

Landscape, Biodiversity & Amenity Strategy

The landscape proposals will provide an attractive setting to the proposed housing and integrate the development into the surrounding community.

- Key concepts include provision of
- wildlife corridors wrapping around Dragon Park and connecting to the Taff riparian corridor and the wider countryside
 - pedestrian and cycling connectivity through Dragon Park and easy links to cycling and footpath trails around Merthyr Tydfil
 - provision for active play, including bike and trim trails and doorstep play along Central Park

Trees within and around the development will soften views from surrounding countryside and settlement.

Channel Park will be planted with trees and native wildflowers which benefit species such as birds, pollinators and bats. Two ponds will provide valuable wetland habitat and provide receptor sites for translocated marshy grassland. As well as improving biodiversity, the corridor will encourage wildlife into new back gardens.

Surface water and roof water will be captured and drained into the rain gardens and onwards to the Southern gateway pond. Soils will be specified to ensure that plants grow in a moist but well drained rootzone, with water temporarily stored and then draining into pipes to be transported further down the drainage chain.

Rain gardens further enhance biodiversity, and planting here will be specified to tolerate the aspect (sun/shade) and the drainage (wet/dry/mesic).

For Ecology information, refer to Ecological Services Ltd Ecological Impact Assessment, Reptile Survey

For Arboricultural information, refer to ArbTS Ltd Tree Survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment

For SUDS details, refer to Quad Consult Ltd Dainage Strategy

examples of naturalistic play



Jupiter Play 'totem path'



living willow tunnel



Jupiter Play 'balancing snake'



turf amphitheatre



legend

- proposed ornamental planting/amenity turf
- proposed planted private rain gardens
- proposed swales
- proposed bioretention gardens along streets
- proposed pond
- proposed amenity turf and/or seed
- proposed hedgerow
- marshy grassland for translocation
- calcareous grassland for translocation
- open space native vegetation existing and proposed
- open space grassland: translocated wildflower & grass topsoil oversown if necessary; existing grassland retained
- existing dual-use footpath/ SUDS channel sown with wildflower mix
- proposed tree
- proposed small ornamental trees; suited to mesic (rain garden) or dry conditions
- key views
- key pedestrian and/or cyclist links with contrasting surfaces

Revision B February 2023: Easement increased and layout amended to suit; low stone walls added
Revision A November 2022: Amended layout including 'Central Park' and addition of NE corner, rain gardens added, further ecology detail



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job title
**Dragon Park,
Merthyr Tydfil**
client
Davies Developments

drawing title
**Landscape, Biodiversity
& Amenity Strategy**

scale • 1:1000 at A1
date • August 2022
drawn • CE
drawing number • 577.01
revision • B

577.Dragon Park, Merthyr Tydfil