Land South of Usk Road, Penperlleni

GI Assets and Masterplan: Viridian Landscape Planning

Figures 2842/L3, L4 and L5

The site has very limited GI assets, as it mainly comprises grassland with species-poor, intermittent hedges loosely subdividing it into three fields, and with species-rich hedgerows along the boundary to the east and along Usk Road (L4). Along the southern boundary runs Ffynnon Ddu, followed by a band of woodland with predominantly alder and willow. There are two veteran trees, comprising an oak in a hedgerow and an alder in the south-western corner. The south-western field is occupied by marshy grassland.

The site is constrained by pipelines running from the north-east to the south-west with an 11m easement from each pipe.

L5, the GI Masterplan, will potentially enable the delivery of the GI Typologies set out below. All figures are approximate and will be subject to more detailed design.

GI Typology	Existing area m²	Approx proposed area m ²	Percentage of site with proposals	Comments
Housing greenspace	0	3,000	9%	
Domestic gardens	0	2,600	7.5%	
Community Orchard	0	1,750	5%	Overlays wildflower meadow
Wildflower meadow	0	7,050	20%	

GI Typology	Existing area m²	Approx proposed area m ²	Percentage of site with proposals	Comments
Marshy grassland	5,400	5,275	15%	Assumes 1,125m ² removed and 1,000 m ² replaced; includes SUDS features.
SUDS features	0	580	2%	Partly overlays replacement marshy grassland
Woodland	0	1,500	4.5%	
Native hedges	725 linear m	125 linear m	n/a	c 90 linear m of hedge and defunct hedge removed
Trees	n/a	64 new trees	n/a	Excludes woodland planting

A community orchard is proposed, which will reflect the community garden in the north of the village, and will be accessible by residents of the site, adjacent development and the wider village.

Much of the open area of the site will be converted into a wildflower meadow, although the north-eastern section and areas nearer to the proposed housing are proposed to be housing greenspace, based on amenity grass and to provide opportunities for play.

Some marshy grassland will be lost to the proposals but can be recreated in and adjacent to the SUDs scheme along the south-eastern boundary.

There is no woodland on the site and the proposals include belts of woodland along the boundary with Usk Road, reinforcing the pattern of woodland in the vicinity, in particular adjacent to Aderyn Hospital and along Ffynnon Ddu and the railway.

New native hedge planting is proposed to supplement the existing hedges and compensate for loss arising from the proposals. The hedges will also provide visual and ecological linkages across the site. New tree planting will comprise native hedgerow trees as well as native trees across the site, with more ornamental trees within the housing.

The accompanying Indicative Species List illustrates some of the plant species that could be appropriate for the proposed green infrastructure of the site.

All the existing and proposed vegetation will be subject to a Landscape Management Plan to ensure sustainability of the landscape resource.

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