



# Planting and Landscaping Statement

LAND AT SKIRDEN HALL BARN, TOSSIDE, BD23 4SX

**Monday, 13 January 2025**

## Wildflower Lawn Mix

The wildflower lawn will consist of the following species to promote biodiversity and provide seasonal interest. Seeds will be sown at a rate of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>, with preparation involving the removal of weeds, leveling, and lightly raking the soil before sowing:

1. Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*) – 1%
2. Borage (*Borago officinalis*) – 7%
3. Clary, Wild (*Salvia verbenaca*) – 4%
4. Clover, Red (*Trifolium pratense*) – 3%
5. Clover, White (*Trifolium repens*) – 1%
6. Corn Cockle (*Agrostemma githago*) – 8%
7. Cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*) – 6%
8. Daisy, Ox-eye (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) – 5%
9. Foxglove, Wild (*Digitalis purpurea*) – 3%
10. Knapweed, Common (*Centaurea nigra*) – 6%
11. Knapweed, Greater (*Centaurea scabiosa*) – 5%
12. Loosestrife, Purple (*Lythrum salicaria*) – 1%
13. Marjoram, Wild (*Origanum vulgare*) – 1%
14. Meadow Cranesbill (*Geranium pratense*) – 1%
15. Musk Mallow (*Malva moschata*) – 5%
16. Poppy, Common (*Papaver rhoeas*) – 5%
17. Ragged Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) – 2%
18. Sainfoin (*Onobrychis viciifolia*) – 7%
19. Scabious, Field (*Knautia arvensis*) – 7%
20. Scabious, Small (*Scabiosa columbaria*) – 3%
21. Teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) – 1%
22. Trefoil, Bird's-foot (*Lotus corniculatus*) – 2%
23. Vetch, Kidney (*Anthyllis vulneraria*) – 2%
24. Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*) – 2%
25. Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) – 5%
26. Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*) – 7%

## Wildlife Pond Planting

A mix of aquatic, marginal, and pollinator-friendly plants to enhance biodiversity:

1. **Underwater Plants:** Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*), Water Starwort (*Callitriche autumnalis*).
2. **Emerging Stems:** Water Iris (*Iris ensata*).
3. **Floating Plants:** Water Lilies (*Nymphaea*), Water Hawthorn (*Aponogeton distachyos*).
4. **Pollinator-Friendly Marginals:** Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), Marsh Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*).

## Native Hedgerows

Native species planted in staggered rows to form a dense wildlife-friendly boundary:

1. Field Maple (*Acer campestre*).
2. Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).
3. Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).
4. Rosa Rugosa (*Rosa 'Fru Dagmar Hastrup'*).

## Trees

The following native trees will be planted to enhance site biodiversity and provide vertical structure:

- 4x Norway Spruce (*Picea abies 'Inversa'*).
- 4x Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).
- 2x English Oak (*Quercus robur*).

## Introduction

This landscaping proposal has been developed to enhance the site's ecological value, integrate seamlessly into its natural surroundings, and support biodiversity. The scheme has been carefully designed to align with local planning policies, sustainability objectives, and the sensitive nature of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

### 1. Proposed Landscaping Features

#### Wildflower Lawn

A diverse wildflower lawn mix will be established, incorporating a variety of native species to encourage pollinators and support local wildlife. The seed mix has been chosen for its seasonal interest, biodiversity benefits, and suitability to the site's conditions.

- Maintenance: The lawn will be mowed once annually in late summer, following seed dispersal, with clippings removed to maintain soil fertility balance.

#### Wildlife Pond

The wildlife pond will serve as a biodiversity hotspot, providing habitats for amphibians, invertebrates, and aquatic species. Planting will include:

- Underwater oxygenators: Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and Water Starwort (*Callitriche autumnalis*).
- Emerging plants: Water Iris (*Iris ensata*) for dragonfly and damselfly larvae.
- Floating plants: Water Lilies (*Nymphaea*) and Water Hawthorn (*Aponogeton distachyos*).
- Pollinator-friendly marginals: Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), and Marsh Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*).
- Maintenance: Periodic removal of debris, thinning of plants to prevent overcrowding, and monitoring of water levels and quality.

#### Native Hedgerows

Hedgerows will be planted to form a wildlife-friendly boundary, enhancing the site's visual and ecological appeal. Native species include:

- Field Maple (*Acer campestre*).
- Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).
- Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).
- Rosa Rugosa (*Rosa 'Fru Dagmar Hastrup'*).

- Maintenance: Staggered trimming every 2-3 years to encourage dense growth, with trimming avoided during bird nesting seasons.

### Tree Planting

Native trees will be introduced to enhance vertical structure and provide shade and shelter for wildlife:

- 4x Norway Spruce (*Picea abies 'Inversa'*).
- 4x Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).
- 2x English Oak (*Quercus robur*).
- Maintenance: Regular inspections for health and safety, with formative pruning as required.

## **2. Sustainability and Climate Adaptation**

- All plants and materials will be sourced locally to reduce transport emissions and support the local economy.
- Permeable paving will be used around the building to reduce surface water runoff.
- Rainwater will be collected and stored for irrigation, particularly for the pond during dry periods.
- Drought-tolerant species have been included to ensure resilience to changing climate conditions.

## **3. Ecological Enhancements**

- Bird Boxes: Installed on mature trees to encourage nesting.
- Bat Boxes: Positioned to support roosting.
- Insect Hotels: Placed near the pond to provide habitats for invertebrates.
- Hedgehog Corridors: Gaps at the base of hedgerows to facilitate wildlife movement.

## **4. Lighting Strategy**

To minimise disturbance to local wildlife, the following measures will be implemented:

5. Low-intensity, downward-facing lights will be used.
6. Motion sensors will be installed to limit unnecessary illumination.
7. Blue-spectrum lighting will be avoided to reduce disruption to nocturnal species.

## **8. Visual Impact and Public Benefit**

The landscaping design respects the local character and enhances the visual amenity of the site. By fostering biodiversity and creating attractive outdoor spaces, the proposal contributes to the ecological health of the area while providing an aesthetically pleasing environment for the occupants.

## 9. Planting Schedule

Planting Element	Species	Quantity	Planting Time
Wildflower Lawn	Various (as listed)	1 mix (seed)	Spring (Mar-Apr) or Autumn (Sept-Oct)
Pond – Underwater Plants	Hornwort, Water Starwort	As required	Spring (Mar-May)
Pond – Marginal Plants	Iris, Lesser Spearwort, etc.	As required	Spring/Summer (Apr-Jul)
Hedgerows	Acer, Crataegus, Prunus, Rosa	3-5 per linear metre	Autumn/Winter (Oct-Feb)
Trees	Picea, Pinus, Quercus	10 total	Autumn/Winter (Oct-Feb)

This statement demonstrates the project's commitment to sustainable practices, biodiversity enhancement, and sensitive integration into the local context. Habitat Architecture welcomes feedback from the Local Authority to ensure the proposal aligns with all planning requirements and expectations.