Horticultural Notes

Site Clearance
Remove any rubbish, debris, decayed vegetation and contaminated topsoil. Grub up any redundant roots and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil to adjacent areas.

Preparation.
Weedkill the existing grass / planting beds in areas to be planted or paved. Use glyphosate in accordance with manufacturer's instructions applied by trained and certificate holding personnel wearing / using PPE. Leave for a minimum of 3 weeks of day time temperatures over 6 degrees C to kill the root system.

Soil Strip, Store and Place.
Strip topsoil using hand tools to a maximum of 200mm depth over all areas to be hard surfaced or planted. Store in heaps max height 2m. Cultivate areas to be planted to break up subsoil and ensure free drainage. Existing clean topsoil in good condition to be placed in new planting beds with 50:50 mix with mycromhizal compost. For remainder use imported topsoil to be in accordance with BS 3882:2007 Multipurpose Grade. Slightly dome planting beds and create a slight recess to campture mulch adjacent to finished levels of adjacent paving or edging Ensure min 450mm topsoil depth for shrubs

All planting and seeding will be carried out during the first planting season following the completion of the development
Any plants which fail, are removed or become diseased or damaged during a period of five years from completion of the landscape works will be replaced in the next planting season with plants of a similar size and species. For areas to receive lime tolerant plants such as Rhododendron use ericaceous compost.

Planting
Carry out planting while soil and weather conditions are suitable. Do not plant during periods of frost, rain or strong winds. All plants and trees to be in accordance with the criteria as stated in BS 3936 All plants to be positioned upright, well-balanced and with best side to front. All plants to be planted in holes excavated large enough to allow adequate root spread to a depth of minimum 75mm lower than the root system.
Remove any non-perishable containers and trim back damaged roots prior to planting. On completion of planting remove any damaged twigs and shorten back trees or shrubs as necessary to compensate for any root reduction.

Topsoil to Areas to Create Planting Beds
The existing sub soil shall be fully de-compacted in accordance with the 'Complete Cultivation' method to the full rootable soil depth to at least 1m below finished ground level. Imported topsoil to be in accordance with BS 3882 - Multi-Purpose grade free from stones, weeds, debris, clay and vegetation. It shall be of a similar PH to the existing soil. Location of topsoil source, and previous and current land use for natural soils shall be submitted for approval prior to ordering and delivery. Provide a declaration of analysis, to include; date of sampling and analysis, test results including Contamination Parameters and written compliance with the relevant Topsoil Grade in BS 3882:2007, Multipurpose grade. A sample of the first delivery of topsoil shall be available for inspection and approval prior to delivery of further loads. A sample of the approved top soil to be retained on site for comparison during the works
Topsoil to be reinstated to minimum 450mm depth in planting areas and 200mm depth in turfed areas, in layers not more than 150mm thick, treated with glyphosate min 2 weeks prior to planting. Gently firm between layers. Any stones above 20mm dia to be removed. Prior to planting the ground should be full de-compacted
Topsoil to be domed generally within planting area with recessed edge set terminate 75 mm below the top of perimeter kerbing to retain the bark mulch topping.

Cultivation
Excavate planting pits to a minimum depth of
200 x 200 x 250mm for all 1 litre and smaller pot grown plants & 300 x 300 x 450mm for all 2 and 3 litre pot grown shrubs.
Excavate to 150mm wider and deeper than root spread for bare root shrubs. Plant plants at the correct depth.
Cultivation: Cultivate whole planting bed to minimum 300mm depth.
Timing: Within a few days before planting, with weather and ground conditions suitably dry and mild with no risk of frost.
Surface: Leave regular and even. Undesirable material brought to the surface: Remove weeds, roots, stones and clods larger than 50mm in any dimension, tufts of grass and foreign matter. Soil within root spread of trees and shrubs to be retained: Do not dig or cultivate.

Shrubs
All plant material to comply with BS 3936 Pt 1:1992 and handled in accordance with 'Handling and Establishing Landscape Plants' 1996. All Planting to comply with BS 4428 with plants well firmed. Enmag slow release fertiliser or similar approved to be applied to the base of each plant at the rate shown in the schedule

Planting Trees
Excavate tree pits 0.9 x 0.9 x 0.75m deep. Loosen pit base to a further 300mm. Place a little topsoil in the pit base. Mix with 5 litres of mycorrhizal planting compost per tree and dome slightly. Place tree in pit holding vertically. Drive a 1.8m stake through the rootball and at least 300mm into the base of the tree pit. Sprinkle Seirablen Flora slow release fertiliser tablets by ALS or equal approved into the base of the pit around the rootball. (Quantities as manufacturers recommendation for tree size) Backfill carefully using reserved topsoil enriched with 5 litres of planting compost as previously described. Firm.
Fix and secure 1 No Tom's tree tie with spacer, or similar, within 50mm of the top of the stake. Water to field capacity.
Install Root Barrier around trees 600mm deep by Amenity Land Solutions Limited (01952247369) or similar, all in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations

Aftercare for 1st Year -
January to March. Firm all trees and shrubs especially after frost, strong wind and heavy rain. Complete replacement of failed plants to original specification. Collect and remove litter.
April. Hand weed any annual or perennial weeds that may have germinated in mulch. Check for areas of failed turf and carry out any necessary remedial work. Collect and remove litter. Water if necessary.
May. Edge grass/paths and planting beds. Commence mowing to grassed areas when bulb foliage has died back. Mow gradually reducing height of cut - minimum 40mm. Collect and remove litter. Water if necessary. Check plants for pests & diseases. Treat appropriately.
June. Mow , reduce cut to min 40mm high. Collect and remove litter. Water if necessary.
July to October. Continue to hand weed any weeds that attempt to germinate within the mulch. Collect and remove litter. Mow and edge grassed areas. Water if necessary. Check plants for pests & diseases. Treat appropriately.
September. Visit site with client, note and agree any replacement planting needed and variation to maintenance schedule for next year.
October. Cease mowing at the first frost. Check and carry out remedial works to any failed turfed areas
November to December. Commence replacement planting. Check tree ties and stakes. Top up mulch if needed.

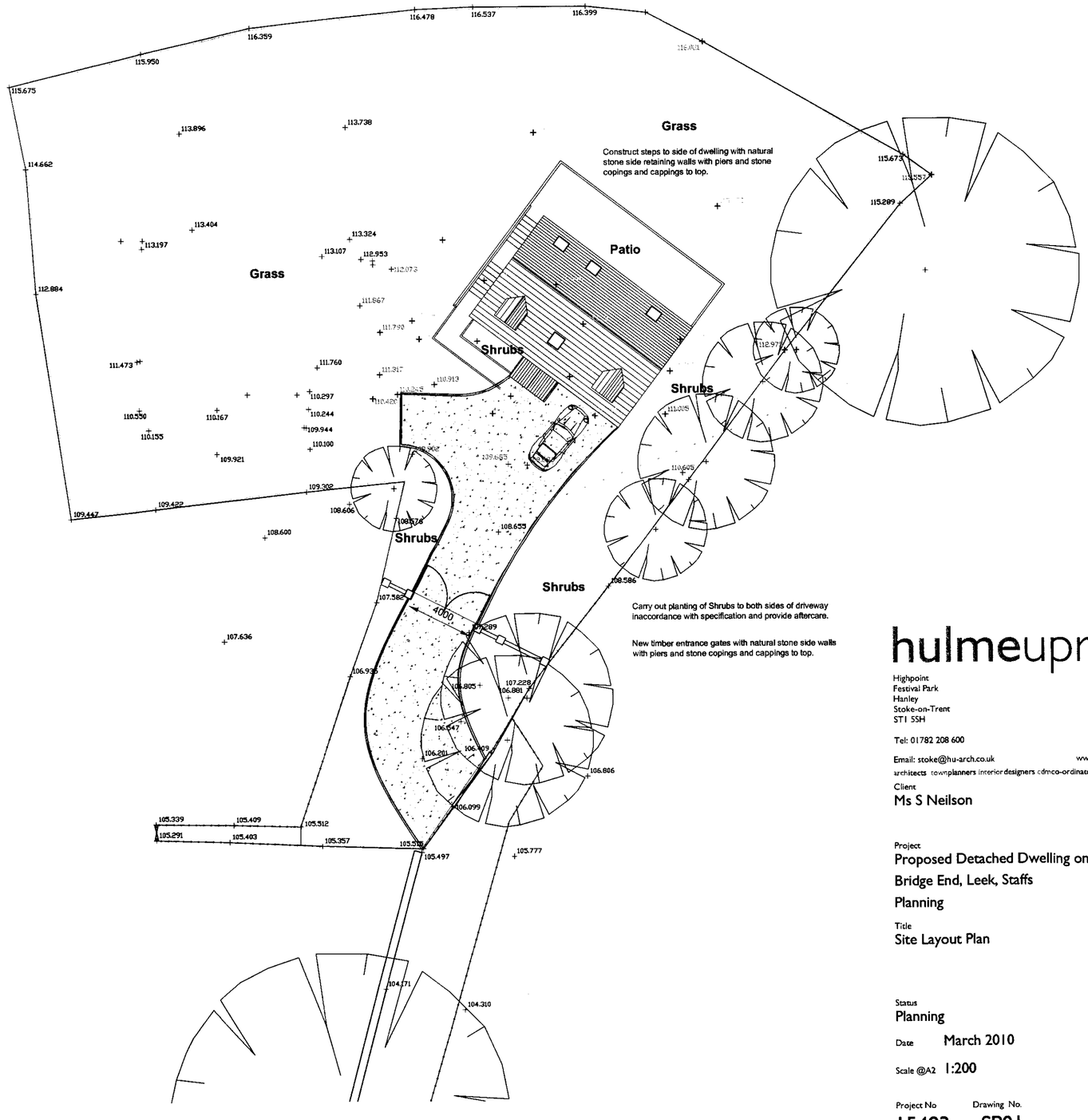
Bark Mulch
To shrub planting beds water soil thoroughly before spreading minimum 75mm thickness of mulch. Mulch shall consist of predominantly matured European Pine Bark with an even nominal particle size distribution of 10-50mm with minimal dust and fines and less than 5% wood content. The pH to be between 4.5 and 5.5. The product shall be pest, disease and weed free and not have been treated with Methyl Bromide or any additives. The product shall have been tested in accordance with the requirements of BS 4790:1987, for fire resistance. Ensure small plants are not covered by mulch. Allow for topping up at first year of maintenance . Mulch to shrub mix A areas only may be non-ornamental variety, pest & weed free, to BS 4790 as stated above. Planting beds to be slightly domed but allow for forming a wide 75mm deep depression along the perimeter of the bed adjacent to any hard surfaced areas sufficient to prevent mulch from overspilling onto paved areas. Bark to shrub mix areas to be non- ornamental but to be free from pest and disease to BS 4790

Grass Turfing To New Grassed Areas
Turf to be supplied by member of Turfgrass Growers Association to BS 3669, free from undesirable grasses and weeds. Grade - Fine Sports/Ornamental. Herbicide treatment to be applied not more than 3 months or not less than 4 weeks before lifting. Do not use dry or deteriorated turf. Stacking height to be a maximum of 1000mm. Break up compacted soil to full depth add conditioner/fertilizer in accordance with manufacturers instructions, reduce topsoil to a tilth to a depth of 200mm. Remove stones or clay greater than 50mm in any dimension. Remove rubbish, roots and debris. Prior to cultivation apply compost dressing to PAS 100 to include minimum 25% organic matter and 35-55% moisture content, Carbon:Nitrogen ratio maximum 20:1. Submit proposals for supply of turf for approval prior to delivery to site. Turf to be laid within 18 hours of delivery in spring and summer and within 24 hours in autumn and winter. Do not lay turf in persistent cold winds, or on frost bound or waterlogged soil. Lay planks on previously laid turf for access. Do not walk on turf or prepared bed. Joints to be well butted up, do not stretch turf. Remove any high spots and fill hollows with fine sand. Consolidate lightly and firmly as laying proceeds.Dressing to be brushed in well to completely fill joints. Thoroughly water the finished turf immediately, check water has penetrated soil beneath.

Maintenance
All areas to be maintained for twelve months after completion and shall include as a minimum the operations as listed below for Aftercare in the first twelve months. Any defects or plant losses to be made good early during the following planting season. Undertake all necessary horticultural operations to ensure the successful establishment of all planting. Clear away all soil and arisings and leave the works in a tidy condition on completion of the maintenance. Final mulching & maintenance to be at end of twelve month period. Site shredding is not permitted, litter to be removed. Prune in accordance with good horticultural practice to BS 7370.

Watering
To full depth of topsoil, apply evenly and without damaging or displacing plants or soil. Water as often as necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting.

Seeding To Existing Disturbed Grassed Areas
To existing grassed areas disturbed by the works - in April or October cultivate areas to be seeded to 150mm depth and harrow to achieve a fine tilth suitable for seeding.Under the canopies of existing trees, hand dig to 100mm depth and hand rake. Sow grass seed Pro 52 by DLF or similar @ 35 gms/m2. Water with fine rose. Initial cut to 65mm when grass reaches 75mm.



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Project
Proposed Detached Dwelling on Land at
Bridge End, Leek, Staffs
Planning

Title
Site Layout Plan

Status
Planning

Date March 2010
Drawn

Scale @A2 1:200
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Drawing No. SP01
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