

KEY

Significant trees to be retained (approximate position)

Woodland/shrubs to be retained (approximate extent)

Significant trees to be removed (approximate position)

Proposed standard native tree planting

Proposed large feathered native tree planting

Proposed small feathered native tree planting

Trees proposed as part of earlier projects

Proposed native tree and shrub mass planting

Native tree and shrub mass planting proposed as part of earlier application

Proposed fencing

Proposed gabion wall with coursed stonework fill

Proposed topsoil bund

Building (proposed and existing)

Paths, roads, parking etc.

Boulders

Hibernacula/log piles

Swale

Foul drainage

Surface water

Site area (approximate)

NOTES ON THE DETAILED LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS MASTERPLAN

This masterplan should be read in conjunction with the Landscape Maintenance Plan and Landscape Maintenance Programme.



PETER QUINN  
ASSOCIATES

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

01989 768 588  
www.landscapemidlands.co.uk

Project title:  
Bike Parks Wales, Abercanaid

Drawing title:  
Detailed Landscape Proposals Masterplan

Client:  
Bike Parks Wales

Date:  
1st June 2019

Revisions:  

Rev A: 14th Aug 19.  
Amendment of proposed overflow and main parking areas and associated landscape.

Rev B: 4th Oct 19.  
Amendments in line with changes to masterplan. Increase in size of alder.

Drawing number:  
19/461/09 B

# DETAILED LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS MASTERPLAN



## PROPOSED PLANTING

- SITE CLEARANCE**
- Wooded and scrub areas scheduled for development to be cleared as follows:
- Cut all vegetation to ground. Small branches, twig and leaves to be removed and shredded for use as mulch. Larger branches to be removed and used for log piles and hibernacula.
  - Within woodland, remove top organic-rich topsoil layer (topsoil O) to a depth of 200mm below existing surface. Remove to store or re-use immediately as directed below.
  - Within woodland, remove topsoil (topsoil A) from 200-c.400mm below existing surface (or to formation level if shallower). Remove to store or re-use immediately as directed below.
  - Within scrub area, remove topsoil (topsoil A) from surface to c.400mm below existing surface (or to formation level if shallower). Remove to store or re-use immediately as directed below.
  - Remove subsoil to formation level and remove to store or re-use immediately.
- GENERAL PREPARATION AND PLANTING**
- With the exception of areas beneath the canopies of retained trees, all planting beds (ie those to be planted with transplants) to be ripped at 1m centres to 450mm to break up compaction before any topsoil is placed.
  - Topsoil to be minimum 400mm (settled) depth across all beds. A minimum of one month before planting, topsoil A (see above) from site store to be spread across all beds to the required depth. Finished, settled level to be at or above level of adjacent surfaces.
  - All stock to be grown in the UK from British provenance seed gathered within 100miles of Merthyr Tydfil. Stock available from Tythos Trees (www.tythostrees.co.uk) or Wyevalle Nurseries (enquiries@wevalle-nurseries.co.uk).
  - All stock to be supplied with roots wrapped in damp straw inside a black polythene bag. All stock supplied or planted outside planting season (Nov-March) to be container grown.
  - Except where it contradicts this specification, all trees and shrubs to conform to BS 3936.
  - Planting to take place in the autumn following completion of construction within each discrete area. All plants to be planted between the start of November and the end of December subject to seasonal variations.
  - Minimum 1 week prior to planting of transplants, all vegetation within beds to be killed with flame gun directed at the base of each plant.
  - Minimum 1 week prior to planting of feathered trees, a 1m diameter circle of ground is to be cleared of all vegetation with a flame gun as above in the proposed location of each tree where this does not coincide with a planting bed.
  - If planting takes place beyond the bare-root planting season, all plants should be supplied and planted as container grown stock.
  - All transplants to be silt planted. All feathered trees to be pit planted in a pit of minimum size 450mm square, 300mm deep. All standard trees to be pit planted in a pit of minimum size 750mm square, 500mm deep.
  - Immediately after planting, before watering all beds to be forked over by hand to relieve surface compaction.
  - Soil around all plants to be watered with 10 litres of water per plant immediately after forking to ensure settling of soil around roots.
  - After watering, all planting beds to be covered with 100mm settled depth of topsoil O (ie the organic-rich layer stripped from the top 200mm). Do not compact or fork in.

- TRANSPLANTS**
- The following notes refer only to trees and shrubs shown mass planted in beds (within green lines on the plan) and not shown individually. Other tree species (shown individually by crosses within circles on the plan) to be planted as per TREES section below.
  - Holly to be grown in single species groups of 3-10. Other shrub species (hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn) to be planted in single species groups of 10-25 where numbers in bed allow. Where numbers in bed do not allow planting in groups of this size, plants in groups of 3-10.
  - Tree species to be planted in single species groups of 5-15 where numbers in bed allow. Where numbers in bed do not allow planting in groups of this size, plants in groups of 3-5.

- TREES**
- The following notes refer only to trees shown on the plan by a cross within a circle. Other tree species to be planted as per TRANSPLANTS section above.
  - Trees are to be planted in positions as shown on plan prior to planting of transplants.
  - All feathered trees to be planted with single short (1200mm long, 700mm above ground) stake. Stake to be pressure-treated softwood minimum 50mm cross section and driven into ground at an angle of c.45° to cross tree stem at c.400mm above GL. Stem to be secured to stake with light-duty rubber tree tie 6 spacer. Stake to be angled in line with prevailing wind.
  - All standard trees to be planted with 2 short (1350mm long, 600mm above ground) stakes with crossbar, tree tie 6 spacer. Stakes to be Robinia or pressure treated softwood min 75mm diameter installed before tree is planted. The stakes should be secured to stake with light-duty rubber tree tie 6 spacer. Stake to be angled in line with prevailing wind.
  - A 600mm diameter 100mm deep circle of mulch (composted woodchip or composted shredded twigs/branches) to be applied after planting around all trees in grass.
  - Wood from basal parts of trees infected with honey fungus, Phytophthora root rot, or parts of trees infected with stem diseases such as verticillium wilt or coral spot should not be used as mulch.

## DISTURBED GROUND

- GENERAL**
- It is proposed that soft landscape areas disturbed during the construction process, that are not scheduled for mass planting with trees and shrubs, should be seeded at 5g/sqm with BS584 Woodland Heavy Shade Willow/Seed Mix (by Boston Seeds).
  - Such areas left without topsoil after works, should be spread with min 150mm of topsoil O (ie the organic-rich layer stripped from the top 200mm) from the site store before seeding.
  - Topsoil spreading should only take place when topsoil is neither dry and dusty nor so moist that the structure is likely to be damaged by machine passage or handling.
  - Unless otherwise stated, finished levels of topsoil after settlement to be level with adjoining paving, kerbs, manholes etc. and should be feathered into adjacent undisturbed areas.

- PREPARATION**
- In order to limit damage to its structure, topsoil is to be subject to a minimum of handling and cultivation. It is to be left in a condition upon placing that will not leave it vulnerable to compaction and sheetwash during heavy rain.
  - Disturbed areas outside of existing woodland: topsoil to be levelled to break up clods of earth, remove ridges and bumps and fill hollows. The topsoil should be left with a fairly rough surface with lumps <120mm in size.
  - Disturbed areas within existing woodland: topsoil to be roughly levelled to break up larger clods of earth (>200mm), remove large ridges (>300mm high) and large bumps (>300mm high) and fill deep hollows (>300mm deep). The topsoil should be left with a rough surface with lumps <200mm in size. Do not carry out levelling that will break tree roots or cover them with an overburden of more than 200mm.
  - As the native topsoil is clayey, rotavators and other power cultivators shall not be used on this site for any operation. Use of such machinery would destroy topsoil structure and would produce a scaped layer which would impede establishment. Such treatment would also be likely to lead to sheetwash during heavy rain. All cultivation works to be carried out with harrows, digger buckets or by hand as appropriate. Levelling with digger buckets should be carried out by drawing toothed bucket across surface and not by compaction with back of bucket or by tracking over surface. Machinery should not be driven beneath canopies of trees except along hard surfacing (ie drives, roads and parking).

## PLANTING: SCHEDULE.

### STANDARD TREES (large cross within large circle)

| Symb. | Species         | English name | Size                   | No |
|-------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|----|
| AgTX  | Alnus glutinosa | Common Alder | 18-20 X Heavy standard | 24 |

### LARGE FEATHERED TREES (large cross within small circle)

| Symb. | Species          | English name    | Size              | No |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----|
| Ag    | Alnus glutinosa  | Common Alder    | 175-200 feathered | 30 |
| Qrx   | Quercus robur    | Pedunculate oak | 175-200 feathered | 57 |
| Sau   | Sorbus aucuparia | Rowan           | 175-200 feathered | 49 |

### SMALL FEATHERED TREES (small cross within small circle)

| Symb. | Species          | English name    | Size              | No  |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----|
| Ag    | Alnus glutinosa  | Common Alder    | 125-150 feathered | 130 |
| Bpe   | Betula pendula   | Silver Birch    | 125-150 feathered | 137 |
| Bpu   | Betula pubescens | Hairy Birch     | 125-150 feathered | 135 |
| Qp    | Quercus petraea  | Sessile oak     | 125-150 feathered | 265 |
| Qr    | Quercus robur    | Pedunculate oak | 125-150 feathered | 214 |
| Sau   | Sorbus aucuparia | Rowan           | 125-150 feathered | 105 |

### TRANSPLANTS (within mass planting beds) total No 3,950

| Symb. | Species            | English name    | Size             | No  |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----|
| Ag    | Alnus glutinosa    | Common Alder    | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 343 |
| Bpe   | Betula pendula     | Silver Birch    | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 258 |
| Bpu   | Betula pubescens   | Hairy Birch     | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 273 |
| Ca    | Corylus avellana   | Hazel           | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 947 |
| Cmo   | Crataegus monogyna | Hawthorn        | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 422 |
| la    | Ilex aquifolium    | Holly           | P9               | 208 |
| Pu    | Prunus spinosa     | Blackthorn      | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 345 |
| Qp    | Quercus petraea    | Sessile oak     | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 389 |
| Qr    | Quercus robur      | Pedunculate oak | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 316 |
| Sau   | Sorbus aucuparia   | Rowan           | 40-60 1u1 or 1+1 | 175 |

Mass planting beds total area = 4,828 sqm.

## PROPOSED HABITAT PILES

A total of 12 habitat piles are shown across the area of development within woodland and more open areas. Around half of the habitat piles should be hibernacula and the other half, log piles. They should be constructed as follows:

### CONSTRUCTION OF HIBERNACULA

- In areas beneath tree canopies and in waterlogged ground, hibernacula to be constructed on surface. Elsewhere, in open areas, where the ground is not waterlogged, remove and set aside turfs and excavate a hole c. 500mm deep (or until the bedrock whichever is the shallower) and c.2m long and 1.25m wide.
- Large branches (>24mm diameter) and logs from clearance and maintenance works should be cut into lengths no less than 1m in length.
- Branches and logs to be piled (laid approximately horizontally) within hole to a height of c. 900mm above ground level. Large rocks (200-400mm) may also be incorporated.
- Logs (and stones if used) to be completely covered with soil from the excavation. 2 or 3 openings should be created in each hibernaculum at or near ground level for reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates to gain access to spaces between logs in interior. Rocks should be used to form permanent entrances.
- Cover hibernaculum with turves (if available) retaining openings.
- Hibernacula should be stable, no higher than 1.2m and sited away from access and parking as shown on the plan.

### CONSTRUCTION OF LOG PILES

- Large branches (>24mm diameter) and logs from clearance and maintenance works should be cut into lengths no less than 2.5m in length.
- Branches and logs to be piled (laid approximately horizontally) to a height of c. 900mm above ground level.
- Log piles should be stable, no higher than 1.2m high and sited away from access and parking in a variety of situations: shade, partial shade, sun.
- Around half of the total number of log piles should be lightly covered in topsoil O. The other half of the piles should remain uncovered except for a partial covering of leaves.

Should there be an insufficient supply of timber at the time of construction, hibernacula and log piles should be constructed as timber becomes available from ongoing landscape maintenance. Branches smaller than 24mm diameter should be piled as described in the Landscape Maintenance Programme.