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## Tutbury Landscape Planting

### Design Rationale

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# Tutbury Landscape Planting

## ***Design Principles***

The planting proposals have evolved to achieve a number of design principles that include providing a strong green framework as a cohesive element that integrates the proposed development with the rural-urban edge setting, providing a quality attractive environment for future site users, to enhance the visual character of the site and integrate proposals that will benefit biodiversity in the long-term.

Key objectives are outlined below:

*To create a gradual transition from the edge of Tutbury settlement to surrounding countryside. This will be achieved by:*

- reinforcing and integrating native hedgerows to site boundaries supplemented by hedgerow trees;
- proposed native tree planting to soften development south of the site;
- informal tree groups of large native species are proposed as their stature will create a strong green framework for the central corridor and public open space;
- transitional character trees are specified for garden and public realm areas, Field Maple 'Elegant' for example, to relate to the characteristics of the nearby countryside;
- meadows, native bulb planting and wet grassland species supplemented by marginal planting to the pond areas are proposed to create a naturalistic environment.

*To enhance the visual character of the site, create a safe environment with good natural surveillance. This is achieved by:*

- the creation of clear vistas across the sports field to the countryside beyond;
- native hedgerow planting to screen the substation;
- the specification of clear stemmed trees and low planting adjacent access routes and maintaining clear views between neighbouring properties, footpaths and the proposed play area will ensure good natural surveillance across the site.

*The following proposals seek to enhance the biodiversity of the site:*

- the creation of linear habitat corridors across the site, including hedgerows to benefit farmland bird species and natural grasslands associated with the swales and wetlands;
- native tree planting will provide shelter and nesting opportunities;
- the wildflower /arable margin to the southern hedgerow will provide seed and invertebrates as a food source for farmland birds and will provide a buffer strip between the hedge and amenity areas that is beneficial for other species such as bees;
- ornamental plant species within public realm areas incorporates nectar and berrying plants of wildlife value;

The proposals seek to create an attractive setting for the proposed development and an attractive environment for future site-users. The high quality parkland environment will provide interest across the seasons and

create a setting for a range of informal recreational activities. The incorporation of edible hedgerows and fruiting trees are proposed to encourage site users to participate with local food growing and foraging activities as well as benefitting allotment users. Sensory planting enhances the setting of the playground incorporating plants for fragrance, movement, colour and touch.