

SWARD ESTABLISHMENT

The sward inside the deer fence is to be sown with a Solar Park Permanent Grassland – Low Maintenance (Ref: MIXSPPG) at a rate of 25 Kg per hectare, available from Cotswold Grass Seeds Direct or similar mix from another supplier to approval.

The woodland areas are to be sown with PIAB1 The Operation Pollinator Mix (Just Legumes) Ref: MIXOPANTS at a rate of 12.5 Kg per hectare, available from Cotswold Grass Seeds Direct or another supplier of a similar product to approval.

All areas outside the deer fence but within the Site are to be sown with: Chalk & Limestone Soil Mixture (Ref: Ref: MIXCHA) at a rate of 25 Kg per hectare available from Cotswold Grass Seeds Direct or another supplier of a similar product to approval.

ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

The contractor shall follow the tasks set out in the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Sightline Landscape 2022) for the establishment and maintenance of the trees, woodland, hedges and swards.

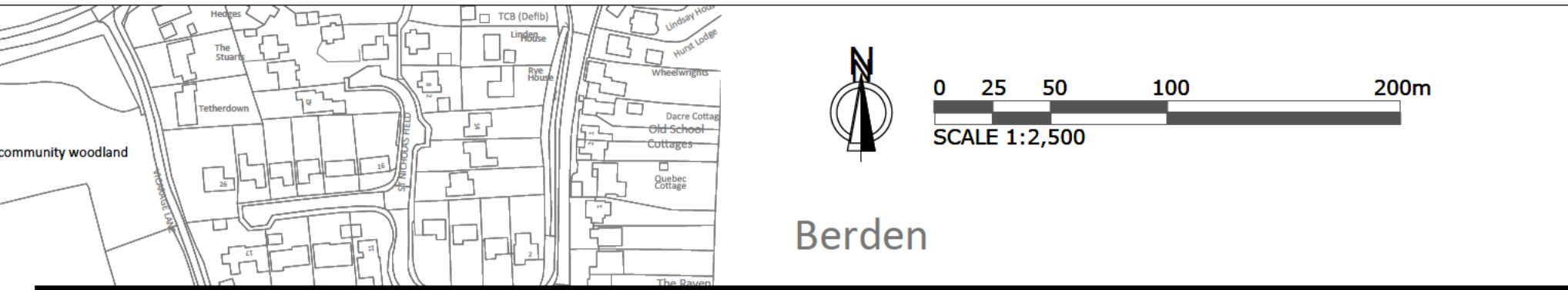
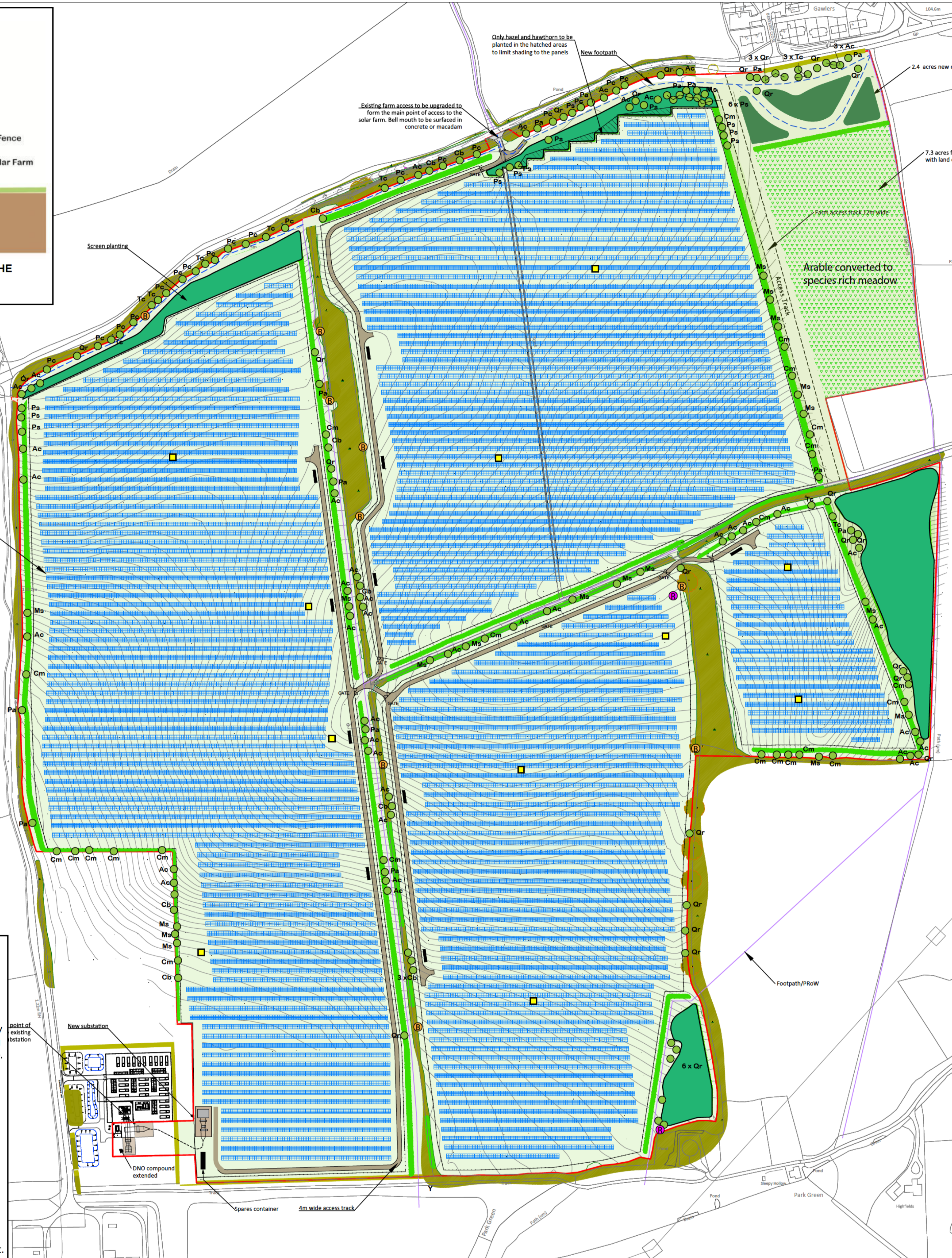


LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

Visual analysis indicates that the proposed solar farm will be well screened by existing tree and hedge cover which lies to the south and west. The more open areas to the east will be screened by hedge and tree planting. The most significant views will be from Ginns Road and higher ground further north. For this reason, it is proposed to plant woodland buffers along the northern edge to augment the existing roadside tree cover and a new hedge which has recently been planted by the landowner. As well as the woodland planting some individual fast-growing trees have been specified to ensure the views from the north are screened as rapidly as possible. Blocks of woodland planting along the eastern edge will screen the solar farm from Berden, nearby footpaths and in long distant views from high ground to the east.

The public rights of way which will pass through the solar farm will be maintained on their current alignment, set within 10 m wide corridors, within which native hedge planting will screen the solar farm from view when in leaf (see inset above). Tall stature trees will be planted where space and shading issues allow, while on other boundaries smaller stature species such as hawthorn and field maple will be planted. The proposed planting will leave a legacy of tree and hedge cover across the Site once the solar farm has been decommissioned.

The slight north facing slope means that the panels will be spaces sufficiently far apart, which combined with the short solar farm grass mix, will provide good nesting opportunities for skylark nesting. The grass sward will also allow sheep grazing within the solar farm if appropriate/practical. Species rich grassland will be specified around the margins and 2.7 hectares of permanent meadow will be established on land outside the array to the east.



PLANTING SCHEDULES AND SPECIFICATIONS

WOODLAND PLANTING				
La0n Name	English Name	Size	Specification	%
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root	10
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	1.2 - 1.5 m high	Bare root feathered tree	5
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	0.9 - 1.5 m high	Bare root feathered tree	4
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	60 - 80 cm transplant	Bare root 1+1	7
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	25
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	45 - 60 cm high	Bare root 1+1	17
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple	60 - 80 cm transplant	Bare root transplant 1+1	4
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Cherry	0.9 - 1.2 m high	Bare root feathered tree	4
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Cherry	60 - 80 cm transplant	Bare root 1+1	5
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak	0.9 - 1.2 m high	Bare root feathered tree	2
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak	45 - 60 cm transplant	Bare root 1+1	8
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small leaved lime	0.9 - 1.2m high	Bare root feathered tree	4
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small leaved lime	60 - 80 cm transplant	Bare root 1+1	5
				100

HEDGE PLANTING				
La0n Name	English Name	Size	Specification	%
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	30
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	45 - 60 cm high	Bare root 1+1	25
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	13
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dog wood	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	7
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	12
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	60 - 90cm high	2 litre container grown	1
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	20 - 40 cm high	2 litre Container grown	2
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	5
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose	60 - 80 cm high	Bare root 1+1	5
				100

INDIVIDUAL TREE PLANTING				
La0n name	English Name	Size	Specification	Code
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Ac
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Cm
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Cb
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Ms
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Cherry	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Pa
<i>Populus canadensis 'Robusta'</i>	Poplar	Standard Tree	2.5 - 3.0 m high feathered tree	Pc
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Qr
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small leaved lime	Standard Tree	8 - 10 cm girth 2.5 - 3.0m high	Tc
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Scots Pine	Specimen	1.25 - 1.5 m high container grown	Ps

EXISTING VEGETATION

Any necessary works being undertaken within close proximity to the retained tree and hedgerows should be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Tree work and Recommendations, BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design Demolition and Construction and NJUG 4 Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees and in consultation with the Tree Protection Plan for the Site. Tree and hedgerow protection measures shall be put in place prior to the start of the main construction works.

PREPARATION

On completion of the construction of the solar farm infrastructure all deleterious construction materials and waste products shall be removed from site. Liaise with the main contractor operator on health and safety requirements, particularly in relation to any excavations near buried electrical cables.

Make good any damaged/disturbed areas by infilling with topsoil previously stripped from hardstanding areas within the site, grading out and cultivating to marry in with existing levels. Areas to be planted shall have a minimum depth of 350 mm topsoil. If less than this, make up the deficit with topsoil from the site strip. By mechanical means, relieve any compaction or areas of poor drainage arising from the construction works

PROPOSED PLANTING

Planting to be supplied in accordance with BS 3936-1:1992 Nursery Stock. specification for trees and shrubs, BS 3936-4:2007 Nursery Stock, BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape. All landscaping works to be in accordance with BS4428:1989 "General Landscaping Works." All planting should be UK grown and, where possible, sourced from local provenance certified stock. Planting to take place during the months of November to March, preferably before January and at a time when the soil is not frozen or waterlogged.

Trees and hedges will be planted into arable farmed soil. Transplants to be notch planted and trees to be pit planted with the pit being the depth of the rootball and 20% wider than the rootball. Backfill with existing site soil.

WOODLAND PLANTING

Transplants and feathered trees for the woodland area shall be planted in a loose grid at 2.25m centres. Species shall be randomly mixed and feathered trees and transplants to be evenly distributed across the woodland area. Transplants to be protected with biodegradable, staked deer shelters Feathered trees are to be fixed to a 50 mm dia. stake, driven in until firm. Once the woodland has been planted it is to be sown with a legume rich seed mix designed for pollinators, such as AB1 The Operation Pollinator Mix (Just Legumes) Ref: mixopants available from Cotswolds Grass Seeds Direct or another supplier to approval.

HEDGE PLANTING

Hedges are to comprise three staggered rows of plants. The first row is to be planted 2.5 m from the deer fence and the rows are to be 400mm apart with plants within rows at 600 mm centres. Species are to be randomly mixed along the lengths. Protect transplants with spiral rabbit guards and a cane.

INDIVIDUAL TREE PLANTING

Trees are to be planted in the positions shown with the specific species as indicated on the plan. Trees are to be double staked either side of the rootball with a looped webbing with spacers between the stakes and tree. Stakes to be driven in until firm and typically 0.9 – 1.2 metres above ground.

Symbol	Description	Symbol	Description	Symbol	Description	Revision	Date	Comment
[Red line]	Site boundary	[Green square]	Existing woodland and hedges	[Green square]	New community woodland			
[Blue hatched]	Proposed solar panels	[Green line]	New hedges	[Green hatched]	New wildflower meadow			
[Purple line]	Public Right of Way	[Grey line]	Proposed stone access tracks	[Blue dashed]	New permissive footpath			
[Black dashed]	2m high post and wire deer fence	[Black square]	Transformer substation (10 no. total)	[Green hatched]	Area of woodland on the northern edge where only hazel and hawthorn to be planted to prevent shading to panels			
[Green hatched]	Grass, sheep grazing sward inside the deer fencing, wildflower elsewhere.	[Green square]	New woodland planting, see Schedule and specification.					
[Green circle]	Individual standard trees (See Schedule for tree species codes)	[Yellow square]	Indicative skylark nesting sites (shown at 7m x 7m but in reality the gaps between the panels in most areas is sufficient to provide opportunities for nesting).					
[Purple circle]	1.5 x 1.5 x 0.75 m high pile of dead wood from the site to enhance the habitat for reptiles and invertebrates							
[Red circle]	A bird box is to be installed at these locations. The exact position to be determined by an ecologist.							

ON BEHALF		PROJECT	
Berden Solar Ltd		Proposed Solar Farm, Stocking Pelham, Essex	
DATE	20th May 2022	TITLE	Planting Plan
SCALE	1 : 2,500 @ A1		
DWG No	375_PP_04		
APPROVED	CMcD		