

Landscape Statement

Powerleague, Manchester Nicholls

Applicant: Powerleague Fives Limited

25th March 2024
L050-RP01

Landscape Proposals

Introduction

This document has been compiled by Urban Landscape Partnership with input from Greengage and Arbtech Consulting Ltd, on behalf of Powerleague Fives Limited. The document explains the proposed approach for the construction of six padel tennis courts with associated fencing, floodlighting and canopies, together with hard/soft landscaping and cycle parking, at Powerleague, Manchester Nicholls.

Landscape Proposals

The landscape proposals aim to maximise the opportunity for green infrastructure and biodiversity on the site through tree planting and wildflower lawns, areas of scrub, and biodiverse roof habitat on the ground, to mitigate the loss of existing trees and vegetation, and to enhance the ecological value of the site.

Maintenance and Management

An active management and maintenance strategy is integral to the success of the landscape strategy. The strategy will be in place to ensure spaces are protected and maintained.

Associated Information

This report is to be read in conjunction with the following drawings:

L050-PL-01 Landscape General Arrangement Plan

L050-PL-02 Tree Planting Plan

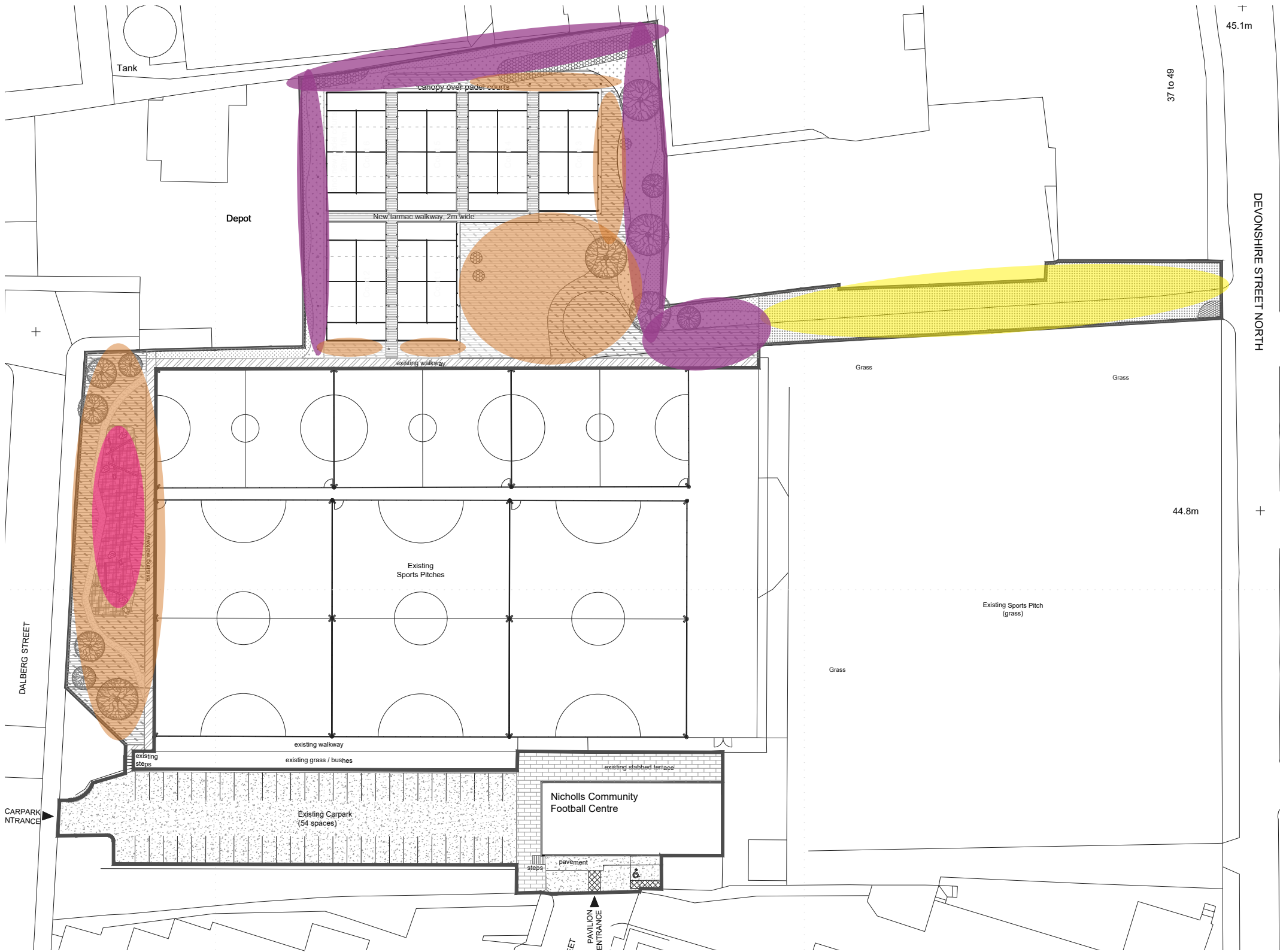
L050-PL-03 Planting Strategy Plan

L050-PL-04 Typical Landscape Details

Ecological and Arboricultural Surveys

For further information, refer to the Ecological Report prepared by Greengage, and the Arboricultural Survey prepared by Arbtech Consulting Ltd.

Landscape Strategy



The key landscape design principles are described as follows:

- Areas of Ecological Enhancement - trees and scrub
- Areas of Ecological Enhancement - trees wildflowers
- Biodiverse roof habitat (on ground level)
- Existing bramble and grassland. Area left to regenerate naturally post access route construction

Landscape Strategy Plan

Biodiversity

Biodiversity

The proposals aim to provide an ecologically rich landscape, which benefits the environment and users. The site can largely be sub-divided into four main categories as outlined below, each provide a varied landscape character to the site and enrich the setting of the proposals.

A. Biodiverse Roof Habitat

As one walks from the entrance towards the west of site (towards the padel courts), they approach an area of biodiverse roof habitat at ground level. Low organic substrate (e.g recycled crushed brick, expanded clay, shale, composted pine bark) will be set out in mounds varying between 150mm-200mm in depth. The substrate will be seeded with a wildflower seed mix, EM1 - Basic General Purpose Meadow Mixture. Additional biodiversity interest will be provided by log piles, sandy piles, water trays and stone piles. A direct path is retained alongside the existing sports pitches, and a secondary meandering path is proposed though the area. The biodiverse roof habitat area is encompassed by wildflower lawns and trees.

B. Wildflower lawns

The approach to the padel courts is lined with wildflower lawns, which also extends to the south and east of the padel courts. A large area is proposed as a wildflower mix which can be mown regularly, creating a space for people to sit and dwell whilst waiting to use the courts. Adjacent to this wildflower mix is another mix, which will be left uncut to create a succession of vegetation in the landscape towards the boundary.

C. Mixed Scrub

Next to the wildflower area will be a proposed area of mixed scrub, with clearings, which will contain a number of species to improve the biodiversity. This proposed mixed scrub will abut the existing areas of scrub which will be mostly retained adjacent to the boundary.

D. Existing Grassland

To the east of the site is an area that is largely existing bramble and grassland. This area will be left to regenerate naturally after the access route construction.



Example of biodiverse substrate



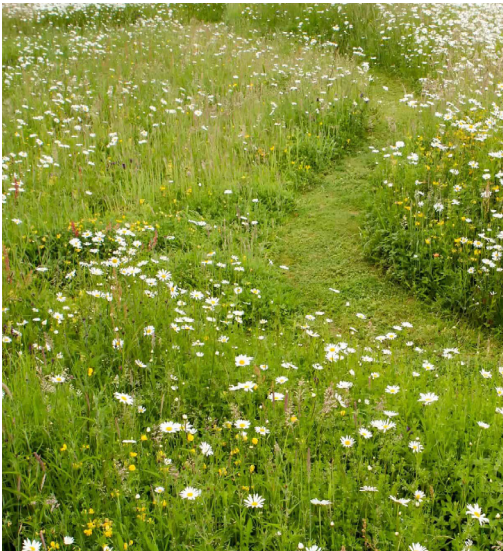
Example of wildflowers in substrate



Example of log piles and stone piles



Example of stone piles, vegetation and substrate



Example of wildflower lawns with mown paths



Example of mixed hedge

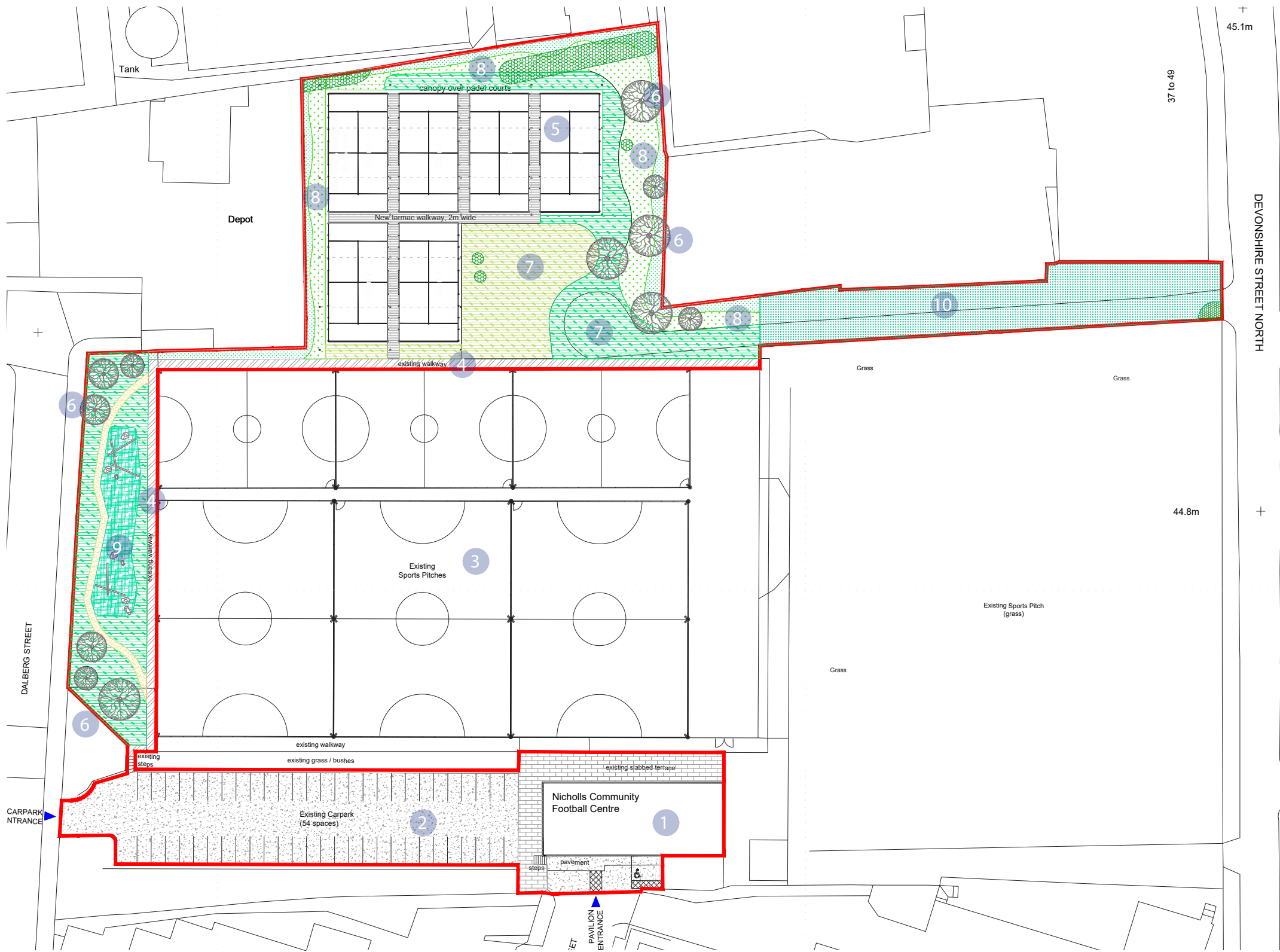


Planting to attract bees and other fauna



Example of tree with berries

Landscape Masterplan



Legend

- 1 Nicholls Community Football Centre
- 2 Existing Car Park
- 3 Existing Sports Pitches
- 4 Existing Walkway
- 5 Proposed Padel Courts (6no.)
- 6 Proposed Trees
- 7 Proposed wildflower areas
- 8 Scrub planting
- 9 Biodiverse roof habitat at ground level, with wildflowers, log piles, sandy piles, water trays and stone piles
- 10 Existing bramble and grassland. Area left to regenerate naturally post access route construction

Masterplan

Planting Strategy - Trees

Planting Principles

Planting will contribute to biodiversity. A simple green framework of trees and scrub will be proposed. The planting palette will be assembled within a set of over-arching criteria to ensure that the planting is:

- Robust
- Hardy
- Maximizes biodiversity potential
- Contributes to seasonal variation
- Provides nectar
- Is not onerous to maintain



Acer campestre
Field Maple

8m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 12m high



Viburnum lantana
Wayfaring tree

4m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 4m high



Malus sylvestris
Crab apple

4m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 8m high



Prunus Padus
Bird cherry

8m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 8m high



Sorbus torminalis
Wild Service Tree

8m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 8m high



Sorbus aucuparia
Rowan

8m wide max. canopy at
maturity x 8m high

Planting Strategy - Scrub and Wildflower Areas

Scrub

Areas of scrub are proposed to make a valuable contribution to the soft landscape structure, with particular reference to the provision of wildlife habitat and biodiversity.



Sambucus nigra
Common elder

Native



Prunus spinosa
Blackthorn

RHS Plants for Pollinators
Native



Ulmus
Elm

RHS Plants for Pollinators
Native



Sorbus aucuparia
Rowan

RHS Plants for Pollinators
Native



Cornus
Dogwood

Native



Crataegus monogyna
Common Hawthorn

RHS Plants for Pollinators
Native



Corylus avellana
Hazel

Native

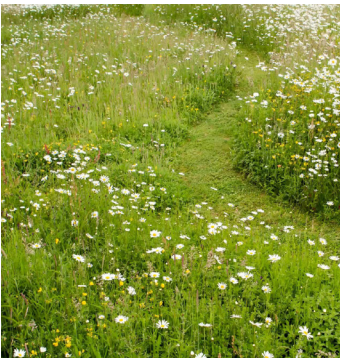
Wildflower Mixes

A selection of grassland seed mixes that will be suitable for proposed locations, and also thrive and provide ecological benefit are proposed.



WF1

Mix EM2 Standard General Purpose Wild Flowers (left uncut).
Supplied by Emorsgate Seeds



WF2

Mix EL1 - Flowering Lawn Mixture (regularly cut and sword height kept low).
Supplied by Emorsgate Seeds



BauderGREEN Flora Seed

Mix (planted in substrate of biodiverse green roof habitat)
Supplied by Bauder