NMP Landscape Architecture



Proposed Kilcock Strategic Housing Development Landscape Design Statement

Residential Development Newtownmoyaghy Co. Meath

November 2019

CONROY CROWE KELLY Architects & Urban Designers

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01 Introduction

Development Description

The proposed development at Newtownmoyaghy, Kilcock will consist of:

i. The construction of 575 No. residential units, all with private amenity space, with a cumulative Gross Floor Area of 60,326.9 square meters comprising:

- 43 No. 2-bedroom, 2-storey houses and associated amenities and car parking;
- 270 No. 3-bedroom, 2-storey houses and associated amenities and car parking;
- 45 No. 4-bedroom, 2-storey houses and associated amenities and car parking;
- 30 No. 4-bedroom, 3-storey houses and associated amenities and car parking;
- 3 No. apartment blocks ranging in height from 3-5 storeys providing for;
- o 20 No. 1-bedroom apartment units with all associated amenities and car parking; and,
- o 46 No. 2-bedroom apartment units with all associated amenities and car parking;
- 121 No. duplex and corner block units 3-storeys in height providing for;
- o 15 No. 1-bedroom duplex units with all associated amenities and car parking;
- o 21 No. 2-bedroom duplex units with all associated amenities and car parking;
- o 6 No. 3-bedroom duplex units with all associated amenities and car parking;
- o 29 No. 1-bedroom corner block units with all associated amenities and car parking;
- o 42 No. 2-bedroom corner block units with all associated amenities and car parking; and,
- o 8 No. 3-bedroom corner block units with all associated amenities and car parking.

ii. The construction of a creche with a gross floor area of 623 square metres, an associated external play area and 14 No. car parking spaces;

iii. The provision of 314 No. bicycle parking spaces incorporating 163 No. long-term bicycle parking spaces and 151 No. short-term bicycle parking spaces;

iv. New boundary walls and fences, open space, internal site roads, pavements, public lighting, tree planting, bin storage, ESB substations and all ancillary works;

v. Provision of new GAA changing room facilities with a Gross Floor Area of 97 square meters, associated entrance road and 40 No. car parking spaces;

vi. The erection of 2 No. 13m lattice masts in the southern section of the site together with the relocation underground of 2 No. 10kV and 2 No. 38kV overhead lines;

vii. Infrastructure works including:

• Surface Water – Surface water from the northern site will be discharged into 1 No. detention basin to the south of the proposed development site. Surface water from the southern site will be discharged into a detention basin to the southeast of the development site.

• SUDS measures such as permeable paving, swales, filter trenches etc. will be provided to intercept and provide treatment to surface-water run-off at source.

Introduction

Niall Montgomery and Partners have been appointed by McGarrell Reilly Homes to provide residential landscape design proposals for lands to be developed at Development, Newtownmoyaghy, Co. Meath. In consultation with CCK Architects and DBFL Consulting Engineers the following design statement has been compiled to explain the design rationale and approach.

In general the design approach looks to sensitively integrate itself with the surrounding landscape, retain trees and hedgerows where reasonably possible and considered the engineered floodplain in its design response.

Proposals aim to enhance bio-diversity by following the national pollinator plan, increase carbon sequestration, and integrate with drainage proposals to ensure the ground water capacity can be recharged and flood events are dealt with appropriately.

Concurrently, the design celebrates a variety of open space typologies which incorporate play, seating opportunities and exercise. The scale of the site allows for a variety of trails to be utilised for recreation and connectivity to key destinations including the integration of cycleways and home zones.

The overall character of the site will respond to the natural topography and its rural setting as well as the micro-climate by providing sheltered areas for residents and guests.

This design statement should be read in conjunction with drawings as issued in the accompanying planning pack.

Landscape Analysis

TownCenter

Sports Centre

Millerstown Development

Main Road

Agricultural Land

02 Landscape Analysis

Site Edges + Existing Condition



The site is located to the north of the Rye Water and east of Kilcock town. It is bounded by agricultural land to its north and east. Proposed school land to the southwest and low rise low density residential dwellings bound its western side. Existing housing development and housing development under construction by McGarrell Reilly Homes at Millerstown.

Key Site Photos





1. Elevated view illustrating site





4. Adjacent neighbourhood



7. Ponding in floodplain



2. Typical existing hedgerow



3. Engineered floodplain

5. Adjacent neighbourhood



6. Southern watercourse



8. Aerial view



9. Existing deposited screed





The landscape vision has been derived from the sites formative floodplain years. A riverine landscape, which, figuratively, flows from the source in the north through the development to the south. It meanders through public open space to carve out spaces, whilst depositing memories in the form of seating, play and sculptural rock formations, as the flow slows.

These spaces create opportunities for the local neighbourhood to interact and engage, children in play areas, adults in the seated areas, thus creating a sense of community. The routes through the spaces respond to desire lines but take on a more sinuous form, creating interest and variety.

03 Landscape Vision



BRAIDED RIVERINE LANDSCAPE

Whilst responding to the need to create connectivity from key points, the pedestrian routes and planting carve out a braided landscape form.



FLOODPLAIN FEATURES

Enclosed pocket spaces begin to form as the 'river' slows providing opportunities for program and enhanced landscape character.



As with a river, deposits of stone and boulders create texture and identity for each space.

03 Landscape Vision



CARVING OUT SPACES

The use of tree planting in dense clusters and framing space create a sense of drama.



FLUID ROUTES

The fluid form of the landscape generates a sense of movement, making it dynamic and offering a choice of routes to permeate through.



ENHANCED BIO-DIVERSITY, WATER TREATMENT TRAIL + CARBON SEQUESTRATION

The integration of a diverse plant palette, attenuation ponds and tree planting not only adds to the aesthetic but is an important part of the overall strategy on an much wider context.



The main public open space is located between the floodplain and the residential development to the south. The design strategy of the park is based on responding and integrating the attenuation requirements and developing a woodland from saplings to full maturity. The public open space is fully accessible and overlooked from the adjacent residential units. A series of open spaces have been incorporated into the plan each with a small element of play, exercise and seating and all with a diverse range of tree and shrub planting.

The main spaces are playful landscapes incorporating kick-about areas, seating and play in an informal setting. Working with the natural topography of the site, the area to the south is proposed to be utilized for drainage. While catering for SUDs requirements as well as providing a natural aesthetic to the open space.

In addition to the main public park, several pocket parks and open spaces are proposed between rows of housing, providing attractive smaller spaces for passive and active recreation.

04 Landscape Strategies

Pedestrian, Cycle + Vehicular Circulation

A variety of spatial typologies and scale of spaces adds to the overall landscape experience as users pass through, actively use and participate in the spatial experience. The more users encouraged in to the space the more successful the development will be. Creating active, engaging and fun communities. The vastness of the site encourages large swathes of wildflower and managed grassland, retained and augmented hedgerows and opportunities to plant young woodland from sapling to maturity.

Movement of people, cyclists and pedestrians and the connectivity of all modes between destinations is largely driven by points of arrival and departure and the physical layout and characteristics of the site. The engineered floodplain limits site access, as such most routes are directed towards the bridge crossings. Pedestrian crossing points are aligned with traffic engineering requirements and tactile paving with drop kerbs allocated accordingly.

04 Landscape Strategies

Programme

Playground 4 Resting Exercise 222 Running B Playground 44 Picnic <u>₩</u> Playground Yoga ٢

The sites many routes lends itself to the creation of various nature and running trails - promoting health and well-being and creating awareness of nature. Smaller more controlled spaces provide opportunity for informal play and exercise while seating opportunities are dotted throughout.

Run-off water will flow into the landscape parks to the engineered attenuation areas.

The Water Story

04 Concept Design - Overall Landscape Plan

Legend

- 1. The Spring
- 2. The Islands
- 3. The Bridges
- 4. The Estuary
- 5. The Plains
- 6. Adjacent School
- 7. Millerstown Development
- 8. Attenuation Ponds
- 9. Entrance
- 10. GAA Pitches

04 Concept Design - Landscape Character

04 Landscape Design - The Springs

04 Landscape Design - The Springs

04 Landscape Design - The Islands

04 Landscape Design - The Islands

04 Landscape Design - The Plains

Design Approach

The Plains provide a parkland in which meandering paths connect key nodes and desire lines cutting through sweeps of young woodland trees and beautiful planting mixes of meadow grasses and wildflowers. The plains offers oppurtuinities for walking/running routes as well as a defined area for play.

Legend

- 1. Paths
- 2. Shared Surface Path
- 3. Planting Mix
- 4. Young Woodland
- 5. Meadow
- 6. Play

Character Images

Grassland for Movement

Subtle materials

Integrated hard and soft

04 Landscape Design - The Plains

04 Landscape Concept - Site Boundary's

Design Approach

The sites historical boundaries were defined by filed patterns which subsequently integrated small dwellings and currently the existing flood plain. The following pages illustrate the external boundary conditions, internal between houses and also between existing hedgerows.

Adjacent Landscape

04 Landscape Concept - Site Sections

04 Landscape Concept - Site Boundary's

04 Landscape Concept - Pocket Parks Sections

05 Materials Palette

Landscape Plans, schedules and drawings included in the application, prepared by NMP Landscape Architects include a detailed schedule of proposed planting and illustrates the location and extent of mown grass, managed long grass, reinforced grass, low groundcover, hedge and tree planting as well as existing trees to be retained.

Tree species are selected for longevity, suitability to local soil conditions and micro-climate, biodiversity (native species) and where required suitability for proximity to residential buildings. Proposed tree sizes range from heavy standards and multi-stemmed trees to native whip and forestry transplants. Approximately 1,600 new individual trees are proposed in order to improve the species mix and the proportion of native species on site. Typical species are illustrated in the following pages.

Low planting is utilized to make and reinforce sub-spaces within the larger landscape spaces, for visual screening, defensible space, visual interest, ecological purposes and to guide or direct people's movement. The low planting is conceived as subtle layering of greens within the open spaces. The planting is layered as follows; lowest - bulb planting, groundcover planting, highest - clipped hedge planting.

The selection of hard landscape materials is determined by function but also to provide a cohesive palette of materials throughout. Materials are chosen for durability, but where practical are proposed to be constructed in a way which is sensitively integrated with lawn and soft landscape, in order to minimise the impact of hard landscape surfaces. Primary vehicular, pedestrian and cycle circulation are proposed as a durable, limited range of neutral materials with robust construction. Typically, in the home zone area, a 5.5m wide carriageway with a 2m wide footpath is proposed, with the roads in bituminous macadam and all other roads in a selected coloured asphalt. Self-binding gravel and large format reconstituted stone slabs are proposed for secondary pedestrian routes in open space.

05 Indicative Landscape Materials - Hard + Soft

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05 Landscape Materials - Furniture

SITE ACCESSORIES Indicative Only

TREE GRILLE BOUND GRAVEL

BIKE RACKS PICNIC TABLE POWDER COATED STEEL TIMBER

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT EXERCISE BARS

Indicative Only

POWDER COATED METAL

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Appendix

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1. Specifications for supply.

1.0 Schedule of supply:

The nursery stock material will be delivered following consultation between the Landscape Architect, landscape contractor and the selected nursery, and the Engineer. Delivery will be at all times by means of covered vehicles, and all plant material will be clearly labeled. The source of origin must be from the selected nursery as no other additional stock from other nurseries will be permitted without prior inspection and approval.

Programme of Works 1.1

The planting works shall be executed at the earliest opportunity.

1.2 Nursery stock:

All plant material shall be good quality nursery stock, free from fungal, bacterial or viral infection, aphids, red spider or other insect pests and any physical damage. It shall comply with the requirements of B.S. 3936: Parts 1-10: 1965 Specification for Nursery Stock, where applicable.

All plants shall have been nursery grown in accordance with good practice and shall be supplied through the normal channels of the wholesale nursery trade. They shall have the habit of growth that is normal for the species. Country of origin must be shown in all cases for species grown from seed.

Unless otherwise stated, the plant materials shall be supplied in accordance with the following codes where stated:

- 1 Year old seedling 1+0
- 1 Year old seedling lined out for 1 year 1+1
- 1+2 1 Year old seedling lined out for 2 years
- 1+1+11 Year old seedling lined out for 1 year, lifted and lined out for one further year
- 1u1 1 Year old seedling undercut then 1 more year in seedbed.
- 1 Year old seedling undercut then 2 more years in seedbed. 1u2
- 1 Year old Hardwood cutting 0/1
- 2 Year old Hardwood cutting 0/2
- Twice transplanted tree 2X
- Three times transplanted tree 3X
- 4X Four times transplanted tree
- P9 Containerised plant in 9cm pot

1.3 Species:

All plants supplied shall be exactly true to name as shown in the plant schedules. Unless stipulated, varieties with variegated and/or coloured leaves will not be accepted, and any plant found to be of this type upon leafing out shall be replaced by the contractor at his/her own expense.

Bundles of plants shall be marked in conformity with B.S. 3936: Part 1: 1965 and B.S. 3936: part 4: 1966. The nursery supplier shall replace any plants which, on leafing out, are found not to conform to the labels. Definitions of all terms used are in accordance with the following British Standards: -

B.S. No. 3936: Part 1: 1965 entitled "Nursery Stock- Trees and Shrubs"

B.S. No. 3936: Part 4: 1966 entitled "Nursery Stock- Forest Trees"

B.S. No. 3936: 1967 entitled "Specification for Nursery Stock"

2.0 Tree specifications:

Trees shall have a sturdy, reasonably straight stem, and a well-defined straight and upright central leader, with branches growing out of the stem with reasonable symmetry. The crown and root systems shall be well formed. Roots shall be in reasonable balance with the crown and shall be conductive to successful transplantation.

2.1 Standard trees shall have a clear stem 1.70m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth of 8cm measured at 1.00m above ground level and a total height of 2.75-3.00 m.

2.2 Light Standard trees have a clear stem 1.30m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth of 6cm measured at 1.00m above ground level and a total height of 1.80-2.40m.

2.3 Select standard trees shall have a clear stem 1.70 m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth of 10 cm. Measured at 1.00.m. Above ground level and a total height of 3.0 to 3.5 meters.

2.4 Heavy standard trees shall have a clear stem 1.80-1.90m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth of 14 cm. Measured at 1.00.m. Above ground level and a total height of 4.0 to 4.5 metres. All trees shall have been undercut a minimum of three times.

2.5 Extra Heavy standard trees shall have a clear stem 2.0m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth of 16 cm. Measured at 1.00.m. Above ground level and a total height of 4.5 to 5 metres. All trees shall have been undercut a minimum of three times.

2.6 Semi-mature trees shall have a clear stem 2.0m in height from ground level to the lowest branch, a minimum girth, as specified in the Bill of Quantities, measured at 1.00.m. Above ground level and a total height of min. 5 metres. All trees shall have been undercut a minimum of three times.

All standards shall be clearly labeled.

2.7 Feathered Trees 180-240cm

Feathered trees shall be not less than four years old, and shall have been transplanted at least three times. Trees of species not listed in BS 3936: Part 4: shall be sturdy, with a balanced root and shoot development. Size shall conform to the schedules. Trees shall be well furnished with lateral fibrous roots, and shall be lifted without severance of major roots. Roots shall be of the habit normal for the species, without deformation. Transplants shall be wrapped in polythene in bundles of 50 no. And clearly labeled from the time of lifting until planting to conserve moisture.

2.8 Feathered Transplants 120-150cm

Transplants shall be not less than two years old, and shall have been transplanted at least once. Trees of species not listed in B.S. 3936: Part 4: shall be sturdy, with a balanced root and shoot development. Size shall conform to the schedules.

Trees shall be well furnished with lateral fibrous roots, and shall be lifted without severance of major roots. Roots shall be of the habit normal for the species, without deformation. Transplants shall be wrapped in polythene in bundles of 50 no. And clearly labeled from the time of lifting until planting to conserve moisture.

2.9 Feathered Transplants 90-120 cms, 60-90 cm, 40-60 cm, 30-40 cm

Transplants shall be not less than one year old. Trees of species not listed in B.S. 3936: Part 4: shall be sturdy, with a balanced root and shoot development. Size shall conform to the schedules. Trees shall be well furnished with lateral fibrous roots, and shall be lifted without severance of major roots. Roots shall be of the habit normal for the species, without deformation. Transplants shall be wrapped in polythene in bundles of 50 no. And clearly labeled from the time of lifting until planting to conserve moisture.

2.10 Shrubs

(1) Containerised Shrubs shall be of the size specified in the schedules, with several stems originating from or near ground level and of reasonable bushiness, healthy, vigorous and with a sound root system. Pots or containers shall be appropriate to the size of shrub supplied and clearly labeled. Shrubs shall not be pot bound or with girdled or restricted roots.

(2) Bare Root Shrubs shall be of size specified in the schedules, with several stems originating from or near ground level, with reasonable bushiness, healthy, and vigorous. They shall be well furnished with fibrous roots and shall be lifted without severance of major roots. All bare root shrubs shall be wrapped in polythene in bundles of 50 no. And clearly labeled from the time of lifting until planting to conserve moisture.

2.11 Container Grown Conifers:

Conifers shall be of the size specified in the schedules, with one main stem originating from or near ground level and of reasonable bushiness and health, with a well-grown, root system. Pots or containers, where required, shall be appropriate to the size of plant supplied and clearly labeled. Plants shall not be pot bound, or with deformed or restricted roots.

2.12 Protection:

The interval between the lifting of stock at the nursery and planting on site is to be kept to an absolute minimum. Plants shall be protected from drying out and from damage in transport. All stock awaiting transport shall be protected from the wind and frost and from drying out.

Protection shall include for the supply of stock to site to a suitable heeling-in/ storage area prior to planting. The landscape contractor shall allow for liaison with the site engineer to arrange the heeling-in area/ storage. The contractor shall continue to be entirely responsible for the maintenance of this stock to ensure that at the time of planting the stock complies with the requirements for the supply of nursery stock as per clause 1.0 thereof. No responsibility for the maintenance of the stock will attach to the site engineer whilst the stock is protected on site. No time limit shall attach to the period of protection.

In the event of the Landscape Architect being dissatisfied with the care and attention given to the stocks, following heeling-in, he shall notify the Landscape Contractor who shall take steps to ensure careful heeling-in procedures.

The preparation of the heeling-in area and its subsequent maintenance is the sole responsibility of the Landscape Contractor.

2.13 Damage

On completion of lifting of plants in the nursery, any broken shoots or severed roots shall be pruned, areas of damaged bark neatly pared back to sound tissue.

2.14 Inspections

The Landscape Architect will inspect the hardy nursery stock on the selected nursery during the execution of the works. Only plants selected and approved in the landscape contractors selected nursery will be accepted on the site.

2.15 Delivery and heeling in

All plants will be delivered on a phased basis as called up in advance in agreement with the Engineer, Landscape Architect and the appointed Landscape Contractor. In the event of the Landscape Architect being dissatisfied with the care and attention given to the stocks, following heeling-in, he shall notify the Landscape Contractor who shall take steps to ensure careful heeling-in procedures.

The preparation of the heeling-in area and its subsequent maintenance is the sole responsibility of the Landscape Contractor.

3.0 Specifications for site operations:

3.1 Setting out:

Setting out shall be in accordance with site meetings with the Landscape Architect, and the drawings listed in the preliminaries. No planting works shall take place when the soil /fill is in a waterlogged condition.

3.2 Finished grading:

All planting pits and topsoiled areas disturbed by the landscape contractor shall be left in an even state, with all soil clumps broken up and stones of greater than 50mm diameter shall be removed.

4.0 Specifications for Planting and Plant Materials

4.1.1 Stakes:

Round stakes shall be of peeled larch, pine or Douglas fir, preserved with a water-borne copper chrome arsenic composition in accordance with I.S. 131.For Standard and select standards stakes shall be 1.8m long, 75mm in diameter. Stake all whips and transplants greater than 120cm in height. For all transplants exceeding 120cm height stakes shall be 1.2m long, 37mm x 37mm square. Stakes shall be pointed at the butt end. Set stakes vertically in the pit, to the western side of the tree station, and drive before planting. Drive stake with a wooden maul or cast-iron headed drive. Stakes shall be driven into the excavated planting pit to a depth of:

800mm for Standards/Light Standards/Feathered Trees 1000mm for Heavy Standards 500mm for Whips/Transplants

4.1.2 Canes:

Bamboo canes or similar approved shall be used to provide spot spraying location markers for small plants including Pinus, species. The canes are not to be attached to the plants.

4.2 Tree ties:

For standard and select standards, tree ties shall be of rubber, PVC or proprietary fabric laminate composition and shall be strong and durable enough to hold the tree securely in all weather conditions for a period of three years. They shall be flexible enough to allow proper tightening of the tie. Ties shall be min. 25mm wide for 120cms height trees and min. 38mm for larger sizes. They shall be fitted with a simple collar spacer to prevent chafing. Two ties per tree shall be applied to standards; for staked transplants, one tie per tree is required.

Ties shall be nailed to the stake with one galvanised nail.

4.3 Protection:

The interval between the lifting of stock at the heeling-in area and planting on site is to be kept to an absolute minimum. Plants shall be protected from drying out and from damage in transport. All stock awaiting planting on site shall be stored in a sheltered place protected from the wind and frost and from drying out.

All transplants shall be wrapped in polythene from the time of lifting to conserve moisture. Except when heeled-in, they shall be protected in polythene at all times until planted into their final position on site.

4.4 Damage:

On completion of planting any broken branches shall be pruned, areas of damaged bark neatly pared back to sound tissue.

4.5 Watering / Alginure / Fertilisers:

All bare rooted light standards and select standards shall be soaked in water overnight, on site, before planting in a liquid solution containing "Alginure" at the recommended dilution rate. Fertilisers shall conform to BS 5581: 1981. In the case of granular fertiliser being added to plantings, it must be mixed through and incorporated into the base of the planting hole and covered over in order to avoid roots of plants coming in direct contact.

4.6 Setting out:

Setting out shall be in accordance with site meetings with the Landscape Architect. Transplants in mixtures shall be planted in staggered rows. Species shall be planted in groups, as indicated in the planting drawings.

No planting shall take place until all planting holes (with ameliorants) have been inspected and approved by the Landscape Architect, or a person appointed by him as a representative, to ensure accordance with the specifications. No planting shall take place when ground conditions are frozen or waterlogged. All planting holes shall be opened and closed on the same day.

4.7 Tree planting:

Trees shall be planted at the same depth as in the nursery, indicated by the soil mark on the stem of the tree. They shall be planted in the centre of the planting pit and planted upright. Stones or other rubbish over 75mm shall be removed. Supply and drive the stake 800mm into the ground for standards, 500mm for other transplants. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position

4.7.1.Select Standards/Standards

Excavate tree pits to 800mm x 800mm x 600mm deep, or as approved. The base of the pit shall be broken up to a depth of 80mm and glazed sides roughened. F.Y.M. at the rate of 0.047 cu.m.(equivalent to 60mm deep) and 100gms of 0.10.20 shall be applied to each tree pit prior to planting. Farm manure shall consist predominantly of faecal matter and shall be free of loose, dry straw and undigested hay. It shall be free of surplus liquid effluent. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.7.2 Heavy and Extra Heavy Standards

Excavate tree pits to 1000mm x 1000mm x 800mm deep, or as approved. The base of the pit shall be broken up to a depth of 100mm and glazed sides roughened. F.Y.M. at the rate of 0.047 cu.m. (equivalent to 60mm deep) and 100gms of 0.10.20 shall be applied to each tree pit prior to planting. Farm manure shall consist predominantly of faecal matter and shall be free of loose, dry straw and undigested hay. It shall be free of surplus liquid effluent. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.7.2 Semi-mature trees

Excavate tree pits to 1200mm x 1200mm x 1000mm deep, or as approved. The base of the pit shall be broken up to a depth of 200mm and glazed sides roughened. F.Y.M. at the rate of 0.047 cu.m. (equivalent to 60mm deep) and 100gms of 0.10.20 shall be applied to each tree pit prior to planting. Farm manure shall consist predominantly of faecal matter and shall be free of loose, dry straw and undigested hay. It shall be free of surplus liquid effluent. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.7.3.Light Standard Trees

Excavate tree pits to 500mmx500mmx500xx deep, or as approved. The base of the pit shall be broken up to a depth of 80mm and glazed sides roughened. F.Y.M. at the rate of 0.047 cu.m. (equivalent to 60mm deep) and 100gms of 0.10.20 shall be applied to each tree pit prior to planting. Farm manure shall consist predominantly of faecal matter and shall be free of loose, dry straw and undigested hay. It shall be free of surplus liquid effluent. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.8 Feathered Trees 180-240cm, container grown conifers (>2I)

Excavate tree pits to 400mm x400mm x 400 mm deep, or as approved (slit or notch planting are not acceptable planting methods). The base of the pit shall be broken up to a depth of 80mm and glazed sides roughened. Trees shall be planted at the same depth as in the nursery and backfilled with compound fertiliser 0.10.20 at the rate of 50gm per tree and 0.020m3 of Mushroom Compost or similar approved. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.9 Feathered Whips 120-150 cm:

Excavate tree pit to depth of 300mm x 300mm x 300mm deep, or as approved (slit or notch planting are not acceptable planting methods). Excavation to be achieved by machine digging or augering methods, approved by the Landscape Architect. The base to be broken up to a depth of 60mm and glazed sides roughened. Whips to be planted at same size as in the nursery. Apply 60gm 0.10.20 and 0.020m3 of Mushroom Compost or similar approved.per tree pit to plants. Stakes 1.2m high x 37mm dia. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.10 Feathered Whips and Transplants 90-120cm, 60-90 cm, 40-60cm, 30-40cm, container grown conifers (<2l size) and container grown shrubs (<2l size):

Excavate planting hole to a depth of 300mm x 300mm x 300mm deep; the base to be broken to a depth of 50mm and glazed sides roughened (slit or notch planting are not acceptable planting methods). Excavation to be achieved by machine digging or augering methods, approved by the Landscape Architect. Apply 30gm 0.10.20.per planting pit. Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.11 C. G. Shrubs / C. G. Wall Shrubs / C.G. Climbers:

Excavate planting hole to a depth of 300mm x 300mm x 300mm deep; the base to be broken to a depth of 50mm and glazed sides roughened. The following products are to be supplied and incorporated in to the bottom 100mm of topsoil at the base of the planting pit and in to the topsoil for backfilling around each plant: (1)Seanure soilbuilder as supplied by Farmura @ 1.5Kg per cu.m of topsoil, (2) clean and friable green waste compost @ 25 Kg per cu.m of topsoil and (3) Sierrablen Flora 15:9:9 slow release fertiliser @ 70 grams per m2 Backfill planting hole with excavated topsoil, and remove all stones and debris, firming plant into position.

4.12 Grassing

All grass areas to be ripped with a tractor mounted tine prior to rotovating. The contractor shall grade off all areas to smooth flowing contours, removing all stones greater than 10mm diameter and tip off site. All hollows to be filled in. Roll all areas with a roller as approved. Following the completion of final grading and raking, the area is to be left fallow for a period of 14 days. Spray with 'Basta' at recommended rates, and seed with fine grass mix at a rate of 35gr/Sq.m together with fertilizer 10:10:20 at a rate of 50gr/Sq.m use Coburns Irish premier low maintenance mixture or other as approved by the Landscape Architect.

4.12.1 Grass cutting

Grass cutting shall be carried out during the three year maintenance period and is defined into three categories:

4.12.2 Regular grass cutting

Shall be carried out to the frequencies indicated in the Bill of Quantities. Attention to neat and tidy cutting shall be required to all areas. Sightlines, as set out with the Engineer, at junctions and roundabouts must be kept clear of vegetation at all times.

GENERAL

Upon completion of planting, all pits shall be raked over lightly to leave an even surface and neat appearance. All stones greater than 50mm dia. to be removed. Provision should be made for the watering of light and select standards during periods of prolonged drought in the first year following planting.

4.13 Inspections:

The Landscape Architect will inspect the site with the Landscape Contractor during the execution of the works and following maintenance visits.

4.14 Presentation of certificates:

The Landscape Contractor shall present for the Landscape Architect's inspection, all seed and fertiliser bags, together with their markings. If requested, the contractor shall furnish the Landscape Architect with receipts of purchase for these respective materials.

4.15 Spraying:

1) Following planting of embankments, slopes etc., weed free circles to be formed around individual plants, as directed, using an approved broad-spectrum contact herbicide, as approved by the landscape architect, in mid-spring following planting. Herbicide to be applied using controlled drop applicator containing a dye to indicate areas sprayed. In areas where grass is excessively long, such grass will be strimmed off and collected prior to spraying. The contractor shall be responsible for keeping the ground (1m diameter circle) around all planted material weed free by means of herbicidal application, using approved sprays, during the course of the contract. Weeds to be removed include grasses ,broad-leaved annual and perennial weeds and all noxious weeds.

2) Selective spot spraying will be carried out to all grassed areas, whether planted or unplanted through the application of contact herbicide to control broad-leaved annual and perennial weeds, including thistle, dock and ragwort. Contact herbicide to be approved by the landscape architect prior to application. Herbicide to be applied using controlled drop applicator containing a dye to indicate areas sprayed. The contractor shall allow for the removal of gorse by cutting, as required prior to spraying to ensure its eradication from all grassed areas for the duration of the contract.

d prior to spraying to ensure its eradication from all grassed areas for the duration of the contract.

3) The boundary hedgerows shall be kept weed free by herbicidal application by forming a 300mm wide spayed strip along the full length of each respective hedgerow. Approved herbicide (broad-spectrum contact herbicide) to be applied using controlled drop applicator containing a dye to indicate areas sprayed. Spraying of planted areas on roundabouts is also included in this spraying application.

4) Such routine spraying (1, 2 and 3 above) shall be carried out during maintenance visits over the three-year period. No spraying shall take place during adverse weather conditions or at times not recommended by the manufacturer.

4.16 Cutting back:

Plants for cutting back/tip pruning shall be cut back after inspection by the Landscape Architect. This work to be carried out initially following planting for plants suffering from wind damage.

4.17 Mulching

Mulching may be considered as an optional factor that may be implemented. Mulch shall be from coniferous trees. It shall be shredded, but not pulverised, so that no dimension exceeds 75mm. Bark shall have been composted for a min. of 3mths. In the case of areas requiring mulch the depth of bark shall measure 30 mm.

4.18 Ground finish:

Upon completion of planting, all ground finish shall include for the removal of stones greater than 50mm excavated during the course of the digging for planting purposes.

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PAVING & KERBS

FOOTPATHS

General: Public footpaths, roadways, kerbs etc. shall be constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Roads Maintenance Division of Meath County Council.

Accuracy of Levels and Alignment: The levels of paths and paving shall be carefully set out and frequently checked. All care shall be taken to ensure that the correct cross sections are maintained. The finished face of paths shall be formed so as to provide adequate fall and satisfactory run off to surface water outlets, gullies, etc. Cross-falls of paths shall be carried without break across verges and kerbs to prevent ponding of water between back of kerb and path.

Sub-Base: Granular material shall comply with Clause 804 of the D.o.E. Specification for Roadwork's and shall be spread uniformly over the formation and compacted by vibrator roller. Rolling shall continue until there is no movement under the roller. The finished surface of the compacted sub-base shall be parallel to the proposed finished surface of the footpath. The surface levels for each layer shall not deviate from the design levels by more than +15mm or -15mm.

For sub-base thickness in paved areas see area engineers spec. and attached following schedule. Each contractor shall do all necessary tests to ensure a well compacted, plain even surface on all areas with traffic movement. If paving shows settling after 1 year which normally is related to an insufficient depth and compaction of the sub-base the contractor shall rebuilt the failed area to his own cost.

Use of Surfaces by Construction Traffic:

Constructional traffic used on pavements under construction shall be suitable in relation to the courses it traverses so that damage is not caused to the sub-grade. Where damage is caused to the formation of the sub- grade in strength or level the damaged area shall be excavated for an area and depth which shall be determined by the Architect and this area shall be filled to the required levels with crushed rock of 50mm maximum size. The degree of compaction for this area shall be the same as that specified for the remainder of the formation. All this excavation and making good of damaged areas shall be carried out at the expense of the Contractor. Where damage is caused to the sub-base, the damaged area shall be made good as noted above, using the material of which the sub-base is composed. The wheels or tracks of plant moving over the various pavement courses shall be kept free from deleterious materials.

MODULAR PAVING

Concrete Pavers Precast concrete pavers shall conform to the requirements of BS 6717 Part 1. Ensure that sub-bases are suitably accurate and to specified gradients before being laid.

Sample: Before placing orders submit representative samples for approval. Ensure that delivered materials match sample.

Laying Generally:

1. Laying Specification

1.1 Paving blocks/bricks shall be laid to the requirements of Part 3: 1997, BS 7533, except that the lip onto gully gratings is modified to 5 - 6 mm.
Note, in particular, the following requirements of Part 3.
i. The difference in level between two adjacent blocks shall not exceed 2 mm.
ii. The finished pavement surface shall not deviate more than 10 mm under a 3m straight edge.

iii. The accuracy of cutting a block should be such that the resulting joint should not exceed 5 mm.

iv. The surface course should be between

(a) 3 - 6 mm above drainage channels

(b) 5 - 10 mm above gullies (*BRL modify this to 5 - 7 mm above gullies to reduce "trips")

v. The surface course should be inspected soon after completion and at regular intervals thereafter - additional sand should be brushed in where necessary.
1.2 The surface course for chamfered units should be 3 - 5 mm above the kerb to facilitate surface drainage. The surface course for non-chamfered units should be 2 mm above the kerb to facilitate surface drainage.

1.3 When paving units need to be trimmed, pieces with a dimension less than 50 mm should not be used.

2. Drainage Channels

2.1 Where paving blocks are used in a channel, they shall be laid on freshly mixed moist 3:1 sand-cement mortar. The mortar should have thickness between 10 mm and 40 mm. Vertical joints should be filled with 3:1 wet sand-cement mix.

2.2 Mortar, which has been mixed for over 2 hours, should be discarded. 2.3 The mortar should be laid on a previously prepared concrete base as per construction drawing detail. Select blocks/paviors vertically from at least 3 separate packs in rotation, or as recommended by manufacturer, to avoid colour banding. Lay blocks/paviors on a well graded sand bed and vibrate to produce a thoroughly interlocked paving of even overall appearance with sharp sand filled joints and accurate to line, level and profile. Refill joints once a week three weeks after first fill. Commencing from an edge restraint lay blocks/paviors hand tight with a joint width of 2-3mm for pedestrian use and 3-5 mm for areas with traffic. Maintain an open working face and do not use mechanical force to obtain tight joints. Place blocks/pavers squarely with minimum disturbance to bedding. Supply blocks/paviors to laying face over newly laid paving but stack at least 1 m back from laying face. Do not allow plant to traverse areas of uncompacted paving. Continually check alignment of pavers with string lines as work proceeds to ensure maintenance of accurate bond. Infill at edge restraints as work proceeds. Wherever the type of bond and angle of edging permit, avoid very small infill pieces at edges by breaking bond on the next course in from the edge, using cut blocks/pavers not less than 1/3 full size. Cut stones shall be rectangular or trapezoidal; the smallest point shall be a minimum of 35mm. (May be pavers have to be turned by 90 deg.)Half stones shall be cut at manufacture. Thoroughly compact blocks/pavers with vibrating plate compactor as laying proceeds but after infilling at edges. Apply the same compacting effort over the whole surface.

Do not compact within 1 m of the working face. Do not leave uncompacted areas of paving at the end of working periods, except within 1 m of unrestrained edges. Checks paving after compacting first few metres, then at frequent intervals to ensure that surface levels are as specified; if they are not, lift blocks/

pavers and relay. Brush sharp sand into joints, revibrate surface and repeat as required to completely fill joints. Make sure that paving is held by a kerb on both sides before vibration to avoid uneven joints. Avoid damaging kerb haunching and adjacent work during vibration. Do not begin vibration until kerbs have matured. The paving pattern will be stretcher bond, make sure that the joints will be in straight line after vibrating. Also ensure joints are off equal width. The block pavement shall have a surface regularity/ flatness tolerance of less than 10 mm under a 3 m straight edge.

Sample: Before placing orders submit representative samples for approval. Ensure that delivered materials match sample.

PRECAST CONCRETE FLAGS

Pre-cast Concrete Flags:

1. Precast concrete flags shall be laid to the requirements of BS 7533 Part 4.

Note the following selected items from BS 7533, Part 4.

• The difference in level between two adjacent flags should not exceed 3 mm.

• The top surface of the paving units should stand 3 - 6 mm above the drainage channel.

• A 30 - 50 mm (compacted thickness) of the sand laying course is given as suitable (for narrow joints)

2. Flags should be laid with narrow joints (2 - 5 mm). Joints should be filled with dried sand (conforming to table 4 of the code), or as determined by the Landscape Architect.

KERBS

Kerbing General: Kerb radii shall be in accordance with Architects and Engineers drawings. Use radius kerbs for all new kerbs.

Laying Generally:

Natural stone and precast concrete kerbs shall meet the requirements of BS 435 and BS 7263-1.

- 1. Precast concrete kerbs shall be laid to the requirements of BS 7533, Part 6.
- 2. Units shall be laid on fresh concrete or mortar bed and adjusted to line and level.
- 3. Concrete for foundations and haunching shall be to BS 5328.

4. Bedding mortar shall be freshly mixed, moist 3:1 sand-cement between 12 and 40 mm thick.

5. Kerbs shall be backed with concrete as per drawing.

- 6. Radius kerbs shall be used on radii of 12 m or less.
- 7. Kerbs should not deviate from the required level by more than 6mm.
- 8. Kerbs should not deviate by more than 3 mm under a 3 m straight edge.

9. Open-jointed kerbs should have joints of 2 - 4 mm wide.

Mortar jointed kerbs should have joints of 7 - 10 mm wide filled completely with 3:1 sand-cement mortar, and finished to give a smooth flush joint or as specified by the Landscape Architect.

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Appendix - Programme For Implementation, Maintenance + Defects Period

5.0 Maintenance:

5.1 Period:

The Contractor shall be responsible for aftercare of the completed works for 1 Year from the date of completion of planting. Subject to satisfactory performance the maintenance contract may be extended for two further periods of 12 months. Maintenance in years 2 and 3 shall be provisional. Maintenance during years 2 and 3 may be assigned directly to the Board Of Management of the school. This will include grass cutting, weed control of all planted areas, litter clearance and watering of Select Standard trees during dry weather.

5.2 Organisation:

The aftercare programme will be organised as follows:-

(1) Scheduled operations, in whose timing the contractor will be permitted some flexibility and which will be the basis of payment to the Contractor.

(2) Performance standards, which the Contractor is required to meet at all times, and on which his performance will be assessed.

(3) Critical dates, by which time scheduled operations, shall have been completed, and at which performance will be assessed.

5.3 Performance standards:

Shrub, woodland and hedgerow planting to be maintained in accordance with specifications e.g. spraying, firming, tree tie adjustment. Weeds shall not cover more than 20% of the ground surface within planting areas and the maintained 1m diameter weed free circles at any time, and neither shall they exceed 100mm in height. Weeds shall be treated before they establish.

Within grass areas noxious and competitive weeds shall not be allowed to establish and all perennial weeds shall be spot treated at each maintenance visit, 3 times per year.

5.4 Watering:

The contractor is responsible for the survival of all plants during the maintenance period. Apply water to moisten full depth of root run using proprietary irrigation system. Avoid washing or compaction of the soil surface. The Landscape Contractor is responsible for informing the Landscape Architect if the plants require watering. A minimum of 16 no. waterings year1, 8 no. year 2, 4 no. year 3. Prior notification to the landscape architect and a record of attendance will be requested for each visit. Spot checks will be made to ensure full compliance with this condition.

5.5 PROGRAMME

Year One (After Planting): Period of 12 months from date of practical completion

5.5.1 By end of May (Year One):

Application of herbicide agreed with Landscape Architect to all planting areas. Protect all plants. Hand weed all large weeds too close to nursery stock for safe treatment. Strim long grass prior to spray

application. Provision for 1 no. visit for spot weed control application to areas where perennial weeds are apparent in the grass sward. Tip prune, firm plants. Grass cutting. All necessary cultural/husbandry methods to be completed in order to leave the sites in a clean, orderly and tidy manner. Water select standard trees.

Critical date: 30 May (Year One)

5.5.2 By end August (Year One):

Application of herbicide agreed with Landscape Architect to all planting areas. Protect all plants. Hand weed all large weeds too close to nursery stock for safe treatment. Provision for 1 no. visit for spot weed control application to areas where perennial weeds are apparent in the grass sward. All necessary cultural/husbandry methods to be completed in order to leave the sites in a clean, orderly and tidy manner. Grass cutting. All necessary cultural/husbandry methods to be completed in order to be completed in order to leave the sites in a clean, orderly and tidy manner. Water select standard trees. Critical Date: 30 August (Year One)

5.5.3 October (Year One): Remove dead plants after Landscape Architect's inspection.

5.5.4 November (Year One): Replacement planting. Tree care shall mean pruning deciduous trees including those of hedgerow form when dormant to promote open frame works in the crown. Remove all suckers and dead branches, and branches that are encroaching on to footpaths should be cut back to point of branching.

5.5.5 By end December:

Application of herbicide agreed with Landscape Architect to all planting areas. Grass cutting. All necessary cultural/husbandry methods to be completed in order to leave the sites in a clean, orderly and tidy manner. Water extra heavy standard trees, standard trees. Critical Date: 30 December (Year One).

5.5.6 Year 2

As year 1.

5.5.7 Year 3

As year 1. Hedgerow to be fully pruned at end of season.

5.5.8 Sweeping and Cleaning

Sweeping shall mean sweeping of the footpaths, playing courts, car parks and the schools road network and removal of all grit rubbish moss and leaves, keeping the hard landscaped areas of the site in a neat and tidy manner. Number of sweepings per annum -12no.

Cleaning shall mean the removal of paper, plastic bags and all other rubbish from grassed areas, roads, car parks, playing courts, shrubbery's, hedging etc. or any part of the school grounds. This operation shall be carried out twice a month.

All dirt and rubbish to be removed off site to a tip to be provided by the Landscape contractor.

Appendix - Programme For Implementation, Maintenance + Defects Period

Autumn leaves shall be swept on a weekly basis from end of October to mid-November (three weeks). Any additional cleaning and sweeping deemed necessary, during the year, and requested by the school for any part of the schools grounds will be paid for at a pro rata basis to the rates for the programmed maintenance schedule.

5.5.9 Other Maintenance Works

All grassed areas are to be edged 3 times a year using a machine and are not to be sprayed.

Carry out any other maintenance to ensure the works are kept in a satisfactory state during the defects liability period.

5.6 Grass Cutting

Grass cutting shall be deemed to include for:

[a] Removal of lodged grass.

[b] Removal and disposal of grass cuttings from adjoining roads and paving.

[c] Removal and disposal of stones and other obstructions from area of grass to be cut.

The pitches and other high profile grassed areas, eg. the schools entrance are to be Fine cut. Fine cutting shall mean mowing to 25mm high. This operation is to be carried out in each location shown on the landscape drawings and in locations as directed on site by a representative of The Department Of Education and Science. A rough schedule is as follows-

March: 1cut April: 3 cuts May: 4 cuts June: 4 cuts July: 4 cuts August: 4 cuts September: 4 cuts October: 4 cuts November - February: 1 cut Total 29 cuts

Fine cutting shall be deemed to include for grass cut to 25mm high evenly over the whole area, with cuttings left evenly spread over the surfaces. Grass not to exceed 50mm between cuts.

Other grass areas of which are less high profile are to be cut 16 times a year. These will include the grassed areas around the woodland areas, in between the pitches and any grassed area hidden from the main road by the school.

Areas indicated as wildflower mix shall be cut three times per annum. Cuts shall be carried out at specified times as agreed with landscape architect and recommended by the wildflower seed producer. Remove cuttings after each cut and remove offsite to tip.

Leave cuttings evenly spread. This operation is to be carried out in each location shown on the landscape drawings and in locations as directed on site by a representative of the Board Of Management.

At every second grass cut, grass shall be trimmed from around the base of walls and fences, back of footpaths and kerbs, litter bins, sluice valves and hydrant markers, trees, shrubberies poles and public lighting columns etc., and kept in a neat and tidy condition.

The contractor shall apply Supertox (Intrepid 1997), a broad spectrum weed killer, once a year, mid April, at the recommended application rate, to control weeds in the grassed areas during the growing season. In addition, 1 no. applications of Clovertox herbicide to kill off clover in the grass areas shall be applied in April.

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