NEW MILL ROAD, HOLMFIRTH
for Signature Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd

WILDFLOWER AREA METHOD STATEMENT

ROSETTA
LANDSCAPE DESIGN

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See drawing 3646/2 (Detailed Landscape Proposals – Phase 1)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Method Statement has been drawn up to assist Kirklees Council and the developer in overseeing the establishment of wildflower areas within a proposed housing development by Signature Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd.

1.2 The document seeks to describe the landscape operations, and materials that would be used, necessary to ensure the successful establishment of these areas and their future continuation as an attractive feature of the site.

1.5 The document also includes a section of useful telephone numbers and addresses.

1.6 This Statement will be included as part of the specification and schedule of works issued to the building contractor and will form part of the contract. The Statement will be available on site for inspection.

2.0 SITE SURVEY

2.1 As a precursor to any meadow establishment project is recommended that a site survey is carried out by a suitably qualified person with a good botanical knowledge and understanding of UK grassland habitats and management. Grassland management can significantly affect diversity and wildflowers may be present within the seed bank that will return under the correct management. It is vital to undertake a survey of existing vegetation, hydrology and site conditions to inform decisions for meadow establishment.

2.2 The areas on site selected for a species rich wildflower meadow should be free of pernicious weeds such as nettle, creeping thistle, docks, and vigorous grasses, which will result in less competition with the desired wildflowers for nutrients and water. Low soil fertility is also important for meadow establishment and the level of available phosphorous is the most important nutrient that influences grassland diversity. It is therefore recommended that a soil test is carried out to establish levels of available nutrients Nitrogen (N), Phosphorous (P), Potassium (K) in addition to soil pH.

3.0 SEED MIX SELECTION

3.1 It is important that the correct plant species are selected that are adapted to the local site conditions and resemble the semi-natural plant communities of the local area. The plant species must be matched to soil type (pH), fertility, hydrology and topography. A wildflower and grass mix of 80:20 is normally recommended but this should not include vigorous grasses as these will compete with wildflowers for resources.

3.2 If vigorous grasses are a problem within any area chosen for wildflower areas the introduction of yellow rattle should be considered. This can be highly effective in reducing vigour of grasses as the plant is parasitic on the roots of plants especially grasses.

3.3 Alternatively, If the proposed area has very high levels of available nutrients certain wildflower species can be planted that thrive in high nutrient environments but still provide a valuable habitat. Native provenance seed can be sourced from reputable suppliers that follow the Flora Locale Code of Conduct for supply of Native Flora. If your site is in or near an environmentally sensitive area such as a designated site for nature conservation you should not introduce seed from outside the local area.

4.0 GROUND PREPARATION

4.1 The soil must be prepared for seed sowing to create open areas for the seed to germinate. When creating a wildflower meadow from a cleared site the aim is to produce a firm weed-free tilth, through soil cultivation, to promote healthy germination. It is occasionally necessary to remove the topsoil in areas of high fertility (and disposed of offsite or used elsewhere on site within ornamental beds) as these soils tend to promote the growth of more vigorous grasses and pernicious weeds

4.2 On heavy clay soils some topsoil may need to be replaced but on chalk or limestone the seed can be broadcast directly onto the chalk substrate. To remove docks and thistles, nettles and weed grasses, the site should be treated with herbicide (following the manufacturer's instructions) prior to seed bed cultivation. Several applications may be required after further cultivation and to remove weed flushes.

5.0 SOWING

5.1 In most cases the wildflower seed will be sown into bare ground. In this instance the sowing process will be:

- Mix seed - regularly mix to ensure even species distribution
- Surface broadcast with a fertilizer spreader (at a rate of 5g/m2 (50kg/ha 80:20 grass/flower mixes) or 1.0g/m2 (10kg/ha pure wild flower mixtures).
- Bulk up small seeding rates with sand or sawdust
- Use a Cambridge Roller to firm the seed bed

5.2 If the site already contains a degree of wildflower diversity, old meadow grasses and no pernicious weeds it may be preferable to retain this diversity and work with the existing vegetation. In these cases, the sowing process would be:

- Treat existing vegetation with herbicide
- Shallow cultivate site with a rotovator and roll to consolidate ground to keep in moisture
- Harrow or treat weed regrowth
- Power harrow to create fine surface tilth
- Final spray if required
- Surface sow the seed and roll

5.3 Providing a good tilth can be prepared, the optimal time for seed sowing is in late summer/early autumn, so that seeds are not exposed to rising soil temperatures but rather will be exposed to cold moist temperatures over winter, which can help break dormancy of some species. If sown too late in autumn seedlings may be killed off by frosts.

5.4 For sowing in areas of land that are prone to winter flooding, the months of March/April may also be suitable.

6.0 MAINTENANCE

6.1 *First Year*

The management requirements in the first year of meadow establishment will depend on the soil fertility, but the primary aim is to control weeds and reduce competition from grasses in the first year. Keep the sward

short in the first year until the end of June to reduce competition and stop in July and August to allow any wildflowers to seed. Remove all cut material to avoid smothering the sward. Where persistent weeds are a problem, spot treat with broad spectrum herbicide or dig-out.

6.2 *Future Years*

Keep grass short until April/May in a summer flowering meadow and remove cuttings. The second cut should take place at the end of the flowering season during September/October (the flowering period may alter slightly according to climatic conditions and plant communities). Remove all cuttings. The site may require further cuts in the autumn period to remove untidy growth in an extended growing season.

6.3 *Maintenance Summary*

FIRST YEAR • First cut 5cm March/April (Spring Seeding 1st cut in May) • Cut every 2 months or when sward reaches approx. 15 cm • Stop cutting in June-August to allow wildflowers to seed • Final cut September/October • Remove all cuttings

FUTURE YEARS • First cut 5cm March/April • Second cut 5 cm September/October • Remove all cuttings

6.4 *Cornfield Annuals*

If cornfield annuals are present, make the first cut in early March and a second cut once the flowering period is over, i.e., during September/October. Harrow in Autumn or Spring to regenerate the annuals.

7.0 MONITORING

7.1 Monitoring of the established grassland is important to determine requirements for weed control and management.

7.2 Botanical surveys at fixed points within the meadow should be carried out for at least the first 5 years by a suitably qualified person to determine the level of vegetation establishment, species abundance, sward height, vegetation cover and flowering potential.

8.0 COMPLETION MEETING

8.1 Upon completion of all the works specified above and procedures also specified, the developer's arboriculturist will invite the local authority's landscape officer to meet on site to discuss the process and to agree on any remedial works required.

9.0 USEFUL NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

9.1 The developer – Signature Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd, Whitby Court, Abbey Road, Shepley, HUDDERSFIELD HD8 8EL
Tel: 07919 445 467

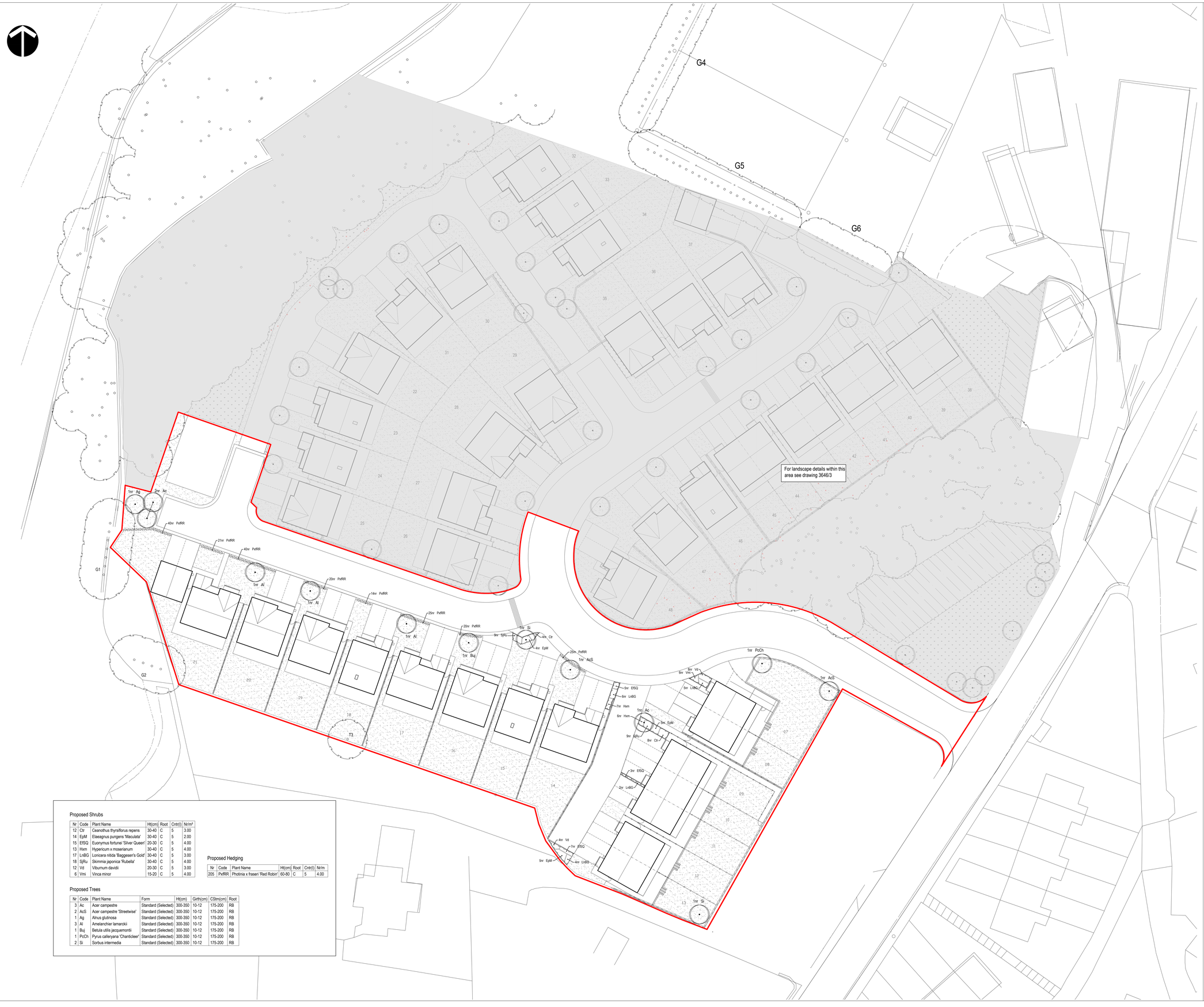
9.2 The developer's landscape architect – Rosetta Landscape Design, Swallow's Nest, Main Street, Askham Richard, YORK, YO23 3PT

Tel: +44 (0)1904 500410

9.3 The developer's architect - LOROC Architects, 25a Park Square West, LEEDS LS1 2PW
Tel: 0113 233 7755

mp/ROSETTA LANDSCAPE DESIGN

14 Jun 22
projects/docs/3646-wfms-14jun22



Proposed Shrubs

Nr	Code	Plant Name	Ht(cm)	Root	Cntr(l)	Nr/m²
12	Ctr	Ceanothus thyrsiflorus repens	30-40	C	5	3.00
14	EpM	Elaeagnus pungens 'Maculata'	30-40	C	5	2.00
15	EfSQ	Euonymus fortunei 'Silver Queen'	20-30	C	5	4.00
13	Hxm	Hypericum x moserianum	30-40	C	5	4.00
17	LnBG	Lonicera nitida 'Baggesen's Gold'	30-40	C	5	3.00
18	SjRu	Skimmia japonica 'Rubella'	30-40	C	5	4.00
12	Vd	Viburnum davidii	20-30	C	5	3.00
6	Vmi	Vinca minor	15-20	C	5	4.00

Proposed Hedging

Nr	Code	Plant Name	Ht(cm)	Root	Cntr(l)	Nr/m
205	PvRR	Photinia x fraseri 'Red Robin'	60-80	C	5	4.00

Proposed Trees

Nr	Code	Plant Name	Form	Ht(cm)	Girth(cm)	CSm(cm)	Root
3	Ac	Acer campestre	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
2	AcS	Acer campestre 'Streetwise'	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
1	Ag	Alnus glutinosa	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
3	Al	Amelanchier lamarckii	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
1	Buj	Betula utilis jacquemontii	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
1	PcCh	Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB
2	Si	Sorbus intermedia	Standard (Selected)	300-350	10-12	175-200	RB

This drawing has been prepared for the purpose of planning approval.

Planting Notes

Topsoil shall be a minimum of 400mm depth over planting beds and graded to fall. Imported topsoil must be BS3882:2007 compliant and existing topsoil must be cultivated in accordance with BS3882:2007. No cultivation should take place in wet/ waterlogged conditions.
Herbicide and cultivation: Topsoil to be treated with two applications of herbicide prior to planting, where necessary, strictly in accordance with the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (as amended 1997 or, otherwise, updated/superseded legislation) and following manufacturer's instructions by qualified staff. The topsoil shall than be cultivated to 150mm depth.
Planting: All planting and turfing shall conform to BS:3936:1992 and BS:4428:1989.
Trees: Standard trees to be planted in pits 800x800x450mm or dimensions of rootball, whichever is greater. Tree to be supported by 1Nr stake (1500mm long, per tree, 600mm above ground, 75mm diameter) and 1Nr bio-degradeable tie. Alginure soil improver and 150g Enmag (or, equivalent) to be incorporated into the soil of all new tree pits. Trees to be planted centrally within a tree pit. Trees planted within grass to have 1m diameter circle around stem kept clear of vegetation using mechanical or chemical means.
Container grown shrubs, transplants and whips: Shrubs and transplants shall be planted in pits 300x300x400mm depth), and the backfill shall include 3 litres of peat-free tree and shrub compost. Where two or more shrub species are indicated within a single bed each species shall be randomly mixed throughout the bed in groups of 3/5.
Herbicide: Spot treat with herbicide throughout the maintenance period in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
Mulch: Planting beds to receive 75mm depth pulverized ornamental bark mulch. Native woodland/edge plants to be planted with 800g flax fibre mulch mat pinned to soil. Native hedgerow to be planted through 800g flax fibre mulch roll, edges tucked. Ensure the top of the mulch layer is a minimum of 15mm below adjacent pavements and other surfaces, to prevent spillage.
Plant position: Final position of trees and shrubs subject to confirmation of service location and approval of statutory undertakers.
Ornamental hedging: Hedges to comprise a single row of plants. 400mm wide trench excavated to take plants and topsoil cultivated to 400mm depth prior to application of fertiliser.
Grass: All turfs/seeded areas to be cultivated and levelled as required removing any stones, rubble, subsoil, general construction waste.
Planting Season: Bare-root plants to be planted between mid-November and mid-March dependant upon the planting season.

LEGEND

- Site boundary
- Existing tree to be retained
- Existing tree to be removed
- Proposed tree Standard (Selected)
- Proposed shrub bed
- Proposed hedge
- Proposed grass

Base: LOROC 'Phase 1 Site Plan Layout', 1602 111 Rev H

PROJECT	New Mill Road, Holmfirth		
TITLE	Detailed Landscape Proposals - Ph 1		
CLIENT	Signature Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd		
DATE	22 Jul 21	SCALE 1 : 250	SHEET A0
DRAWN	MP/jr	DRAWING NO	3646/2
CHECKED	MP	REVISION	-

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