

15 LANDSCAPE

A Welcoming and Beautiful Landscape

A high-quality entrance welcomes people into the site and the extensive network of publicly accessible open spaces and paths. Careful use of natural materials, trees and shrubs creates year-round structure whilst herbaceous perennials and grasses add colour and movement.

Connecting Habitats and Increasing Biodiversity

- A network of swales planted with native species and managed to enhance biodiversity creates a connected green infrastructure linking habitats across the site.
- Existing trees and hedgerows are retained, and habitat connections strengthened with new tree and scrub planting.
- Species rich grassland is found throughout the public open spaces, forming extensive meadows in parts resulting in significant diversity gains.
- Two attenuation basins receive water from the swales across the site. Managed as seasonally wet meadows these will support a range of plant and animal species. Within the basins, two permanent ponds create valuable aquatic habitats and the opportunity for the odd bit of pond-dipping.
- More formal planting in residential areas will contain a range of native and non-native species to provide foraging opportunities for pollinators throughout the year.



Figure 10: Landscape Strategy

16 LANDSCAPING (cont.)

Connecting People and Nature

- Existing footpaths will be enhanced, new links created and a cycleway provided to create better and more sustainable connections within the site and to the surrounding area.
- Footpaths connect the various open spaces each with distinct characters and habitats with opportunities for everything from quiet reflection and picnics through to exercise and play.
- A woodland walk runs along the entire eastern boundary of the site, creating opportunities for recreation, reflection and observing nature.
- A community orchard, planting with local varieties, provides opportunities for people to connect, experience nature and engage with Suffolk's strong heritage of fruit growing.
- A play area nestled amongst the trees of the woodland walk creating opportunities for hide-and-seek and spontaneous games. Planting blends the play area into the landscape and its sensory nature provides opportunities for sight, sound, scent, touch and taste experiences. Using natural materials, playful landforms alongside timber equipment it will offer a range of play opportunities.



Example of a Woodland Walk



Example of an Attenuation Basin



Example of a Swale