

RECREATIONAL STRATEGY PLAN

WALK 1



Field Margins



Field margins can provide important refuges for a number of priority species including brown hares. Species such as field voles in turn attract barn owls and kestrels on the look-out for a tasty meal. They also offer nesting and feeding sites for birds such as corn bunting, skylark, tree sparrow and grey partridge.





Areas of Meadow Grassland will provide an important habitat for a range of wildlife, including butterflies and beetles, rodents, reptiles, and birds. Species could include *Centaurea nigra* (Common Knapweed), *Galium verum* (Lady's Bedstraw), *Poterium sanguisorba* (Salad Burnet) and *Ranaculus bulbosus* (Bulbous Buttercup) e.g Emorsgate Seeds EM6F Wild Flowers to Chalk and Limestone Soils.

Mown areas will provide paths and areas for informal recreation, as well as potential basking sites for reptiles.

Where meadow areas border scrub or wooded areas, a transitional mixture tolerant of a degree of shade would be used.

Detailed planting proposals to be agreed with South Cambridgeshire District Council officers.

Key

-  Site Boundary
-  SANG Area
-  Potential Dog Walking Route
-  Alternative Dog Walking Route

Development Area



Landscape buffer planting along the Site boundaries will enhance wildlife connectivity and Green Infrastructure links between the Site and wider countryside to the north, east and west. This planting will create an attractive setting for the proposed perimeter walk.

The pedestrian access to Moat Lane will allow existing dog walkers in Melbourn to access the Site and the proposed walking routes, potentially decreasing the number of people who drive elsewhere to walk their dogs.

People who move into the proposed new homes on land off Cambridge Road, Melbourn will have a range of walking routes to choose between. Those looking to take a short walk can do so by using the route within the Site itself. People who would like a longer walk can easily access the existing network of Public Rights of Way in the countryside surrounding Melbourn by walking for less than 150m along the paved footpath along Melbourn Road to where it connects to PRow 159/1. One walk has been identified which uses the existing network of Public Rights of Way, however longer routes which incorporate other local PRow's such as PRow 200/11 are also possible.

New home-owners will be encouraged to explore these local walks rather than driving to more ecologically-sensitive sites further away by supplying them with a Local Walks leaflet. The routes to be promoted in this way are as follows:

Walk 1 (2.0km / 1.25 miles in length)

This short walk is easily accessible to all of the residents of the proposed new development. It takes the form of two linked loops, which take pedestrians around areas of Public Open Space within the main Site and around the perimeter of the adjacent arable field. Dog waste bins will be provided where appropriate.

Walk 2 (2.4km / 1.5 miles in length)

After following the footway along Cambridge Road for a short distance, this route takes walkers along PRow 159/1 through open countryside. Approximately a quarter of the route is through arable fields with another quarter along a fenced track with hedgerow planting to the side. The remainder of the route is along paved roads, including Fowlmere Road, a rural lane.

As both of these routes go through arable fields, there are opportunities for well-trained dogs to walk off the lead without any risk to livestock.

WALK 2



View from PRow 159/1

| Rev | Initials | Date | Comments |
|-----|----------|----------|----------------------------|
| B | LF | 07.03.19 | Amended to client comments |
| A | LF | 14.08.18 | Amended to client comments |

| JBA 16/281-SK01 Recreational Strategy Plan | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Client | | Site | |
| Countryside Properties | | Land off Cambridge Road, Melbourn | |
| Drawn by | Date | Scale | Rev |
| LF | August 2018 | NTS @ A1 | B |
| James Blake Associates Ltd. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE • LANDSCAPE PLANNING • ECOLOGY • ARBORICULTURE The Black Barn, Hall Road, Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9QX Tel: 01787 248216 E-mail: jamesblake@jba-landmarc. | | | |
| JAMES BLAKE ASSOCIATES | | | |

RECREATIONAL STRATEGY PLAN

SANG Design Approach

Overall Strategy

The approach taken to SANG design has been led by Natural England guidance in relation to SANG creation, and has been informed by comments made by Natural England.

The key objectives of the proposed SANG are:

- Provide an attractive area for recreational use to offset visitor pressure on the nearby SPAs;
- Protect existing habitats and wildlife interest supported by the area;
- Seek opportunities for enhancements to biodiversity within the SANG area;
- Provide an area of landscape and amenity value.

SANG Proposals

To provide additional interest within the SANG area and create new habitat opportunities for wildlife, it is proposed that some new tree and shrub planting and areas of wildflower grassland are provided.

Tree and shrub planting will comprise native species of local provenance and characteristic of the local area, such as English Oak *Quercus robur*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*.

To provide additional wildlife value and increase the diversity of habitats



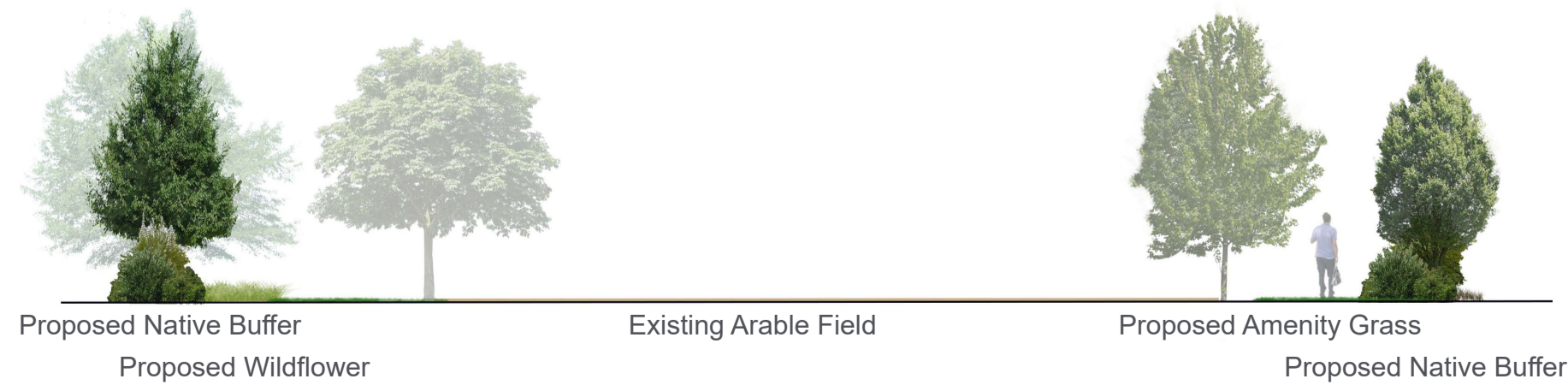
within the SANG, areas of species-rich native wildflower grassland will be established. This will create a habitat of relatively high wildlife value and a foraging resource for a number of birds, invertebrates and small mammal species.

A circular footpath will be created within the SANG, with a total length of no less than 1km. For visitors looking for a longer route the SANG is well connected to the wider PRow network which provides routes of varying length.

Given that the route lies entirely within an existing arable field, the footpath will primarily be formed by maintaining a 2m wide strip along the footpath route at a short sward height (less than 5cm) through regular mowing (likely 2-3 times a month during the main growing season). This will also ensure a semi-natural feel.

The existing boundary vegetation along the northern, eastern and southern boundaries will be retained. New planting along the length of the western boundary will ensure that access to the SANG is limited to the proposed access point from the residential development.

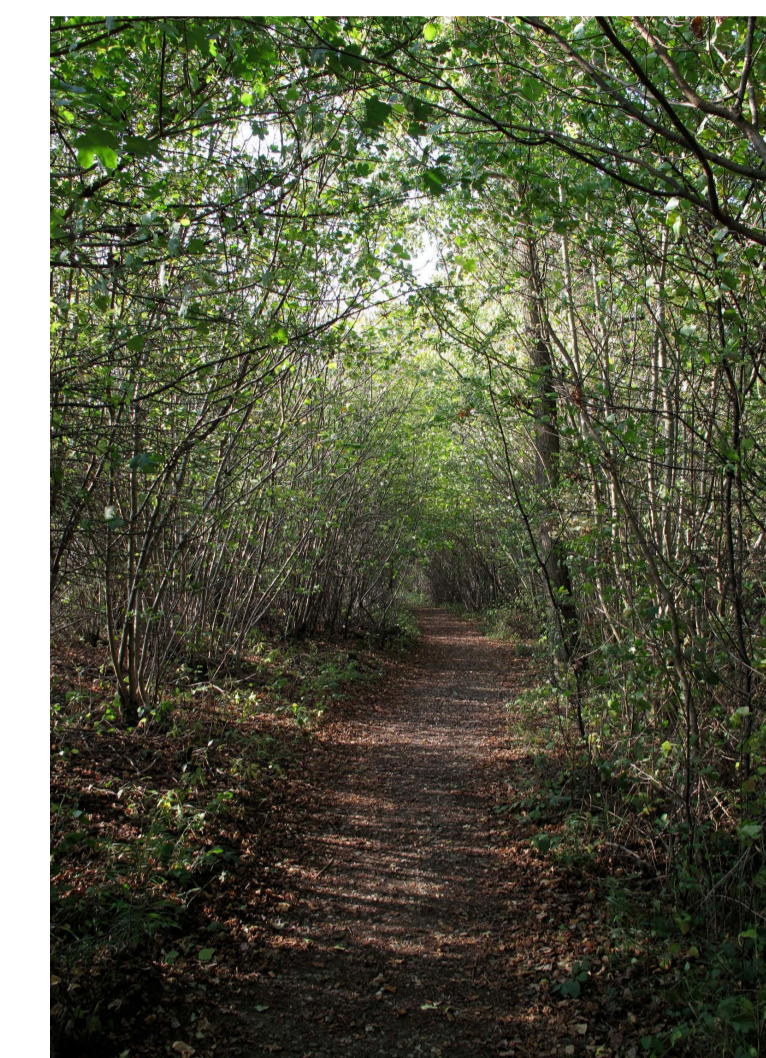
ILLUSTRATIVE SECTION A-A'



Example Mounding



Arable Margins



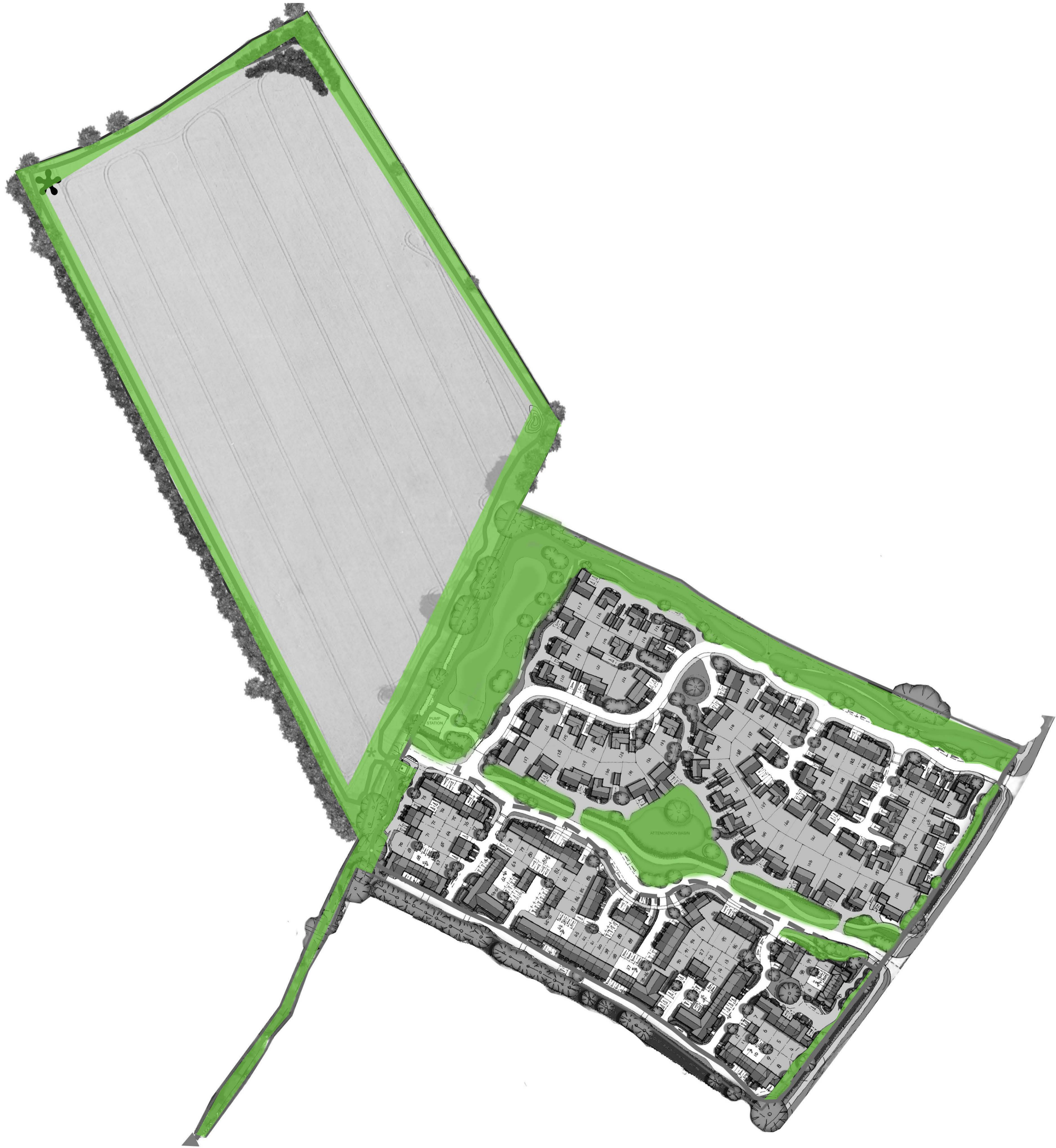
Woodland Glade

- Key
- Site Boundary
 - SANG Area
 - Existing Vegetation
 - Illustrative Mounding
 - Illustrative Tree Planting
 - Illustrative Hedgerow Planting
 - Illustrative Wildflower Margins
 - Illustrative Buffer Planting
 - Illustrative Focal Point
 - Illustrative Interpretation Boards
 - Illustrative Dog Waste Bin

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| Client Countryside Properties | | Site Land off Cambridge Road, Melbourn | |
| Drawn by LF | Date August 2018 | Scale NTS @ A1 | Rev B |
| James Blake Associates Ltd. <small>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE • LANDSCAPE PLANNING • ECOLOGY • ARBORICULTURE</small> <small>The Black Barn, Hall Road, Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9JX</small> <small>Tel: 01787 248216 E-mail: jamesblake@jba-landmarc</small> | | | |
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Key
 Areas of Public Open Space
 Total = 2.77Ha

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