

7.0 LANDSCAPE MITIGATION

Legend:
Site boundary



Figure 9 Landscape Mitigation Sketch Plan
To be read in conjunction with *landscape plans and Mitigation sketches in Appendix F*



Existing vegetation in and around the site. Consists of mature trees and hedges



Mitigation planting - to include native trees and hedges and species rich grass areas. NTS.



Existing PROW

7.1. A number of measures have been incorporated into the site design to ensure that any adverse landscape and visual effects of the proposed development are minimised. These include primary (embedded) mitigation which includes the siting, design and choice of materials and secondary mitigation, informed by this assessment to address outstanding effects. Full landscape plans and supporting mitigation sketches in relation to improvements along the PROW LWR/36 are included in **Appendix E**.

Landscape Mitigation

7.2. Landscape mitigation measures that have been incorporated are as follows:

- Retention and enhancement of the existing vegetation together with new hedgerow planting on the site's boundaries and allowance for buffers off existing vegetated edges;
- 1 • Creation of two habitat strips through the site running north-south, encompassing, in the east, the existing series of ponds and associated undergrowth. These areas are free from development and will include enhancements to the diversity of vegetation in this area with some new edges to enclose and define the strips;
- Existing Green Infrastructure (GI) corridors along field boundaries are retained and will be allowed to grow though less intensive management regime, providing continued enclosure to the fields within the site;
- 2 • Enhancements to the planting along the LRW 39 PROW that skirts the south of the site to create stretches of double hedgerow (similar in character to what is experienced further along this route around the derelict Endland's Farm) to mitigate against the small lengths of hedgerow lost for access, help filter views north across the site and enhance the existing habitat corridor;
- 3 • Proposed planting and enhancements along LRW 36 PROW. New hedges to the east and west along with scattered copses and trees within the central portion of the site assist in soften views of the development whilst creating a stronger GI link across the site;
- 4 • Filling gaps, widening existing hedgerows and additional tree planting in areas along southern boundaries, especially in areas close to the Ladden Brook;
- 5 • Enhancements and augmentation to hedgerows to the west that bound Bristol Road to soften visual impact of PVs along Bristol Road and from further west;
- 6 • Hedgerow planting and scattered trees along the southern edge of PROW LRW 37 to help screen the development and enhance the GI network;
- Retention of rough grassland within the site and seeding, where appropriate, of species rich grass in verges and beneath panels; and
- Site wide specific ecological interventions such as brash and hibernacula creation; and bird and bat boxes positioned on mature trees throughout the site.

7.3. The landscape mitigation proposed as part of the development has been considered in terms of strategic and local context in order to fit with the existing character of the site as well as Green Infrastructure policies for the area.

7.4. Mitigation measures should be read in conjunction with those stated within the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report (TLP, May 2020) to ensure any loss of existing habitat is offset through defined management approaches for existing habitats within the rest of the site.

Design

7.5. In order to ensure new ancillary features are as unobtrusive as possible, the CCTV masts, the switchroom, transformer, inverter cabin and fencing will be finished in muted colours, either grey or green.