

# **HONDA**

# HERITAGE GARDEN



DESIGN & ACCESS  
STATEMENT

# WELCOME

to this Design and Access Statement for the Honda Heritage Garden in South Marston.

This is a unique opportunity to provide a new green space for the local community that will leave a lasting legacy for Honda. Over the next few pages, we introduce the key concepts and ideas that are the driving force behind this vision and explore how the garden can become a place the community can come together to learn, play, and grow. By building on the sites existing assets, particularly the already well loved allotments, the Honda Heritage Garden will be shaped by and created for the community.



# MEETING BETWEEN A BRAND AND A PLACE

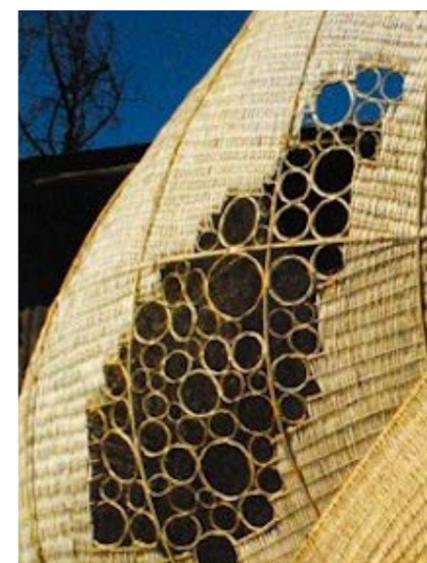


HONDA

SOUTH MARSTON

## HONDA HERITAGE GARDEN

Cutting edge design with environmental credentials. That's how we imagine the meeting between Honda and South Marston. Building on the characteristics of both to deliver an exciting new green space for local residents.



3 KEY THEMES FOR THE HONDA HERITAGE GARDEN



GROWING

A new community orchard and growing area is linked to the already thriving South Marston allotments. Creating a new growing space for local groups.



NATURE

Enjoying nature and learning go hand in hand. The existing pond, grassland and native tree stands are assets that can be used by school groups and locals to learn about the natural world and provide a beautiful natural setting for the garden.

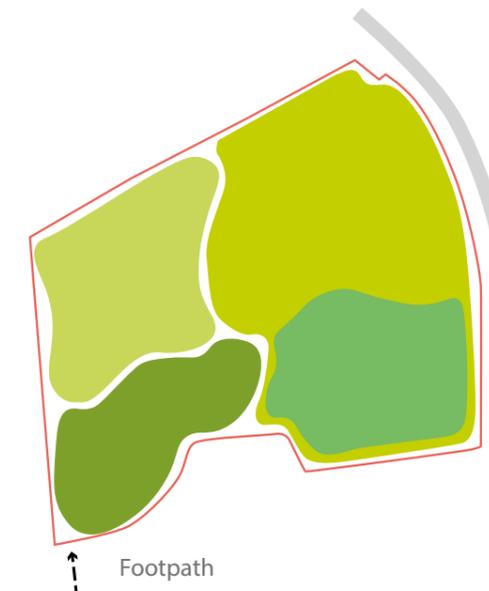


PLAY

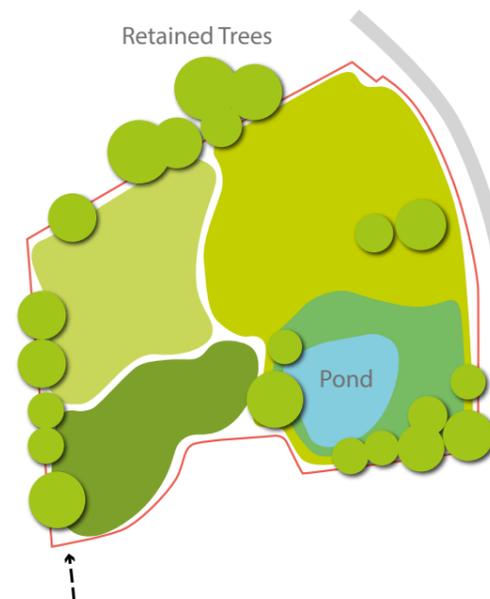
Last but not least is play! Innovate, carefully designed natural play features are used to create the most exciting and dynamic play space in the area. Soft materials and planting help to blend these structures into the garden and make them come alive!



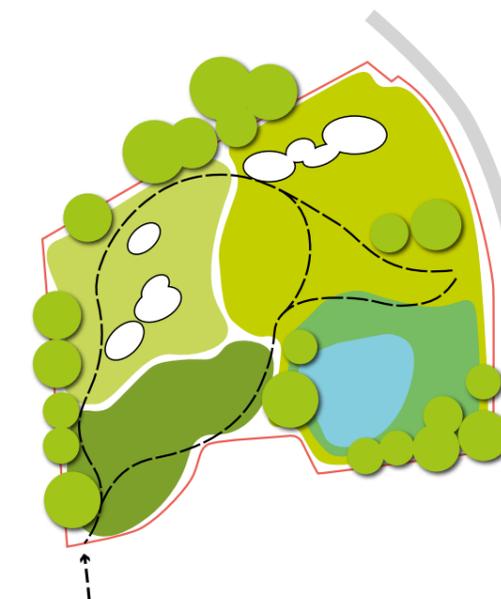
1. THREE ZONES



2. FOOTPATH LINK TO SOUTH MARSTON AND CAR PARK



3. MAKE THE MOST OF EXISTING ASSETS



4. A SERIES OF PLAY FEATURES AS WELL AS A PAVILION SHELTER PROVIDE INTEREST

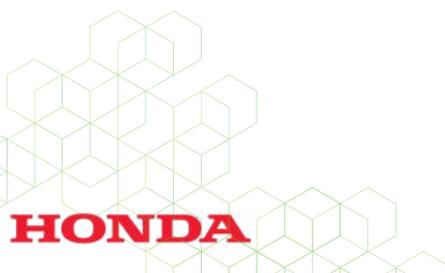
# HONDA HERITAGE GARDEN

## MASTERPLAN

As you arrive to site via the local footpath the Honda Heritage Garden opens up before you. The wildlife pond and nature garden to your right and the learning pavilions beyond the green with picnicking families draws you into this natural landscape. The sounds of play and laughter can be heard from the play area beyond where the play features rise up half hidden amongst trees and vegetation. Beyond these a blossoming orchard is surrounded by growing areas with school groups busily digging up vegetables and sowing new seeds in planting beds.

- 1. Pond edge and wet woodland - The edges to the pond are cleared along with low level scrub and trees being thinned to allow access. Planting to the pond edge is removed and a timber deck is placed over the edge of the pond to allow for pond dipping.
- 2. The pond - The pond is dredged and cleaned to remove sediment and deepened the middle, creating sufficient water volume to stop algae build-up.
- 3. Community Orchard - an orchard of blossoming fruit trees for education and fruit picking.
- 4. Community garden - A space for the community to plant fruit and vegetables and school groups to learn about food production and nature.
- 5. Welcome sign - The existing Honda heritage sign is re purposed for use in the Heritage Garden
- 6. Footpaths - A series of self-binding gravel footpaths leads visitors around the garden.
- 7. The pavilion - A roof structure to provide shelter for lessons, picnics and group activities.

- 8. Retained Trees - High quality existing trees are retained and pruned back to provide light more light while still keeping shady spots for summer months.
- 9. Natural playground - A new natural playground with timber play features and structures. A timber post and rail fence with pedestrian gates provides security.
- 10. Memorial trees - Select native species of tree are planted throughout the garden to provide interest and shade alongside memorial trees which are relocated to site.
- 11. The Green - a wide area of lawn creates a focal point within the garden for picnics, games and events.
- 12. Wildflower meadow - throughout the garden native wildflower meadows are used to create soft edges to spaces and create native habitat.
- 13. Footpath connection - a new footpath link to the allotment provides the primary route into the site towards South Marston and the existing car park which will be resurfaced for use by the Heritage Garden.
- 14. Proposed hedgerow - provides a boundary along the existing allotments
- 15. Existing access gate retained for maintenance
- 16. Existing car park retained and improved to accommodate 16 spaces.
- 17. Signage to car park and garden entrance
- 18. Timber benches
- 19. Cycle stands



# COMMUNITY GROW AREA & ORCHARD

The community grow area and orchard is a space where local residents and groups can come together. This space can be used for learning and growing while the cherry orchard references Honda's Japanese heritage.



Precedent images



Location Plan



① Signage post and board to Entrance and Car Park

# PLAY ZONE

As part of the garden a small area of play will be provided. The play features chosen reflect the branding and heritage of Honda with a particular emphasis on transport themed play. Picnic tables, seating and tree planting will be delivered as part of the playground.

A timber post and rail fence will be used to enclose the play area and provide security while bark chippings and grass areas will make up safety surfaces to be in keeping with the natural setting.

The play features have been chosen to reflect the natural setting of the garden with colourful accents.

Timber elements use hardwood and large section pieces to provide fire retardance. A fire proof coating is also applied to all timber elements to provide further protection.

1. Train play feature
2. Rope swings
3. Car springer play features
4. Concrete stepping stones
5. Play boat feature
6. Play post features
7. Chestnut pailing fence
8. Airplane play feature



Location Plan



# THE POND

The pond is an existing feature retained and enhanced through native wetland planting to create an attractive habitat area. It can be used for education or as a quiet space to relax. Existing willow trees are retained while deadwood and scrub are cleared to allow light into the space. A seating area and deck over the pond allow visitors to get close to the water without disturbing the planted areas.



Precedent images



Location Plan

- 1. Pond retained and cleared
- 2. Existing trees retained with scrub cleared
- 3. Pond dipping deck
- 4. Native aquatic species planting
- 5. Bench

# THE GREEN & PAVILION

The green provides a central lawn area for kids to run and play while parents chat on the picnic tables. A pavilion structure at the northern ends creates a focal point and a shaded seating space during summer months.



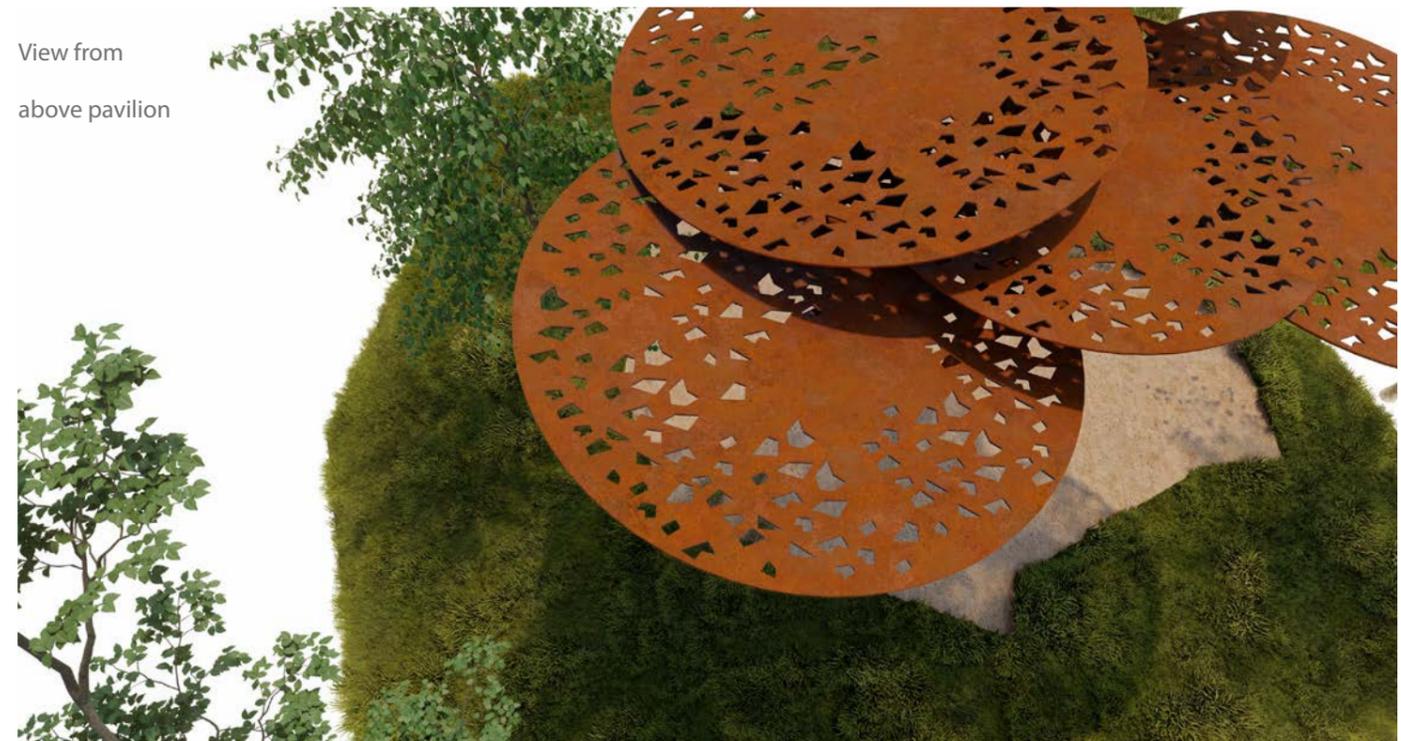
The pavilion

## Pavilion

The pavilion has been designed to respond to the natural setting of the Heritage Garden. A central column holds up a series of 'leaves' to give the effect of a tree sprouting from the ground. These leaves form a canopy which has the potential for patterns to be cut into the surface. This motif could reflect natural imagery such as leaves or include images from Honda's past as a reminder of the Heritage of the site. These patterns will form naturally dappled shade below while still protecting users from the strongest of the sun's rays. The whole structure is built from weathered steel which forms a natural patina resistant to the elements and requiring minimum maintenance.



View from  
above pavilion



# MAINTENANCE

The management and on-going maintenance of the hard and soft landscape elements within the garden will need to reflect the aspirations of a new high-quality public realm. The maintenance regime will ensure the successful establishment of the planting and long-term care of the hard landscape to maintain the desired aesthetics and functionality.

This will mean regular inspections and maintenance visits to ensure the area is free from litter and in a safe condition, to maintain fences and street furniture elements in a good state of repair, keep the planting lush, vigorous and successful and in the manner intended in the detailed design, and to make good any defects particularly during the defects period.

## MAINTENANCE 1-2 YEARS

Operations will generally be carried out weekly, monthly, quarterly, twice yearly, or annually in line with a detailed maintenance matrix from the contractor. For general planting works maintenance operations during the defects period (years 1-2 after planting/construction) will include:

- Weeding to reduce competition from unwanted species and ensure healthy strong growth and establishment;
- Watering;
- Checking plants are firmly bedded in and in good condition;
- Pruning, both at ground and elevated levels, shape pruning to promote establishment and coverage on the green column structures;
- Replacement, in the next planting season, where planting has failed or suffered from pest damage or vandalism;
- Litter removal;
- Checking hard surfaces, signage and site furniture for defects and repairing as necessary in line with the original specification;
- After periods of water inundation, a detailed inspection of all hard and soft landscape affected to ensure no damage has occurred, debris/litter removal and jet wash cleaning of all hard surfaces to remove any silt.

## MAINTENANCE 3+ YEARS

Operations will generally be carried out weekly, monthly, quarterly, twice yearly, or annually in line with a detailed maintenance matrix from the contractor. During the establishment period (years 3-5) maintenance operations will continue to ensure the successful establishment of the new planting works and keep the site in a good state of repair. Operations will include:

- Weeding to maintain planting beds in a weed free condition for the third year. After this planting should be sufficiently established to keep weeds to a minimum however periodic checks will take place to ensure that inappropriate weeds are removed;
- Pruning and inspection of trees;
- High level pruning and inspection of climbing plants, to ensure trails are tied in and coverage is maximised.
- Litter removal and maintenance of all hard landscape features will continue to ensure they are maintained in a good state of repair;
- After periods of water inundation, a detailed inspection of all hard and soft landscape affected to ensure no damage has occurred, debris/litter removal and jet wash cleaning of all hard surfaces to remove any silt.
- Hard landscape chewing gum removal.
- Check and repair joints after movement or settlement and check for integrity of units and uneven surfaces.

# MATERIALS

Materials have been selected to be both robust and in keeping with the rural character of the site. Footpaths are constructed from self binding gravel providing a smooth surface with minimum need for maintenance.

Boundaries around the site use timber post and rail fencing or timber post and wire to be in keeping with surrounding field boundaries.



Composite picnic bench



Timber benches



Timber pedestrian gate



Chestnut pail fencing



Weathered steel signage elements



Self binding gravel footpath



Gravel car park areas

# ECOLOGY STRATEGY & PLANTING

The Heritage Park site comprises a habitat mosaic dominated by grassland surrounded by scrub, trees, hedgerows and tall ruderal vegetation. A pond is also present on site and a river, woodland and scattered trees are present on the boundaries of the site. The pond and river are both considered important to nature conservation at a local level. It is anticipated that the river can be protected and the pond will be enhanced by the proposal.

The habitat mosaic on site and some individual habitats including mature trees and semiimproved grassland are considered to be important at a site level.

The masterplan for the site has been evolved to mitigate as far as possible potential impacts on ecological features across the site.

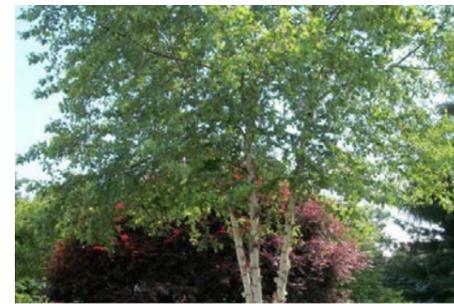
Further details of the existing on-site populations and proposed mitigation measures can be found in the Ecological report produced by Middlemarch Environmental submitted as part of this application.



Existing grassland on site

Selective tree planting is used to provide shade and interest to the site. These trees have been carefully positioned to avoid areas of existing grassland where they could cause overshadowing.

Native wetland species are used around the pond to create habitat spaces while providing visual benefit.



*Betula nigra*



*Ginkgo biloba*



Copper beech

## WETLANDPLANTING MIX



*Carex nigra*



*Caltha palustris*



*Iris pseudacorus*



*persicaria amphibia*



*Carex acuta*



*Juncus effusus*



*Lythrum salicaria*



*Asplenium scolopendrum*

# ACCESS & CONNECTIVITY

The proposals are to access the car park / site in the location of the existing access to the allotments on the west side of Highworth Road.

In the vicinity of the access, Highworth Road is subject to a 30mph speed limit. There are two traffic calming / priority give way working features on Highworth Road (southbound traffic gives way at the northern feature and northbound traffic gives way at the southern feature). The access is situated between the two traffic calming features. Vehicles speeds will therefore be low on this section of Highworth Road. Crashmap does not show any recorded personal injury accidents on this stretch of Highworth Road for the 5 year period 2016 – 2020 indicating that the road and the allotment access operates safely.

The proposals are to provide a simple priority junction. The access will be widened to 6m to allow two cars to access / egress - 3m corner radii are shown to minimise impacts on the adjacent tree.. Visibility splays of 2.4m x 43m are shown from the access onto Highworth Road – these are commensurate with vehicle speeds of 30mph. A driver turning out of the access has clear visibility of both traffic calming features and their give ways and these are proposed to be retained.

The footway on the west side of Highworth Road south of the access will be extended into the site and will cross over the access road and run along the north side of the northern parking spaces and into the site.

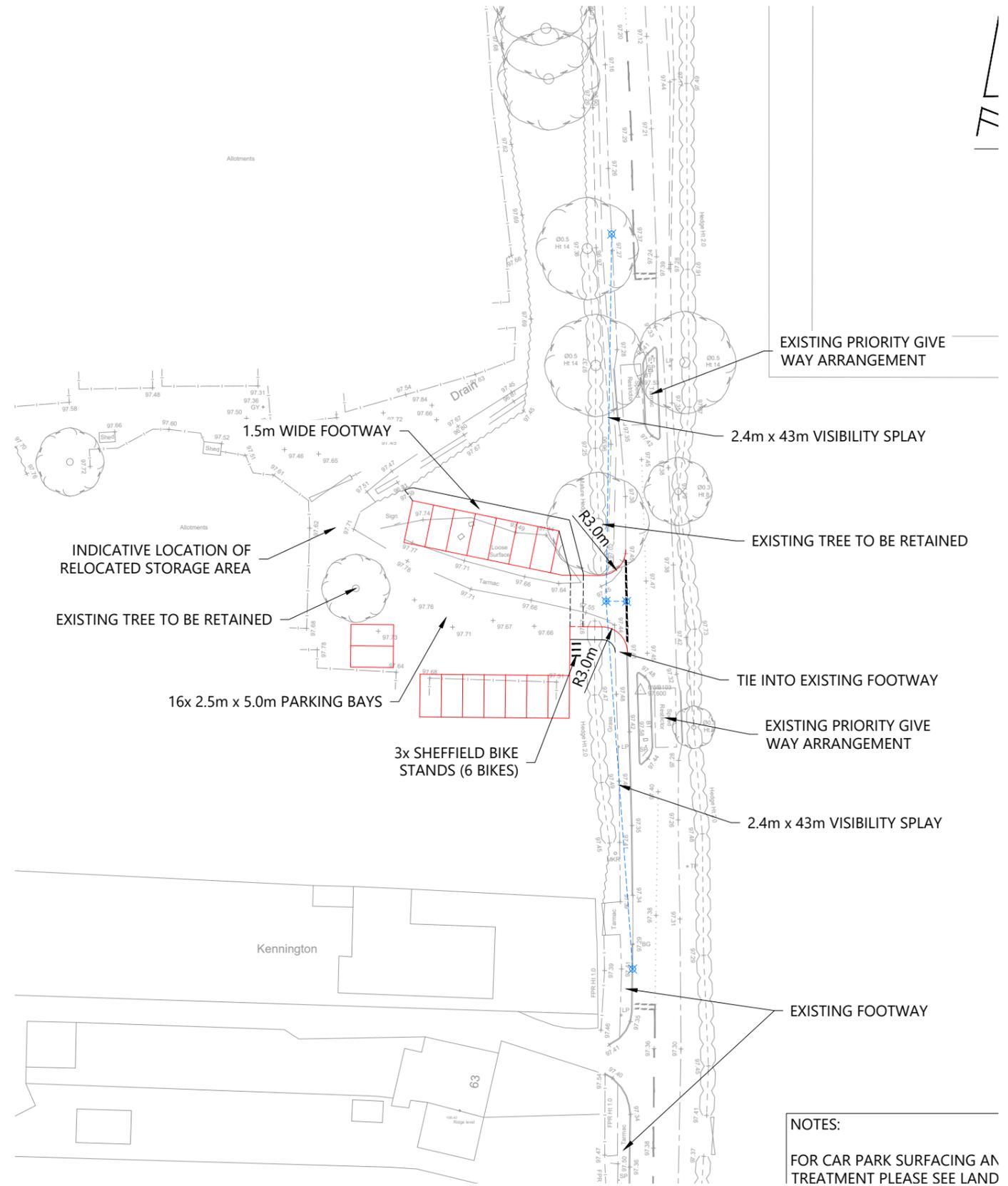
The existing allotment car park area is unmade and has no marked out parking spaces, leading to inefficient usage. The proposals will provide 16 parking spaces (each 2.5m x 5m) for shared use between the allotment and the Heritage Gardens. The car park will be gravel surfaced to the engineers specification with timber wheel stops provided to parking spaces to help with space delineation.

3 x Sheffield stands which would be able to accommodate some 6 bike will be provided within the car park

Finally, the proposals will also look to make a pedestrian link back into the wider Honda redevelopment site.



Proposed pedestrian link to the Heritage Garden utilising the existing track with some localised reinforcement using gravel chippings



NOTES:  
FOR CAR PARK SURFACING AN TREATMENT PLEASE SEE LAND

Highways Proposals

# GROUND CONDITIONS

It is not considered that ground conditions present an in-principle constraint to the site's development as a Heritage Garden. For further information, please refer to the Phase 1 Geo - environmental Report prepared by BWB Environmental submitted as part of this application.

# FLOOD RISK

The site is located in Flood Zone 1 with a low probability of flooding. For further information please refer to the BWB Flood Risk Statement.



