

3.2 Site 2. St Andrew's Road, Lingwood

Photographs



Key Facts

- 3.2.1 Size of the Site: 0.07ha
- 3.2.2 Habitats present: **Modified grassland; Individual trees.**
- 3.2.3 Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, County Wildlife Sites (CWS), Roadside Nature Reserves, Priority Habitats, Statutory Designated Sites present on site? **None.**
- 3.2.4 Recommended habitat measures in LNRS: **None.**

Baseline Habitat Description and BNG Calculation

- 3.2.5 The Site was comprised of three soft landscaped areas at the end of a residential close and adjacent to Lingwood Village Green. All three areas contain mown modified grassland in **poor condition** due to low floral diversity with approximately 4-5 vascular plant species per square metre. The grassland was dominated by perennial ryegrass and occasional Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. Wildflowers include: dandelion *Taraxacum agg.*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis*, common catsear *Hypochaeris radicata*, greater plantain *Plantago major*, white clover *Trifolium pratense*, yarrow, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*.
- 3.2.6 Trees were planted in two of the grassland areas including one large early-mature beech *Fagus sylvatica* and a further eight small and medium sized trees comprising: two oak, one hawthorn, four rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* and one ash. Most trees were in **moderate condition** except for the hawthorn which was in **good condition** due to its maturity.
- 3.2.7 In total, the habitats on Site represent **0.96 Habitat Units** as shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Baseline BNG Calculation of Habitats

Habitat	Area (hectares)	Ecological Distinctiveness	Condition	Habitat Units (HU)
Modified Grassland	0.0744	Low	Poor	0.15
Individual Trees	0.0163	Medium	Good	0.20
Individual Trees	0.0774	Medium	Moderate	0.62
Total	0.07 (excluding trees)			0.96

3.2.8 A map of the baseline habitats is provided in Figure 2, Appendix 1.

Proposed Biodiversity Enhancements

- Leave grass long around trees in the north-east of the Site (in the park) and plant native bulbs underneath;
- Plant two long lived native larger trees (possibly fastigate trees) to succeed the existing rowans;
- Install bird box on beech tree; and
- Plant six fruit trees in an orchard and install three raised beds planted with pollinator friendly species.

Specification of Management Actions

3.2.9 A map of the proposed enhancements is shown in Figure 2, Appendix 2.

Long Grass Area

- The grass underneath the four trees in the north-east of the Site will be left long and cut twice per year – once in late February/early March and again in late August/early September. The long grass will create enhanced microclimates for invertebrates and produce seed for birds and small mammals. The long grass will be cut with a scythe/trimmer/mower to 50mm height twice a year and kept short over the winter with regular mowing as required. All cuttings will be removed from the Site to avoid re-enrichment of the soil and encourage greater abundance and diversity of native wildflowers.
- No fertiliser, herbicide or commercial grass mix will be applied at any time.

Bulb planting

- Bulbs of native species such as snowdrop *Galanthus nivalis*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus ssp pseudonarcissus* will

be planted in the long grass area to create enhanced nectar resources for insects. Bulbs will be planted from September to November inclusive.

Tree planting:

- Six orchard fruit trees (preferably local varieties) will be planted along with two large native species. Trees should be planted from November to March inclusive in non-frozen ground. Trees should be a minimum of standards (8-10cm stem girth) either as containerised or bare root individuals. A square planting pit the depth of the rootball and 75cm wider than the rootball must be excavated with the top soil and sub soil separated into discrete piles. The tree (with its rootball pre-watered) will be placed in the planting pit and the subsoil and topsoil replaced in the correct order, with regular 'healing in' of the layers of soil to ensure stability of the tree. The final layer of backfill will not be consolidated. A 50-100mm woodchip mulch layer will be applied at a minimum radius of 0.5m from the tree stem and not touching the tree stem. A double stake and tie support system and vole/deer guard will be installed and the tree watered generously. Trees will be spaced a minimum of 5m apart.
- Trees will need to be watered generously and regularly in hot dry summer spells for the first two years post planting.
- Check trees annually and top up mulch/clear weeds to limit competing vegetation.
- At year three, remove canes, guards and ties if trees are established. Remove and replace any dead trees.

Raised beds:

- Three raised beds will be established measuring a minimum of 2m in length and 1m in width each. The beds will be planted with pollinator friendly species chosen from the Royal Horticultural Society's Plants for Pollinator's list⁸.

Bird box:

- One bird box will be installed on the large beech tree in the north-east of the Site as per the guidance in Appendix 3.

⁸ <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/research/plants-for-pollinators>

Five Year Biodiversity Enhancement Plan

3.2.10 Following the management specification and guidance above, the Table below provides the timing of management actions over five years.

Habitat	Management Action and Timing				
	2025/2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Long grass area	First cut and collect in late February/ early March. Second cut in late August/early September. Remove arisings offsite. Plant bulbs from September-November.	Same as 2025/2026.	Same as 2025/2026.	Same as 2025/2026.	Same as 2025/2026.
Trees	Plant trees from November-March. Mulch and water.	Water regularly in hot dry spells. Keep mulch topped up.	Water regularly in hot dry spells. Keep mulch topped up.	Remove canes/guards/ties in the winter. Replace any dead/dying individuals.	N/A
Raised Beds	Establish raised beds and plant suitable species.	Water and weed as necessary.	Water and weed as necessary.	Water and weed as necessary.	Water and weed as necessary.
Bird box	Install bird box on beech tree	Check bird box remains securely attached.	Check bird box remains securely attached.	Check bird box remains securely attached.	Check bird box remains securely attached.

Annual Monitoring Checklist

3.2.11 The checklist below is devised as a quick annual check to be carried out and completed by the responsible Community Asset Manager to ensure that the recommended enhancements measures above have taken place. The items in the checklist below have been replicated in a separate Annual Monitoring excel spreadsheet for ease of completion.

Annual Monitoring Checklist for St Andrew’s Road, Lingwood

Habitat	Management Action	Tick relevant column if completed				
		2025/2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Long grass	First cut undertaken?					
	Second cut undertaken?					
	Winter mowing undertaken?					
Trees	Trees planted					
	Tree watered and mulch topped up?					
	Tree stakes/ties/guards adjusted or removed?					
Raised beds	Raised beds established and planted?					
	Watered and weeded as required?					
Bird box	Installed?					
	Annually checked to make sure still safely secured to tree?					

Post-enhancement BNG Calculation

- 3.2.14 The proposed enhancements will generate a BNG uplift of Habitat Units of **9.97%** over **27 years**.
- 3.2.15 The uplift in Habitat Units derives solely from the new tree planting proposed.