

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

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LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENTS

- ① **DECIDUOUS SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND**
 2.200M2 - 0.23HA - 0.5A
 Expansion of the existing cover to form a long-term native-deciduous woodland assists in establishing the quantity of cover in the landscape. Typical varieties would effect locally abundant species and include a dominant percentage of oak supplemented with alder, sycamore, beech and a small quantity of birch. The mid-level layer would include larger bushy species to form thickets with species such as holly, hawthorn and hazel. The mid-level layer would be further supported by a rich ground layer of spreading and naturalising varieties such as wild garlic, ferns and shade tolerant grasses. Within the woodland border trees and herbaceous are promoted to ensure opportunities are provided for a wide species diversity to colonise.
- ② **GRAZED PADDOCKS**
 7720M2 - 7.75HA - 15A
 77% of heavily grazed fields to be reverted to a simple meadow mix and over sown with a native meadow mix, then managed through low intensity grazing to maintain the sward. Additional planting of Oak and native hardwood trees to small groups and specimen trees to define the landscape character adjacent to the plantation. The additional tree planting creates a visually varied experience whilst safety frames views and minimises the dominant visual quality of the plantation. To permit unobstructed grazing and consistency of sward, livestock are permitted to roam the land in direct view of the proposed house.
- ③ **SPECIES RICH GRASSLAND MARGINS**
 1.700M2 - 0.17HA - 0.5A
 A species rich grassland is located adjacent to the woodland copse. The area of sowing grass recreates lost meadow grass habitats, encourage biodiversity and connectivity between the site and wider ecological network. Grassland to be sown planted with seasonal naturalising native wild flowers such as Ox-eye Daisy and Cow Parsley to reinforce the rural character.
- ④ **PROPOSED HEDGEROW**
 245M
 A mixed native hedgerow is proposed at woodland and field edges around the site, restoring lost habitats and providing valuable biodiversity and connectivity with the wider landscape. Species would typically include a mix of Fielding, flowering and ornamental varieties for year-round interest and the opportunity to support extended seasonal foraging. Typical species would include hawthorn, blackthorn, field maple, holly, yew, hornbeam, sweet, hazel and dog rose.
- ⑤ **EXISTING HEDGEROW ENHANCEMENT**
 210M
 Where broken and fragmented hedgerows exist, gap fill with a native hedge mix and reinstate with the need generation hedgerow trees.
- ⑥ **PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY**
 530M
 The open character of this corridor is retained and where possible the landscape enhanced to improve the quality of driving and experience. Enhancements include the reinstating of hedgerows, native grassland trees and shrubs. Trees to the wider landscape are retained though a mix of structural and specimen trees. The proposed native hedgerow adjacent to the house will reinstate views of the building from the RPOW yet permit small grasses regarding both privacy and the quality of walking experience.
- ⑦ **DYKE AND ARRIVAL VALLEY**
 The dyke leads north from the front of the landscape, increasing in height and width towards the proposed house. The brick store and upper ground floor elements of the building are carefully located at the high point of the dyke and journey destination. The dyke seeks to minimise views of vehicles from the house and wider landscape whilst retaining the areas of rural and agricultural as part of the arrival experience. A permeable gravel arrival space sits within a gentle and intimate valley bowl with stepped or ramped access to the front door. The valley sides of the bowl are planted with drifts of ferns, bushes for naturalising and swathes of grasses, both in character and foregrounding of the dyke stone structure.
- ⑧ **ARRIVAL ZONE, PERMEABLE GRAVEL**
 275M²
 Space being the hatched areas through the wider landscape, the permeable gravel surface assists to an informal gravel to slow movement and maintain wider permeability. The flat form of the material does not compete with the architecture or landscape setting, whilst simple areas of hard landscape surrounding the building footprint and entrance ensure a fitting level of quality at these transition points. Permeable parking is contained in a general subterranean garage accessed from the drive, whilst visitor parking is located within a sudden footpath near the house entrance.
- ⑨ **HOUSE SETTING**
 The proposed setting includes a rolling dyke which envelops the subterranean accommodation and seeks to embrace the site levels and contours. By wrapping a large proportion of the building in landscape, across a significant level change, a series of exciting external spaces are incorporated which include:

 - ① A separate access to underground parking and secondary sheltered access within a gentle valley of trees, species rich grasses and stone retaining wall.
 - ② A gentle driving gravel arrival dyke and surface gravel parking court draw movement to the front door and arrival court framed by an open space of drystone walls which provide protection, present views to the east whilst containing an intimate evening sitting area.
 - ③ Reed water drains, vulnerable to a pond overlooked from the gallery arrival. Excess water overflows to a culch through over the Ha Ha to encourage herbicide to be visually part of the living experience.
 - ④ A simple lawn and Ha Ha provides level open space to the lower ground.
 - ⑤ A green roof planted with species rich grass and bound to the east side with a dry stone wall continues the dyke from through the building.
 - ⑥ A level area of garden frames kitchen views to the east whilst providing a sunny family terrace close to the main living area. Below the kitchen windows a small stepping garden wraps around a dining terrace surrounded by lawn for informal use.
 - ⑦ Leading from the family garden a gentle mower footpath provides access to the lower lawn through a species rich grassland and meadow planting. Small trees within the house in the setting without obstructing distant views. A small seating area within the long grass provides an opportunity to embrace the wider landscape.
- ⑩ **H.A.H.A**
 Site won stone is utilised to create a ha ha at the south west garden boundary allowing an unobstructed view of grazing stock. The wall reinforces establishment boundaries within the local landscape whilst providing suitable habitat for banking invertebrates.
- ⑪ **NATIVE WOODLAND CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT**
 400M
 Flanking either side of the 400m plantation drive a permeable native woodland corridor exists. Enhancement management would include the removal of invasive wood species such as brambles and nettles, with great introduction of a woodland ground layer of ferns, spring bulbs and naturalising species to increase habitat diversity and seasonal interest. Management will additionally include planting of new generation specimen trees and a diversification of species from predominantly Ash to a broader deciduous native mix, this will ensure greater woodland resilience to disease. Within the mix a high proportion of Beech would be recommended as a reference to the valley's name, Beech Slack and assumed historic character.
- ⑫ **PLANTATION MANAGEMENT**
 14.500M² - 4.45HA - 12.8A
 Over an extended period of time a gradual reversion from coniferous plantation species to native deciduous woodland is recommended, including a species rich ground layer to improve visual and ecological value within the wider landscape. During the re-planting program ensure the woodland edges are sculpted to improve foraging habitat for birds and bats. As part of the plantation management a steady thinning of the trees in the northern extent is recommended as a priority. This will ensure the framed view experienced from the house to the landscape beyond is not congested as the conifer matures.
- ⑬ **DRY STONE WALL REINSTATEMENT**
 Restore dilapidated dry stone walls where possible to ensure the recognised elements of the landscape are retained.
- ⑭ **CORSE MANAGEMENT**
 Continue ongoing management of naturalising Corse within the landscape to ensure the native species does not dominate areas with greater ecological diversity and landscape value.

LOW PARK MAY 2020 SCALE 1:1500 AND 1:500 @A0 REV F

