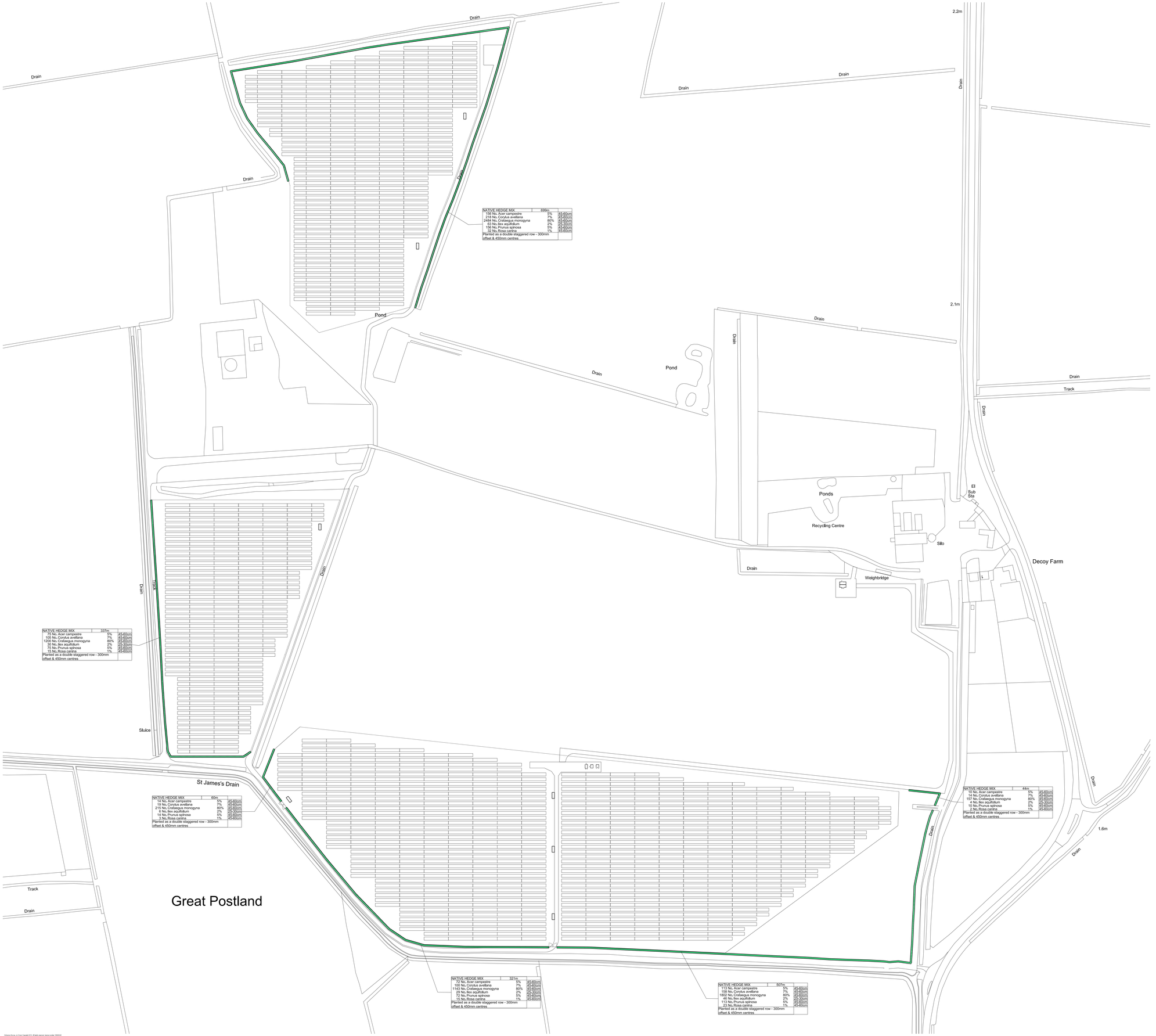


DESIGN RATIONALE

South Holland District Council planning permission H02-045-14 condition 9 requires a scheme of hedge planting so as to ensure effective screening of the development. Condition 10 requires those hedges to be maintained so as to reach at least 3m in height.

This scheme provides native mix hedge planting to all exposed outer edges of the solar farm development. For the most part this directly corresponds with the perimeter fencing of the solar farm site areas with the hedge planting immediately outside of the fence. However, in the south-eastern corner of the site the solar farm is set back from the natural field edge. In this location the proposed hedge follows the existing field edge so that it maintains a logical and sustainable location into the future and after the solar farm may be removed.

SPECIFICATION NOTES

PRELIMS

Programme
All soft landscape implementation works to be carried out prior to substantial completion of the development construction work, or as soon as weather/seasonal conditions permit thereafter.

Quality control
All soft landscape works shall be carried out by trained and competent operatives under appropriate supervision. Materials and plant stock supplies may be subject to approval by client representative. Workmanship will be subject to inspection and approval.

General care & tidiness
During the implementation works and maintenance thereafter, all soft landscape operations will be carried out with care to respect the site and environs, its occupiers, passers-by and other contractors operations. In particular all waste material will be removed from site following completion of the day's work and / or the particular element of work. Precautions will also be taken to avoid the fouling of other site structures and adjacent surfaces (including roadways, paths and parking areas) with spillage of soil or other material.

Health and Safety (CDM)
No site or project specific production, maintenance or in-use hazards have been identified during the design stages of this project. Should any hazards subsequently be identified they should be brought to the attention of the client / appropriate client representative.

SITE PREPARATION

Topsoil stripping and stockpiling
Prior to topsoil stripping, any areas to be retained for future use will be tested in accordance with the British Standard for Topsoil - BS3882. Only topsoil that fulfills the requirements of the BS to 'General Purpose grade or can be ameliorated to give such a grade shall be stripped for storage and future use. Topsoil contaminated by waste including subsoil shall be dealt with in an appropriate manner. Topsoil shall be stripped and stored in such a way as to fulfil the requirements of the BS with topsoil heights no greater than 1.5m high with gently shelving sides.

Site Clearance
Hedge planting strips (1m wide) are to be cleared of all existing plant growth as well as builders rubbish and any other waste material. Chemical weed control is restricted to use of a biodegradable translocated systemic herbicide applied in accordance with the COSHH regulations 2002 and the product's COSHH sheet applied by suitably trained staff.

Imported topsoil
Any imported topsoil shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of BS3882 for 'General Amenity Grade' prior to delivery to site. Any amelioration requirements shall be carried out as detailed.

Ground preparation/cultivation
Any hedge planting areas badly affected by construction works (compaction, contamination etc.) shall have the area of affected topsoil excavated to the full depth and replaced with fresh topsoil. For compacted areas the subsoil shall also be broken up and loosened across the area affected to provide a free draining substrata prior to the placement of the topsoil. Topsoil shall be spread in 150mm layers and gently firmed to avoid uneven settlement.

PLANTING

Weed control
If there is a delay between ground preparations and planting, soil areas will be cleared of any recent weed growth and any other waste material that may have strayed into the soft landscape areas. Chemical weed control to assist in this process will be restricted to that stated above.

Plants and plant handling
All plant material is to be of good quality stock, size in accordance with the specification and in a healthy condition; free from pest, disease and weed growth in accordance with BS3936 and HTA National Plant Specification. Any British Native species shall be of British origin, of local seed stock wherever possible and from sustainable seed sources. Plants will be handled in accordance with BS4428 and HTA code for Plant Handling and Establishment of Landscape Plants to ensure that transit, any storage, handling on site and planting operations preserve and promote the condition of the stock.

Planting generally
Plants to be evenly spaced throughout allotted planting areas, at densities as specified. Planting mixes to be laid out with species randomly distributed throughout allotted planting areas. Planting will be carried out in accordance to the HTA code stated above and into planting holes/pits slightly larger than the growing container/root spread, with sides and bottom of pits loosened as necessary to ensure adequate drainage and to allow normal root growth. All planting to be carried out only during the winter planting season between mid-November and the end of February.

Hedge planting set out
All hedging is to be set out as a double staggered row with plants at 450mm centres along each row and rows 300mm apart.

Mulch
A 1m wide photodegradable/biodegradable polythene weed control sheet (2 year minimum performance requirement) will be laid during planting and secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.

Rabbit protection
All hedge plants will be protected with 600mm high photodegradable plastic netting guards designed to split as the stem of the growing tree/shrub expands. All to be installed and secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.

MAINTENANCE

Replacement planting
For the first five years following planting, at the end of each growing season, any failed, failing or missing plants will be removed and replaced with new in accordance with the original specification.

Weeding
In addition to the sheet mulching, weed removal for the 1m wide hedge strips will be carried out twice during each growing season. Chemical weed control to assist in this process will be restricted to the use of a biodegradable translocated systemic herbicide in accordance with COSHH regulations 2002, the product's COSHH sheet and the Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986.

Hedges
At the end of each growing season during establishment hedges will be pruned back by half the growth of that year until the desired height and width are achieved. Thereafter the hedges will be pruned as a when necessary to maintain the desired form (at least once per growing season). The desired hedge size is 3 - 4m tall

KEY:

Proposed hedge planting

PLANTING SCHEDULE

Hedging plants

Qty	Species	Specification	Height
440 No.	Acer campestre	bare root transplant	45-60cm
614 No.	Corylus avellana	bare root transplant	45-60cm
7001 No.	Crataegus monogyna	bare root transplant	45-60cm
178 No.	Ilex aquifolium	container grown	25-30cm
462 No.	Prunus spinosa	bare root transplant	45-60cm
90 No.	Rosa carina	bare root transplant	45-60cm
Total: 8763 No.			

General measurements

Item	Specification	Area	Length
Hedge planting	New hedges		1968m

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