**Ground preparation:** Protect retained trees/areas of retained soil where structural landscaping is proposed in accordance with an approved Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan. Tree protection fencing shall be erected as noted within an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan. The fence is to maintained for the duration of the works. Protection of existing trees against damage to be in accordance with the BS 5837:2012 - Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. Protective fence to be approved by the LPA. Any excavations shall be in accordance with B.S. 8000 part 1:1989.

Landscape planting areas to have a minimum depth of soil of 500mm and grass areas will have 300mm.
Loosen formation level with single tine ripper, driven 450mm deep at 1m centres, when ground conditions are dry.

Imported Subsoil: Where necessary, supply approved imported subsoil to B.S. 8601:2013 Specification for subsoil and requirements for use - Multipurpose subsoil to make up any deficiency in on-site subsoil.
Spread and level to depth of:
- 200mm for planting areas
- 200mm for grass areas

Imported topsoil: Where necessay, supply approved imported topsoil to B.S. 3882:2015 Specification for topsoil - Multipurpose topsoil to make up for any deficiency in on-site topsoil.
Spread and level to depth of:
- 300mm for planting areas
- 100mm for grass areas

Backfilling: Backfill tree pits with 100/300mm depth subsoil and 400mm topsoil including Melcourt Topgrow peat free planting compost or similar approved at a rate of 0.125m³/pit.

Backfill shrub pits with topsoil including Melcourt Topgrow peat free planting compost or similar approved at a rate of 1.0m³/20m².

Cultivation: Do not cultivate tree and shrub planting soils, only cultivate prior to planting if the soil is compacted (for example due due site/construction activities). For grass seeding areas, cultivate topsoil to a loose friable tilth suitable for grass seeding. Collect and remove from site all stones, builders' rubble and other deleterious material over 50mm in any dimension.

**Grass Areas:**
Supply and spread pre-seeding N:P:K. fertiliser (10:15:10) at a rate of 30g/m²
Grass areas to be sown at a rate of 35g/m² with a suitable grass seed mix such as Germinal A19. Initial grass cutting and edge trimming down to 50mm

**Planting Areas:**
Excavation: Any excavations in order to win soil for re-use as part of landscaping must be undertaken in accordance with BS 3882:2015, BS 8601:2013 and the 2009 DEFRA Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites.

Trees: excavate a few centimeters shallower than root-ball and twice its width with sloping, scarified sides. Root-balls of trees shall be set on a 150mm depth of horticultural grade sharp sand. Semi-Mature trees shall be set on a 400-450mm depth of horticultural grade sharp sand. Shrubs: excavate 300 x 300 x 300mm depth.

Plant specifications: Plant specification to be in accordance with the HTA National Plant Specification: 03/02.
Tree planting to be in accordance with BS 8545:2014 - Trees from nursery to independence in the landscape recommendations.

Fertiliser: Supply and plant, incorporating slow release fertiliser N:P:K - 4:19:10 ENMAG or similar approved at the following rates:
- Feathered Trees: 100g / tree pit
- Standard/Selected Standard Trees: 100g / tree pit
- Heavy/Extra Heavy Standard Trees: 130g / tree pit
- Shrubs: 70g / m²

Tree stakes: Provide and fix tree stakes and ties to the following dimensions:
- Feathered Trees: overall length 1250mm; height above ground: 600mm
- Standard/Selected Standard Trees: overall length 1500; height above ground: 750mm
- Heavy/Extra Heavy Standard Trees: overall length 1500; height above ground: 750mm

Provide and spread evenly over all planting areas an organic graded bark flakes or similar approved bark mulch to a depth of 50mm.

**General Notes:**
Substitutions, if made, should be similar in size, form and water demand.
Plants shall be arranged to avoid straight lines and geometric patterns.

**Maintenance:**
All landscape areas to be maintained in accordance with B.S. 7370 Part 3:1991 and Part 4:1993; including weed control, and adjustment to tree stakes and ties.

Soft landscape areas to be maintained in accordance with **B.S. 7370 Part 3:1991** and Part 4:1993. The maintenance of trees should be in accordance with **BS 3998:2010** and **BS 8545:2014.** Maintenance operations to successfully establish plants shall be carried out for the first 5 years after planting.

Maintenance operations for successful plant establishment shall include watering; weed control; fertiliser application; pest and disease control; pruning; and litter picking. Watering for trees should follow an irrigation plan in accordance with BS 8545:2014 and must be in anticipation of drought.

Tree pruning should be in the winter months or summer (July-August). Cherries must be pruned only in the summer months after flowering.

The replacement of failed trees should occur once reasons for failure have been identified and amendments to the specification are made as necessary. Shrubs which die, are removed or become seriously damaged shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. For all new landscape areas, the following maintenance programme shall be undertaken:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Inspections:** | January - December. Replace dead plants when necessary. |
| **Watering:** | When necessary in accordance with an irrigation plan. |
| **Pest and disease control:** | January. |
| **Litter removal:** | January - December |
| **Weed control:** | February - May; July; and September. |
| **Prune:** | Winter months or summer. |
| **Fork over planting beds:** | March. |
| **Cut grass and trim edges:** | March - October. |
| **Apply fertiliser:** | April. |
| **Lightly fork over planting beds:** | September. |
| **Rake / scarify grass** | September. |
| **Mulch:** | Mid to late spring. |

Watering: Water trees in accordance with an irrigation plan as per BS 8545:2014. Watering shrubs shall be carried out to maintain vigorous plant growth. Water shall soak into the ground; it is not sufficient to dampen the surface. Water must be applied slowly to avoid damage to plants.

Weed control: Hand weed to remove all weeds and their roots using a hoe, trowel or fork. Apply a herbicide to kill re-growth when required.

Fertiliser: Applications of fertiliser to be carried out early in the growing season. Ensure correct fertiliser application. Inspect once a month and after very heavy winds. Adjust ties if necessary to conform to stem growth or to prevent chafing.

Pruning: At the appropriate season for the species, pruning to be carried out to remove all damaged diseased or dead wood. Prune shrubs to ensue the plant is kept well balanced and in good shape. For trees, pruning shall be in accordance with BS 3998:2010.

Pest and disease control: To be carried out if necessary and in accordance with best practice.

Litter removal: Collect and remove all extraneous rubbish.

Fork over planting beds: Prick up trodden or compacted soil surfaces to aerate the soil without damaging the plants.

Mulching: Mulching to be topped up annually over the duration of the agreed maintenance period. At the end of the maintenance period, undertake a final mulch. Ensure that the soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary. Planting beds and trees: re-mulch to a minimum depth of 50 mm.

Mowing: Amenity grass areas shall be managed to a height of 40mm. Species rich grass areas to be mowed as advised by the supplier.

Raking/Scarifying: Relieve thatched conditions and remove dead grass in the autumn over all grassed areas.

Spiking (Aeration): Aerate to increase water, nutrient and oxygen movement into the soil.

General: If grass surface is disturbed by over use, restore by firming or lifting with a fork

Any newly planted trees, plants or hedgerows, which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed, become seriously damaged or diseased, or in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority otherwise defective, shall be replaced. Replacement planting shall take place during the first available planting season

Damp grassland areas: Emorsgate Seeds EM8: Meadow Mixture for Wetlands, or similar and approved

Suggested Sowing Rates
40kg/ha 16kg/acre 4g/m2

Description
EM8 contains species suitable for seasonally wet soils and is based on the vegetation of traditional floodplain and water meadows. Soils in wet meadows may flood for short periods in winter, but are usually well drained in summer.

Ground Preparation
Endeavour to select ground that is not highly fertile and does not have a problem with perennial weeds. Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing.

To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation. Then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium tilth, and roll, or tread, to produce a firm surface.

Sowing
Sowings on ground prone to winter flooding are safest either in the early autumn or in spring once the land has drained. Most plants need time to grow mature enough to withstand flooding.

The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out, divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

First Year Management
Most of the sown meadow species are perennial and are slow to establish. Soon after sowing there will be a flush of annual weeds, arising from the soil seed bank. These weeds can look unsightly, but they will offer shelter to the sown seedlings, are great for bugs, and they will die before the year is out. So resist cutting the annual weeds until mid to late summer, especially if the mixture contains Yellow Rattle, or has been sown with a nurse of cornfield annuals. Then cut, remove and compost. Early August is a good time. This will reveal the young meadow, which can then be kept short by grazing or mowing through to the end of March of the following year. Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

Management Once Established
In the second and subsequent years EM8 sowings can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine the character of the grassland. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn and possibly spring mowing or grazing.

Meadow grassland is not cut or grazed from spring through to late July/August to give the sown species an opportunity to flower. After flowering in July or August take a 'hay cut' : cut back with a scythe, petrol strimmer or tractor mower to c 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days then remove from site. Mow or graze the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to c 50mm and again in spring if needed.

Wetland habitats are characteristically quite variable in composition, reflecting local drainage and management. Conditions can vary, for instance, between the highs and lows in ridge and furrow grassland. Localized differences may require a targeted approach. For example, boggy areas which remain waterlogged for much of the year may be best sown with pond edge mixture EP1.

Composition
EM8 is a complete mix composed of 20% native wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight). The flower and grass components are also available to order separately as EM8F for the flower component and EG8 for the grass component.

Ref: https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/meadow-mixtures-for-specific-soils/meadow-mixture-for-wetlands/

Species-rich grass / wildflowers / long grass: kept long and short: Emorsgate Seeds EM1: Basic General Purpose Meadow Mixture, or similar and approved

Suggested Sowing Rates
40kg/ha 16kg/acre 4g/m2

Description
This is a simple low cost meadow mixture suitable for a wide range of soil types. The wild flowers are robust and showy, and the grasses are fine and slow growing.

Ground Preparation
Endeavour to select ground that is not highly fertile and does not have a problem with perennial weeds. Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing.

To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation. Then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium tilth, and roll, or tread, to produce a firm surface.

Sowing
Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

First Year Management
Most of the sown meadow species are perennial and are slow to establish. Soon after sowing there will be a flush of annual weeds, arising from the soil seed bank. These weeds can look unsightly, but they will offer shelter to the sown seedlings, are great for bugs, and they will die before the year is out. So resist cutting the annual weeds until mid to late summer, especially if the mixture contains Yellow Rattle, or has been sown with a nurse of cornfield annuals. Then cut, remove and compost. Early August is a good time. This will reveal the young meadow, which can then be kept short by grazing or mowing through to the end of March of the following year. Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

Management Once Established
In the second and subsequent years EM1 sowings can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine the character of the grassland. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn and possibly spring mowing or grazing.

Meadow grassland is not cut or grazed from spring through to late July/August to give the sown species an opportunity to flower.

After flowering in July or August take a 'hay cut': cut back with a scythe, petrol strimmer or tractor mower to c 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days then remove from site. Mow or graze the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to c 50mm and again in spring if needed.

Composition
EM1 is a complete mix composed of 10% native wild flowers and 90% slow growing grasses (by weight). The flower and grass components are also available to order separately as EM1F for the flower component and EG1 for the grass component.

Ref: https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/general-purpose-meadow-mixtures/basic-general-purpose-meadow-mixture/

Amenity grass such as Germinal A19 All Purpose Landscaping, or similar and approved

Suggested Sowing Rates
50g/m2

Description
A19 is a universal mixture suitable for domestic lawns and commercial landscaping projects. It produces a fine even textured ground cover which maintains good all year greenness. Suitable for most amenity situations such as road verges, lawns and even school playing fields.

Sow between March - October . Sowing depth: 10mm.

Minimum cuts per year: 10. Cutting height - down to 20mm.

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH / BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN

# Llantarnum 3G Pitch

# Specification LA.3

TC23136_Landscape Plans v11.dwg 1 June 2023

tir collective LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
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