**Badsey Parish**

**Allotments, Cemetery and Orchard on land at Pear Tree Corner.**

**Aims of the planting**

**There are three main aims for this site.**

**Firstly to provide a practical, usable setting for the three functions of the area.**

**Secondly to provide an attractive backcloth and setting for the enjoyment of visitors, allotment holders, volunteers and all site users.**

**Thirdly to ensure that as far as possible the planting and its future maintenance enhances the local habitat for the benefit of the wildlife of the area.**

**Each of the lettered sections below refers to the accompanying plan.**

**A**

**Area of Hedge along Willersey Road [North]**

The hedge here has a good quantity of elm several of which are already dead and others will follow as they mature and the beetle invades the plants. These dead elms will need removing on an ongoing basis and the gaps planted up with either Crataegus monogyna [Hawthorn] or Prunus spinosa [Blackthorn]

**B**

**Area of Hedge along Willersey Road [East]**

The hedge here is in good condition and has been well maintained so it will be kept in same way in future.

**C**

**Exisiting self-seeded hedge between the two sections of Orchard.**

This hedge is mainly Hawthorn with some Blackthorn. It has been maintained but varies in thickness. It is proposed therefore to thicken up the gaps with Acer campestre [Field Maple], Cornus sanguinea [Dogwood] and Corylus avellana [Hazel] and the occasional wild pear Pyrus communis to diversify this habitat.

**D**

**Proposed New Hedge between Burial Grounds and the Orchard.**

This area is approximately 130m long.

Proposal is to plant a thick hedge 2 plants wide using bare root whips of 450 – 900 mm high in alternating rows at 1.5m spacing between plants and each row.

Ground will be cleared of weeds and grass before planting and the base of the new plants kept clean to prevent competition for water and nutrients whilst hedge establishes.

Total width of the hedge will be around 1.5 – 2m when first planted but will thicken out when established and be allowed to grow to be 3-4m wide. Hedge to be topped and sided annually in winter before bird nesting starts.

Species to be used are as below in a random mix to provide best natural appearance. Species are all native and will provide great benefit to a range of insects and so enhance the general food chain and wildlife value.

**Total number of plants required is 180.**

Acer campestre [field maple] 20

Clematis vitalba [old man’s beard] 5

Crataegus monogyna [hawthorn] 50

Corylus avellana [hazel] 20

Prunus spinosa [blackthorn] 30

Ilex aquifolium [holly] 10

Cornus sanguinea [common dogwood] 15

Frangula alnus [alder buckthorn] 15

Rosa canina [dog rose] 5

Euonymus europaeus [spindle bush] 10

NB:- There are two flowering cherry trees, one each side of the entrance to cemetery to tie in with the trees that will be in the central feature circle.

**E**

**New Copse planting along the Burial Grounds [Southern side]**

Area approximately - 10m wide x 80m long.

Aim for this area is to provide a matrix of trees and shrubs with some larger canopy species and lower growing understorey species to provide an attractive backcloth and shelter from the prevailing SW wind as well as being of general wildlife value.

**Canopy Trees as listed below to be planted on a 5m Grid and randomly**

**dispersed.**

**No of Trees required – 32**

Acer pseudoplatanus [sycamore] 5

Betula pendula [birch] 3

Carpinus betulus [hornbeam] 3

Fraxinus excelsior [ash] 3

Populus tremula [aspen] 4

Prunus avium [bird cherry] 5

Tilia cordata [small leaved lime] 4

Quercus robur [oak] 5

**Understorey trees/shrubs to be planted on a 1.5m grid.**

**No of trees/shrubs required – 240**

Crataegus monogyna [hawthorn] 30

Cornus sanguinea [common dogwood] 15

Corylus avellana [hazel] 40

Ilex aquifolium [holly] 20

Ramnus cathcartica [buckthorn] 20

Salix caprea [ pussy willow] 25

Salix cinerea [grey willow] 20

Salix viminalis [osier] 10

Sambucus nigra [elder] 30

Sorbus aucuparia [mountain ash] 15

Viburnum opulus [ guelder rose] 15

**F**

**Screening hedge type planting along boundary between the Burial Grounds and The Paddocks residential buildings.**

Area approximately 120m x 5m

Standard Tree planting to give height at intervals along the hedge. These trees will not be pruned annually but be allowed to grow to their mature heights. Planted in a non-regular spacing to give a natural flow to the screen.

**Total No of Standard Trees required – 20.**

Acer pseudoplatanus [sycamore] 2

Betula pendula [ birch] 4

Prunus avium [bird cherry] 3

Tilia cordata [small leaved lime] 4

Quercus robur [oak] 7

**Hedgerow species to be planted at 1.5m spacing in 3 alternating rows.**

**No of trees/shrubs required – 240**

Acer campestre [field maple] 30

Crataegus monogyna [hawthorn] 45

Corylus avellana [hazel] 30

Ilex aquifolium [holly] 20

Ligustrum vulgare [wild privet] 30

Prunus spinosa [blackthorn] 30

Ramnus cathcartica [buckthorn] 15

Rosa canina [dog rose] 5

Salix caprea [pussy willow] 15

Sambucus nigra [elder] 20

**G**

**Copse planting along the boundary between the Burial Grounds and the Allotments.**

Area approximately 60m long x 10m wide

The planting here is to have the inclusion of some non-native trees and shrubs to give greater all year round visual appeal for visitors to the burial ground whilst still providing screening and value for wildlife.

**Canopy Trees as listed below to be planted on a 5m Grid and randomly dispersed.**

**No of Trees required – 25**

Acer saccharum [sugar maple] 2

Alnus glutinosa [alder] at pond end of the copse 3

Betula nigra [river birch] - at the pond end of the copse. 3

Carpinus betulus [hornbeam] at eastern end of the copse 3

Fraxinus excelsior [ash] 2

Juglans regia [walnut] 2

Pyrus communis [wild pear] 3

Tilia cordata [small leaved lime] 2

Quercus petraea [sessile oak] 2

Quercus robur [oak] 3

**Understorey trees/shrubs to be planted on a 1.5m grid.**

**No of trees/shrubs required – 125**

NB:- some of these shrubs will need to be at the front edge of the copse not directly in shade under the trees. All the others will tolerate shade.

Buddleia davidii - at front edge in the light 5

Corylus avellana [hazel] 20

Escallonia Apple Blossom - at front edge 5

Ilex aquifolium [holly] 15

Prunus lusitanica [Portuguese laurel] 25

Rosa rugosa alba [white rugosa rose] – front edge 5

Rosa rugosa Frau Dagmar Hastrup [pink rugosa rose] front edge 5

Sambucus nigra [elder] 15

Sarcoccoca confuse [sweet box] 10

Symphoricarpos albus [snowberry] 10

Viburnum opulus [ guelder rose] 10

**H**

**Screen planting along boundary between the Allotments and The Paddocks residential buildings.**

It is proposed to continue the type of planting as per section F along the boundary but for its edge to vary in width so that it will be more natural in appearance and as it will not be formally cut each year it will blend out to form a coppice with an informal path through from the car park to the Burial Grounds past the wildlife pond.

Area approximately 70m long x 15m wide allowing for a clear central pathway.

**Total No of Standard Trees required – 40.**

Acer pseudoplatanus [sycamore] 5

Betula pendula [birch] 10

Prunus avium [bird cherry] 5

Tilia cordata [small leaved lime] 5

Quercus robur [oak] 15

**Hedgerow species to be planted at 1.5m spacing in 10 alternating rows, approx. 5 each side of the central pathway.**

Planting rows to be thicker one side and then the other to allow for the pathway to have a broad shallow curve along its route.

**No of trees/shrubs required – 500**

Acer campestre [field maple] 50

Crataegus monogyna [hawthorn] 130

Clematis vitalba [Old man’s beard] 15

Cornus sanguinea [dogwood] 35

Corylus avellana [hazel] 50

Ilex aquifolium [holly] 30

Ligustrum vulgare [wild privet] 50

Prunus spinosa [blackthorn] 50

Ramnus cathcartica [buckthorn] 25

Rosa canina [dog rose] 10

Salix caprea [pussy willow] 15

Salix cinerea [grey willow] 15

Sambucus nigra [elder] 25

**I**

**Screen planting between the car park and The Paddocks residential buildings.**

Approximately 30m long x 3m wide

Crataegus monogyna hedge planted at 1.5 m spacing in alternating rows. 40 plants

**J**

**Low hedge around the orchard/burial grounds car park.**

A low hedge to screen the cars but not high enough to feel unsecure or prevent views into the orchard and beyond. Cotoneaster is covered with small flowers in spring which are very attractive to bees providing them with nectar.

Cotoneaster simonsii 100

**K**

**Planting in and around the proposed wildlife pond.**

Species to include

Caltha palustris [marsh marigold]

Iris pseudoacorus [flag iris]

Juncus effuses [common rush]

Butomus umbellatus [pink flowering rush]

Ranunculus lingua [water buttercup]

Fontinalis antipyretica [native oxygenator]

Ceratophyllum dermersum [Hornwort also oxygenator]

**L**

**Central formal feature in the Burial Grounds with specimen trees and borders.**

There will be a circle in the centre to provide a focal point and routeway to all four quarters of the site and also some sheltered seating for visitors to sit and reflect and rest. Hedge of Prunus lusitanicus to grow to 1.5m high to give shelter interspersed with white and pink flowering cherry trees and shrub borders to provide scent, colour and textural form around the circle.

**M**

**Meadow areas under the orchard trees**

With much of England’s meadows having been lost since the end of the Second World War, there has been a decline each year of the number of insects which in turn affects pollination of crops and the food chain for birds and mammals.

It is important therefore to take the opportunity to improve the existing grassland under the fruit trees to be planted in the Heritage Orchard.

New young fruit trees will need an area of 1m circle around their bases kept clear of grass and herbs during their establishment period to avoid competition for water and nutrients. However this still leaves huge areas of grassland as potential nectar source and shelter for small mammals and birds.

The existing grassland is already quite species rich with a lack of dominant grasses which lends itself well to further diversity in the future. Existing species include vetch, field buttercup and red clover.

Generally the methodology for successfully improving the grassland diversity is as follows.

1. In late September/early October cut the meadow short as possible and remove the cuttings to be used as hay fodder or composted down as soil improver for the allotments.
2. Scarify as much of the area as possible to create bare ground between existing plant stems/roots.
3. Alternative to stages 2 and 3 would be to have the area grazed by sheep in the later summer after seeds have fallen to the ground. Their hooves will help make the bare patches needed for new seeds to germinate.
4. Sow the area with the recommended rate [2grms per m2] of Yellow Rattle seed which acts as a parasite on the more vigorous grasses and slows them down to allow other more choice pants the space they need.
5. Sow seed of other suitable meadow species making sure they have been harvested from a reliable source in the UK and are suitable for the soil conditions.

**N**

**Car park/allotment hedge.**

1. 80% Hawthorn & 20% blackthorn.

**O**

**Hedge around burial ground at a length of 300 metres on a mix of hawthorn and blackthorn**

**Supply and lay 100 square metres worth of mulch for the ornamentals in the central feature, ‘L’.**