

design philosophy

landscape infrastructure

The proposed development at St Nicholas retains the existing field patterns, gapping up existing hedges where necessary and planting a new hedge along the fenced boundary behind Plots 48-53. The boundary hedgerows and trees provide landscape infrastructure to the site, providing screening, promoting biodiversity and linking the surrounding countryside with new back gardens. The hedges also provide connection to proposed wildlife corridors within the site layout, which are formed by interlinking Public Open Spaces, garden hedges and groups of trees.

Closeboard fencing has been omitted or reduced in the most visible areas, in particular adjacent to the Conservation Area, and hedges planted in preference.

The site layout allows pedestrian permeability, and good links to the local Public Rights of Way.

planting species

Native species will be used for boundary trees and hedgerows, and will be locally sourced to maintain local provenance.

A selection of evergreen trees typical of the area, such as cedar, will be specified in public open spaces, to reinforce the character of St Nicholas.

The ornamental landscape proposals will provide a mix of evergreen and deciduous shrub species for winter interest and summer colour. Longer front gardens are bounded with traditional hedges to provide enclosure and privacy, and act as wildlife corridors. Planting enhances narrow frontages and highlights key locations such as focal points and corners.

'Arts & Craft' style houses will be complemented with planting design observing Arts & Craft garden principles e.g. use of topiaries and hedges, symmetry around front doors, evergreen structure plants and climbers. Small ornamental trees such as Japanese maple and flowering dogwoods will provide vertical elements to tie the building into the landscape, as will large shrubs and topiaries in the eaves of the house. Also typical of the style, planting is in moderately large masses and often in a geometric shape.

Street trees such as fasciate forms of *Carpinus* and *Sorbus*, will provide a vertical element to balance the height of the houses and soften the built form. Smaller ornamental trees are planted in smaller gardens, including orchard trees in back gardens. *Picea* and *Stipa* provide accent planting in areas too close to buildings for trees.

The opportunity of a sunny aspect will be used for planting sun-loving species such as *Cistus* and *Rosmarinus*. Where beds face north, these are to be planted with shade tolerant species such as *Heuchera*, *Euonymus* and *Mahonia*.

A proportion of evergreen plants will provide winter presence; species will include contemporary plants which provide summer flowers also e.g. *Hebe*, *Liriope*. Scented and aromatic species such as lavender and *Stimulia* will be used adjacent to front doors. Climbers such as *Wisteria* and *Ceanothus* will be used against walls. Accent planting is to be provided by the vertical elements of grasses and phormiums or by contrasting colours, such as the yellow *Escallonia* 'Gold Brian'. Plant combinations will provide colour and textural contrast, such as *Photinia* with *Ceanothus*. A majority of species provide biodiversity interest, as well as scent and colour for people.

Species are tough ornamentals and are selected for their suitability in a lowland climate. All species are relatively low maintenance. All plants however will require adequate irrigation until establishment.

legend

- existing hedges and trees to be retained, with Root Protection Areas shown in orange
- proposed front garden and open space turf
- proposed back garden turf
- proposed wild flower turf
- proposed garden hedges
- proposed native hedges
- proposed planting
- proposed native/structural trees
- proposed ornamental/fruit trees
- proposed structural coniferous trees



Retain character of field pattern with small-medium fields and trees in hedgerows; maintain biodiversity and wildlife corridors

Existing hedges to be laid and gapped up where necessary

Proposed native hedgerow and trees, protected with stockproof fencing on site boundary

Existing hedge to be realigned

New trees planted to replace those which need to be felled

New groups of trees will reinforce the site boundary and screen views into the site

Existing hedges to be laid and gapped up where necessary

Plant up gaps in hedgerow to provide green boundary

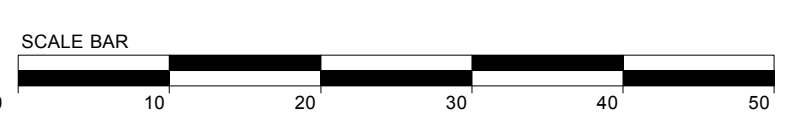
New groups of trees will reinforce the site boundary and screen views into the site from the core of the Conservation Area

New groups of trees will reinforce the site boundary and screen views into the site

Continue hedgerow to provide green boundary with Conservation Area

Green pedestrian & wildlife corridor through site

Existing hedge retained in lieu of closeboard fence and occasional trees allowed to grow up.



Revision A March 2015: Additional boundary tree planting

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