

PLANTING SPECIFICATION FOR VINE LANE

21.09.21

PROPOSAL SUMMARY:

To propose landscaping and planting to enhance the amenity of the house, extending the livable area. Introduce planting to attract pollinators, birds and other wildlife while providing planting that is low maintenance to suit the occupants needs.

Please read in conjunction with:

- 101 Front Garden Plan
- 102 Planting 1 *including schedules*
- 103 Planting 2 *including schedules*
- 104 Front Garden details 1
- 105 Front Garden details 2

FENCING

No change to fencing. Existing Venetian panels retained and existing close boarded fencing to southern boundary stained black.

SOFT LANDSCAPING

PREPARATION

Ground preparation (drainage):

Planting areas should have sufficient drainage and not hold water and become waterlogged. Planting mix to be adjusted if areas too wet for planting.

General planting areas should be free from weeds. Turn over soil to 450mm if soil structure is harder than that which yields easily to a spade.

Grass areas to be excavated to a depth of 150mm.

Tree pits: In areas of poor drainage are identified a layer of stone consisting of 200mm deep of clean aggregate 50mm nominal size in the base of the tree pit topped with a geotextile blanket to reduce contamination of the drainage layer by fines should be installed. This will allow surplus water to drain freely from the rooting zone.

Be vigilant of ground compaction created during general building works and remediate where required.

Topsoil:

Excavated topsoil to be inspected for defined granular or blocky structure and to be free from non-soil material, contamination from sub-soil, brick and other building materials before being returned to the ground. Sieving may be required to obtain suitable texture. Imported topsoil should be used to make up the ground where required.

Imported Top-Soil: Imported topsoil shall be of good quality, with a light texture, and conform to BS 3882 'General Purpose Category'. The top-soil shall be free from stone, rubbish of any kind, roots of perennial weed or any other injurious matter.

The finished level of topsoil above the tops of kerb and edges shall be 25mm after settlement.

Soil Conditioner/Compost:

One of the following (subject to soil analysis report) spread over planted areas at recommended rate prior to cultivation:

- Green compost.
- Composted bark, cocoa shell or coir.
- Manure: Well-rotted horse or farmyard dung but not poultry or pig manure.
- Mushroom compost: Spent mushroom beds containing only well-rotted manure, peat, chalk and residual mushroom growth.
- Leaf mould: Well-rotted broad leaves from deciduous trees but not ash, poplar or sycamore leaves.

Mulch :

Mulch of planting areas generally to be coniferous bark flakes, 15 - 100mm grade containing no wood or weed seeds. Mulch to be applied at a depth of 75mm compacted thickness over the weed free surface of planting areas. A minimum collar of 100mm to be left free of mulch around woody stems to prevent the risk of rot.

INSTALLATION

Planting

Generally

All shrubs shall conform to BS 3936 Part 1 and BS4428 and BS 3936-5:1985 and shall be free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders

Plants to be planted at the depth of the nursery soil marks on the stems and well firmed around the roots. Planting shall not take place in periods of frost or waterlogged ground conditions.

Roots shall remain protected from desiccation until plants are ready for planting. Before planting remove any non-perishable containers and carefully prune any badly damaged roots. Plant upright or well balanced with best side to front. Carefully return excavated topsoil, packing around evenly spread roots or root ball and heel well in. Immediately after planting shrubs carefully cut back any damaged, dead or diseased branches and remove any weak, thin or malformed growth. Where and to the extent appropriate for the species cut back to encourage growth.

Planting to be carried out only during the following periods:

- Trees: November to first week of March.
- Deciduous trees and shrubs: Late October to late March.
- Conifers and evergreens: September/October or April/May.
- Herbaceous plants (including aquatic and marginal): September/October or March/April.
- Container grown plants: At any time if ground and weather conditions are favourable. Ensure that adequate watering and weed control is provided.
- Bare root stock from late October to beginning of April

Bare root hedging:

Store in cool dry place for up to a week or heel in if a longer storage period is required. Ensure that roots are kept covered and moist. Before planting carefully prune any badly damaged roots. Soak bundles of bare root stock in water for approximately 30min prior to planting. Plant into trench a little wider but no deeper than the roots. Insert canes alongside the stem of the plants and carefully backfill and firm into upright position in **double staggered row of five plants per metre. Rows 30cm apart.** Plants to be planted at the depth of the nursery soil marks on the stems and well firmed around the roots. Planting shall not take place in periods of frost or waterlogged ground conditions. Protect with spirals or tree guards.

Reduce bare root plants in height by about a third after planting to encourage bushy growth.

Containerised/rootballed trees

Trees planted so that the finished soil level is level with the nursery soil mark on the stem. The pit shall be backfilled with a mixture of 1/3 tree planting compost to 2/3 topsoil worked in around roots and lightly consolidated in 150mm layers. The mixing must be carried out before adding the soil to the excavated tree pit in order to obtain a homogenous mix.

Trees should be staked only when the supplier recommends doing so to the specification recommended by the supplier.

Provision for Irrigation: A 60mm diameter perforated pipe should be installed from the surface to a point approximately 2/3 of the depth of the rootball to the adjacent to the roots of a bare rooted tree. The pipe should then encircle the tree at this level. Water can then be dispersed directly to the roots via perforations in the lower part of the pipe. A cap should be provided to the surface end of the pipe to prevent blocking by debris.

Shrub Planting

All to be strong multi-stemmed plants with good balanced form. Plants to be largely set out randomly and evenly with some consideration for future access for maintenance. Planting as per planting plans or if mix given in groups of 3, 5 or 7 of the same species being planted together. Container grown shrubs shall, at whatever time of year they are sold, have been established in the container

long enough for substantial new root growth to have been produced within the container.

Bulb Planting

Tulips: plant Oct-Nov when ground still warm ensure soil has sufficient drainage improve with 5cm of grit or washed sharp sand, if necessary, in base of planting holes. Plant 2-3 times the depth of the bulb.

Turfed areas:

Turf to be specified by planting specialist further to soil tests and consultation regarding intensity of use.

Turfs shall be in accordance with BS 3969: Recommendations for Turf for General Landscape Purpose. Turfs shall be, fibrous and well-rooted, free from matted dead grass and perennial weeds, and shall have been subject to proper maintenance and treatment with selective weed-killers and insecticides during the previous growing season.

Soil shall be cultivated to a depth minimum depth of 150mm, be free of weeds and stones, graded to even falls, consolidated, brought to a fine tilth and rolled to produce a firm bed.

On completion of laying, the whole turf shall be top dressed with finely sifted soil well worked into the joints. No turf shall be laid during frost, exceptionally dry weather or on water-logged ground.

Grass shall be cut when it has reached a height of 100mm with a machine set to a height of 30mm.

SCHEDULE OF IMPLEMENTATION

The hard landscaping will be installed as part of the main works to the building with planting to follow in the next planting season as is appropriate for the specific plantings outlined under the 'installation' heading. Timing of installation subject to the progression of the building works.

MAINTENANCE

Watering

New planting to be watered immediately on completion with frequent watering during the period of establishment. Watering should be sufficient for the water to penetrate the full depth of the topsoil. Particular attention to watering and increased frequency during periods of dry weather.

Pruning and care

Hedging:

Yew hedging: cut any straggling side growths at time of planting. Do not trim top until reached desired height as this will retard growth. Aim to maintain hedge slightly wider at bottom than top. Gently clip in April, July and October until established then a light prune at any time that is required other than in freezing conditions.

Allow for 10% replacement and restocking of hedge plants in the first 5 year period. Ensure ground surrounding hedge is kept weed free and no grass encroaches into the hedge area.

Trees:

Liquidambar styraciflua: 'Slender Silhouette' Formative pruning in late winter or early spring only if necessary. Retain leaves to make leaf mulch. Ensure ground surrounding tree is kept weed free and that mulch application is not in contact with stem.

Existing Hazel: Upon installation of new planting and removal of adjacent holly prune quite hard (in winter) to remove removing water sprouts, making thinning cuts in the interior of the canopy, and removing low-hanging limbs in order to form open, upright habit. Review again in 3 to 5 yrs.

Existing laurel: Suckers to be removed from base and root locations carefully excavated prior to laying new driveway with addition of root barrier where possible. Assessment to be made about appropriate positioning sensitive to the trees on inspection.

Magnolia: Light, formative pruning when in full leaf- only if required.

Shrubs:

Cornus sanguinea 'Midwinter Fire': For best stem colour, cut new growth back hard to within 5-7cm from the ground in March and apply 5-7cm mulch of well-rotted garden compost or horse manure around the base of the plant leaving a 10cm collar around stems.

Bulbs:

Tulips: Deadhead after flowering and rake up dead foliage. Vigour will reduce and new bulbs need to be planted on a 2-3yr cycle.

Turf:

Grass to be cut annually a minimum of 12 times, with 2 cut May to September. Grass height to be maintained between 50-100mm. Insurance that grass does not become compacted or waterlogged; in a healthy vigorous condition, free from disease, fungal growth, discolouration, scorch and wilt. Repair grassed areas damaged by trampling, abrasion or scalping during mowing. Regular removal of litter and fallen leaves will be required to maintain a neat appearance.

Disposal of plant matter. Compost on site where possible.

Soil conditions

Soil around roots and plants to be kept firm and should be inspected after severe frosts and winds.

Weeds

Planting areas to be kept weed free and at no time should weeds be allowed to seed. All planting areas shall be kept clear of weed growth for the first 3

growing seasons. Achieve by hand-weeding/hoeing or by chemical means by trained operative. Ensure that the methods used will cause a minimum of damage to adjacent planted areas.

Fertiliser

Slow-release fertiliser such as bonemeal or similar to be spread over planted areas in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Carry out a single application between March and May for the first 3 years after planting. Alternatively, replace slow-release fertiliser with the application of a well-rotted compost.

Pests and diseases

Appropriate measures to be taken to control pests and diseases in plant material. Disease of fungus or presence of invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed; give notice if detected and treat appropriately according to guidelines.

Mulching

Top up mulch to a minimum thickness of 50mm across all planting for trees, hedges, shrubs and whips with any deficiency made good. Mulching to be carried out in the spring. Any mulch which has dispersed on to surround areas to be returned to shrub beds.

Reinstatement

Any tree or shrub which fails to thrive for any reason following installation shall be removed and replaced during the next planting season with plants of similar species and size for a period of 5 years.