, Planting &
Management Plan
Sheet 2 of 3

scale • 1:250 at A0
date • June 2024
drawn • CE
drawing number • 577.02
revision • -