



**MIDTON OF BALGRAY,
KILMARNOCK BESS**

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Landscape Management Plan has been prepared by TGP Landscape Architects Ltd, a firm of independent consultants. The report sets out the requirements for the future maintenance of landscape works at Midton of Blagray, Kilmarnock BESS. These requirements are summarised in the maintenance schedule within Appendix A.
- 1.2 The Landscape Management Plan should be read in conjunction with drawing no. 2189/L01: Landscape Plan, which provides further information in relation to the planting specification, including plant species, heights and numbers. In addition, detail drawing 2189/D01 provides further details in relation to ground preparation and planting approach.
- 1.3 All landscape planting works are to be implemented at the first season upon completion of the earthworks, and shall be subsequently maintained in accordance with the following measures. Any trees or plants that die, become seriously diseased or otherwise removed within a period of 5 years from planting shall be replaced with others of similar size and species.

Responsibility

- 1.4 Responsibility for ongoing maintenance within the Site falls under the remit of Zenobe Energy Ltd, who will manage the appointment of the maintenance contractor and oversee the contractor's works. The management regime shall be continually monitored for its effectiveness in achieving these aims.

2 General Requirements

General Maintenance Operations

- 2.1 Maintenance operations shall include watering; pruning; localised application of fertiliser; weeding and cultivation as necessary; use of chemical weed / pest control only where essential; wildflower meadow cutting; adjustment of tree ties; removal of stakes as necessary and removal of litter / debris trapped in branches.
- 2.2 Operations shall be based on the Landscape Maintenance Schedule in Appendix A.

Climatic Conditions

- 2.3 All maintenance works shall be carried out while soil and weather conditions are suitable for the relevant operations.

Machines and Tools

- 2.4 Only machinery and tools suitable for the site conditions and the work to be carried out shall be used. Hand tools shall be used around trees / plants and in confined spaces where it is impracticable to use machinery. Cutting tools must be sharp and caution should be exercised to prevent the transmission of plant disease via tools.

Litter Clearance

- 2.5 All types of litter, debris and rubbish that has become trapped in tree branches and hedgerows should be removed on a periodic basis.

Bark Mulch

- 2.6 For all planting areas, including hedgerows, a layer of bark mulch shall be applied, not less than 75mm deep after settling. Bark mulch shall be of chunky texture; individual bark strips or shavings shall be up to 50mm gauge and bulk of material shall be between 50mm and 25mm gauge (50% or over). Mulch shall be composted to allow resinous toxins to be leached, fungi and fungal spores killed, and it shall have reached a neutral pH. Fresh uncomposted mulch is not acceptable.
- 2.7 Where bark mulch is unavoidably disturbed or broken down, replacement bark mulch shall be installed to reduce weed growth.

Chemical Fertilisers, Weedkillers and Sprays

- 2.8 Chemical Fertilisers, weedkillers and sprays are to be used sparingly and only where specified and measured; ensuring no run-off to adjoining areas. They shall conform in every respect to the mixture required and be applied strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All chemicals are to be used and distributed under the direct supervision of a Foreman who is certified to handle chemicals.
- 2.9 All chemicals to be used must have been approved for the use specified by MAFF in accordance with Control of Pesticides Regulations, 1980. All chemicals used will be non-toxic to human beings, birds and animals under normal use and only chemicals on the "Agricultural Chemicals Approved Scheme" current list of approved products may be used. The appropriate sections of the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974, the Food and Environment Protection Act of 1985 and the control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988, shall be adhered to in full.

Pruning Operations

- 2.10 Pruning, shaping and trimming of trees and hedges shall be carried out in accordance with BS 3998; 1989. Dead, dying or diseased wood, stumps or branches, unwanted epicormic shoots, climbing plants and rubbish accumulated in branch forks should be removed.
- 2.11 Pruning cuts should be made at a fork or at the main stem and wounds shall be kept as small as possible. The final cut should be just outside the branch or collar or at an angle, which is the mirror image of the branch bark ridge. Treatment of wounds shall only take place where the risk of infection is high.
- 2.12 Formative pruning should produce a plant which is fair and symmetrical and which will be free from major physical weaknesses.

- 2.13 Damaged roots or those that have to be pruned should be cut so that the final wound will be as small as possible and free from ragged and torn ends. Exposed roots should be cut back to clean wood and covered with the indigenous soil.

Weeding

- 2.14 Trees and hedgerows shall be inspected and maintained accordingly to ensure that the trees / plants can develop without unnecessary competition. Weeding around the base of the plants shall be by hand or by machine (strimming).

Damage of Stock

- 2.15 Special care shall be taken when working in planting areas not to cause damage to plants by trampling, careless mechanical weeding, or in any other way.

Watering

- 2.16 During long dry spells, all plants shall be watered using a fine hose or a sprinkler until full depth of topsoil is saturated.

Pesticides

- 2.17 Pesticides shall not be used unless in the case of heavy infestation of insects, fungi or other pests, the plants shall be treated with an approved pesticide.

Frost Lift

- 2.18 All plants that have been lifted by frost, or have exposed roots, and plants not standing upright shall be lifted and replanted.

3 Objectives

Management Objectives

- 3.1 Management shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the mix of plant species and prevents any one species from dominating.
- 3.2 Maintenance works will observe bird nesting seasons (months of March to July inclusive) with management works to trees undertaken outwith this period. The tree canopy around the site will not be artificially lit.
- 3.3 The landscape maintenance schedule in Appendix A provides further detail in relation to the management activities and timing required to achieve these aims and objectives.

Appendix A: Landscape Maintenance Schedule

MIDTON OF BALGRAY, KILMANOCK BESS: LANDSCAPE MAINTENACE SCHEDULE

Component	Objective	Task	Time of Year	Frequency
Native Trees	To ensure that trees throughout the site remain in a healthy, attractive and safe condition	Inspection	March - Sept	Annually
		Apply Fertiliser	Spring	Annually for 5 years
		Pruning and repair of wounds	Oct - Feb	As required
		Removal / adjustment of stakes and ties	As necessary following inspection	As required
		Watering	As necessary depending on weather condition; primarily May - August	As required - daily in very dry spells
		Removal of debris / litter trapped in branches	Throughout	As required
Native Wildflower Meadow	Maintain an attractive species-rich meadow, allowing seeds to fall and scatter, with no one species predominating. Maintain low-fertility of substrate through removal of all cut arisings, and avoidance of fertiliser application.	Litter/debris removal	Throughout	As required
		Cut to 50mm after flowering and seed drop. Remove arisings from Site	September - October	Once annually
		Repair eroded areas / areas that fail to establish: rotovate to 150mm, apply matching seed mix (refer to drawing no. 2189/L01: Landscape Plan)	May - September	As required annually to the end of Year 5

MIDTON OF BALGRAY, KILMANOCK BESS: LANDSCAPE MAINTENACE SCHEDULE

Component	Objective	Task	Time of Year	Frequency
Native Hedgerow	To maintain healthy, attractive hedges. Trimming to be to a trapezium profile, broader at the base than at the top to ensure light can reach all parts of the hedge and ensure a bare base does not develop. Maintain a height of approximately 1.5m	Trimming to a trapezium profile	April - October	2 times annually
		Reshaping	Hard prune Oct - Feb	Annually if required
		Manual Weed Control	Throughout	Monthly
		Apply fertiliser	Spring	Annually
		Replacement planting for any sections that fail to establish	Bare root stock: Oct-Mar	As required annually to the end of Year 5
		Litter / Debris Removal	Throughout	As required
		Watering	As necessary depending on weather condition - largely May – August	As required