

# Gilston Strategic Landscape Masterplan



Working Group - Session 2 - Results

Rev 01, October 2021

# CONTENTS

- **1. Workshop 1 Overview Emerging Themes**
- 2. Workshop 2 Overview
- 3. Workshop 2 Capturing Results
- 4. Results



### **STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOPS**

### **KEY SLMP ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS**

- Working Group Site Tour 26th June 2021
- Working Group Workshop 1 Introduction to study & consultation process, Wants and Worries, Early Wins, Site Stewardship
- Working Group Workshop 2 Strategies
- Public webinar Stage 2
- Working Group Session 3 Character Areas
- Public webinar Stage 3
- Working Group Session 4 Presentation of Study & Design Code examples
- Public webinar Stage 4





The consultation sessions were held in Gilston Village Hall in the same format as the parallel Village 01 Working Group as photographed here





Taylor Wimpey



# **SLMP WORKING GROUP - WORKSHOP 1, 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

#### **WORKSHOP FOCUS**

- Presentation of emerging **SLMP Strategies on key** themes
- Collaborative workshop to review strategies and agree high-level principles
- Test & develop detail of over-arching strategies through applied workshops on the detailed themes
- Flag interdependencies between themes
- Identify constructive outcomes to specific challenges of the scheme

#### **ATTENDEES - WORKING GROUP**

- Places for People Will Sendell
- PfP Consultant Team (Danny Nagle & Nicola Whiting Grant Associates, Quod, & Julian Conrad - Cratus Communications, Lucy Bird - JTP & other design disciplines dependent on topic)
- EHDC Leader Cllr Linda Haysey
- EHDC Ward Councillor Cllr Eric Buckmaster
- EHDC Officers Kevin Steptoe, Sean Rushton, Jenny Pierce
- Harlow Borough Council elected representative Cllr Mike Hardware (or nominated representative)
- Hertfordshire County Council Division members Cllr Eric Buckmaster
- Hunsdon Eastwick & Gilston Neighbourhood Planning Group representative -Mark Orson + four HEGNP representatives
- High Wych Parish Council Tom Payne (Chair) (or nominated representative)
- Widford Parish Council Mike Allen (Chair) (or nominated representative)
- Community representative(s) Mike Newman, James Skinner
- Youth representative(s) TBC
- Statutory consultees Invited dependent on topic
- Village 07 representatives: Andy Holloway Taylor Wimpey, Will Lusty -Savills, Cody Gaynor - Figure Ground, Chris Churchman - Churchman Thornhill Finch





## **WORKSHOP 1 OVERVIEW - EMERGING THEMES**

FROM COMMENTS MADE BY PARTICIPANTS AS PART OF THE EXERCISES

**HABITATS** 







Safeguard and enhance habitat connectivity throughout the SLMP. A range of spaces within the SLMP can contribute to this, including SuDS.

The SLMP provides opportunities to create sustainable transport links and The SLMP should create green buffers as separation between proposed promote healthy lifestyles for existing and new communities.



#### DRAINAGE

#### **PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES**

### **RESPECTING EXISTING & NEW COMMUNITIES**



SuDS can create multi-functional spaces which contribute to human, ecological and environmental amenity.



The SLMP should include the creation of productive landscapes (i.e. food production). This will help create a sense of community.



Provide facilities which will create a sense of community for the new residents whilst being sensitive to the existing residents.

Sports facilities can create a sense of community, but their boundary treatment and approach to lighting should be considered to ensure appropriate integration.







villages. Buffer planting could be an early win to establish these early on.

### **SPORTS FACILITIES**



# WORKSHOP 2 KEY LANDSCAPE STRATEGIES - RESULTS



### **WORKSHOP 2 OVERVIEW - DISCUSSIONS & ACTIVITES**



**SESSION 2** 



Summary of Presentation boards used during workshop





### WORKSHOP 2 - CAPTURING RESULTS METHODOLOGY

This document captures the discussion that took place during this Community Working Group (CWG), both as tool for the Design Team to be able to address the comments made, but also to relay the discussion to the wider Working Group and other stakeholders. The document acts as a record of discussions rather than agreeing or disagreeing with comments which will be addressed through the developing SLMP.

Whereas the first Working Group Session took place in an online format due to ongoing government restrictions related to the COVID pandemic, this Working Group Session took place in person.

The attendees of the Working Groups were split into smaller groups, each discussing a number of topics. Due to the interrelated nature of the topics, many of the topics were discussed or touched upon in each of the groups. For this reason, this document will compile the discussions and comments made based on topics, not based on groups.



# **WORKSHOP 2 OVERVIEW - EMERGING THEMES**

FROM COMMENTS MADE BY PARTICIPANTS AS PART OF THE EXERCISES

#### **PUBLIC OPEN SPACE FUNCTIONS**



KEY SUGGESTIONS INCLUDED CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISION FOR CULTURAL SPACES (E.G. OPEN AIR THEATRE), COMMUNITY ORCHARDS, AND INFORMAL FORAGING/'INCIDENTAL ALLOTMENT' AREAS

#### **SPORTS PROXIMITY & INTEGRATION**



PREFERENCE TO LOCATE SPORTS PITCHES NORTH OF PYLONS DUE TO GOOD PROXIMITY TO V4 & STC. CONCERN OVER LIGHTING, NOISE & TRAFFIC IMPACTS OF FACILITIES ON EXISTING COMMUNITIES

#### **SAFEGUARDING EXISTING SPECIES**



IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR HABITAT CORRIDORS AND NEW FEATURES (E.G. SUDS) TO SUPPORT EXISTING SPECIES INCLUDING DEER AND GREAT CRESTED NEWTS. CONSIDER APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS TO RESTRICT ACCESS TO HELP PRIORITISE WILDLIFE

### **CHARACTER OF ROUTES**



INTEREST IN CHARACTER OF DIFFERENT ROUTES, ACTIVE TRANSPORT MODES WILL REQUIRE LESS LIGHTING. PREFERENCE FOR LOOSE SURFACE WHERE HORSE RIDING FACILITATES ARE PROVIDED. PARALLEL TO WALKING/CYCLING

### LOCAL FLOODING, FUTURE **WATER USE & QUALITY**



LOCALISED FLOODING OCCURS ON SITE. OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE EFFICIENT FUTURE WATER USE & IMPROVE WATER QUALITY THROUGH NATURAL SYSTEMS SUCH AS REEDBEDS



PRINCIPLES OF EDGES TO DEVELOPMENT, WITH RESIDENTS EXPRESSING PREFERENCE FOR SOFT-EDGES TO VILLAGES & G&T SITES. NEED FOR BUFFERS TO HELP SCREEN NOISE & LIGHTING EFFECTS







### **BUFFER ZONE CHARACTER**

### **PLAY FACILITIES THAT CONNECT** WITH NATURE



PREFERENCE FOR NATURAL, NON-URBANISED, NON-COMMERCIAL PLAY AREAS INSPIRED BY THEIR SETTING. **OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT CHILDREN WITH NATURE** THROUGH PLAY

## **PUBLIC OPEN SPACE**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- ALLOTMENTS:
  - How many allotments will there be?
  - How will the allotments be managed?
  - Can the allotments be in the buffer zones?
- **CULTURE:** There are sports and play strategies but there is no strategy for culture. Parndon Mill provides a space for artists, craftspeople and designers but there is no provision for performing arts. This could include open air theatres etc.
- ORCHARD: There is a history of commercial orchards in the area (Rivers Orchards, High Wych/Sawbridgeworth). Could this historic use be reinstated?
- INCIDENTAL ALLOTMENTS: There are examples of 'incidental allotments' beds where people can forage herbs, vegetables etc. Could these be introduced?









PUBLIC OPEN SPACE



grant associates

Presentation Board used in the consultation



NATURAL & SEMI-NATURAL











WORKING GROU



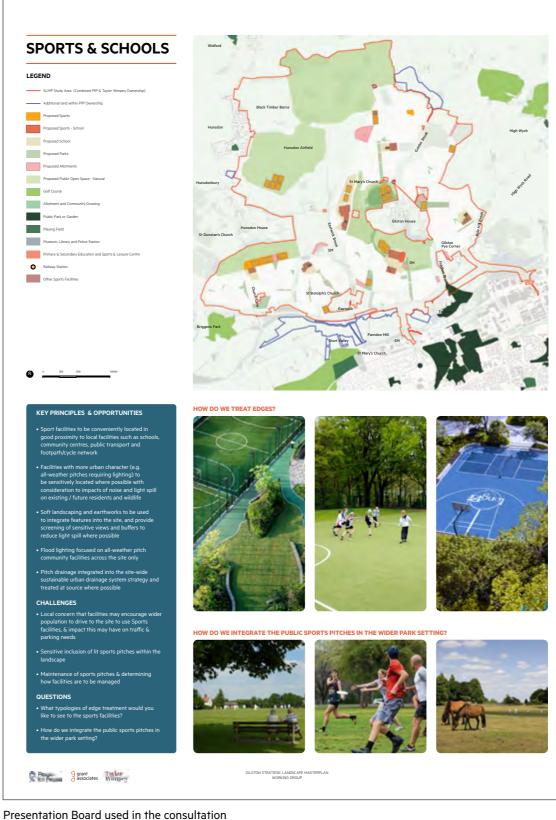




### **SPORTS**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- LOCATION: The location of the sports pitches to the north of the pylons seems popular with residents due to its proximity to Village 4 and the Sustainable Transport Corridor. General preference for pitches to be closer to the villages
- **ACCESS:** Desire for sports pitches to be accessible by sustainable transport methods.
- TRAFFIC: Concern about how the traffic to the sports facilities will be managed. This can be managed by ensuring close proximity of the pitches to the sustainable transport corridor and allowing vehicular access from the proposed development instead of external routes through Hunsdon
- LIGHTING: Lighting should be considered, it should be unobtrusive and considerate of the ecological impact. Some pitches will be floodlit while others will be informal kickabout areas.
- **POSSIBLE DISTURBANCES:** The sports pitches could potentially cause disturbances to the new and existing communities. This includes lighting, noise and activity in the evenings. These should be mitigated through the design where possible. Could advance planting around the Sports Hub contribute to this early on?





Draft proposal showing revised sports pitch location in response to feedback from the Working group Session







### PLAY

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- COMMERCIAL PLAY: Commercial play areas are mentioned, specifically in relation to the Destination Play area. There is a preference for natural, non-urbanised and noncommercial play areas
- **PARKING:** What parking provision will the play areas have? The design team does not currently have information on the parking provisions which will be required for the play areas. This will be set out by East Hertfordshire County Council. Determining these requirements therefore falls outwidth the scope of the SLMP
- LOCATION: There is an opportunity to reconnect kids with nature and there will be a variety of play spaces which allow that. There will be local spaces and a "destination" play areas across the seven villages. There will also be larger play spaces in each of the seven villages.



Preference for natural play inspired by setting...





Preference for natural play...

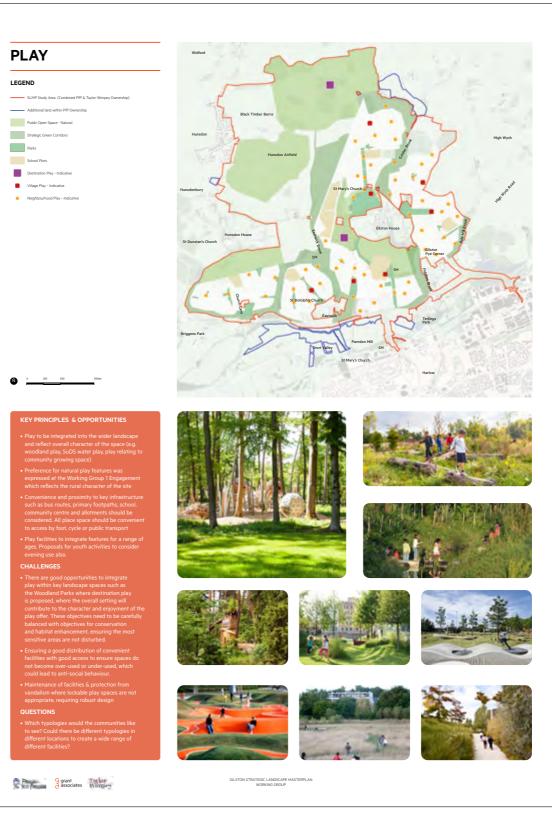


...over commercialised play









Presentation Board used in the consultation

GSLM605 GILSTON STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN - WORKING GROUP - WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS 16/09/2021

### **ECOLOGY**

#### TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG

#### **EXISTING HABITATS:**

- What will happen to the existing habitat corridors? E.g. what happens to the deer (including Muntjac deer) which move from Brickhouse Farm via Church Lane to Easnye Estate? There is concern that this route will be blocked by the football pitches. It is noted that the SLMP will provide habitat corridors throughout the site, so the deer will naturally move to areas where they feel more comfortable.
- Possibility of introducing feeding programmes to condition deer to live in other areas. No programme has been established for relocation the deer . There are programmes for relocating other species but the methods are specific to these animals.
- Great Crested Newts most ponds containing this species will be retained, though it is noted that these animals need connected habitats. Improving the habitats of Great Crested Newts will also improve habitats for other reptiles
- HABITATS AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE: There is an opportunity to create interesting habitats (e.g. permanent water features and seasonal drains) when addressing flood issues. The edge treatment and planting of features should be considered as it is crucial to encourage wildlife
- HUNSDON AIRFIELD: There is an opportunity to improve this part of the site for wildlife as it is currently relatively poor arable land
- **RESTRICTING ACCESS:** Could certain areas be restricted to encourage wildlife? This should be established from the start so it is enforceable later. Could include areas like Home Wood and the Bluebells













Presentation Board used in the consultation

ECOLOGY	Widford 9
LEGEND	1 3
SLMP Study Area (Combined PIP & Taylor Wimpey Ownership)	
Additional land within PIP Ownership	and a
1 Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh	27
2 Broadleaved Deciduous Woodland	Hunsdon 35
3 Mixed Mainly Broadleaved Deciduous Woodland	36
4 Good Quality Semi-Improved Grassland	Hunsd
5 Lowland Ferrs	
6 Lowland Meadows	
7 No Main Habitat but Additional Habitats Present	Hunsdonbury
8 Traditional Orchards	32
9 Village Corridors	
Stort Valley	Hunsdon House
10 Created Habitats - Hard-standing	E al
Created Habitats - Track	
11 Created Habitats - Broadleaved Parkland - Scattered Trees	2
12 Created Habitats - Broadleaved woodland plantation	
13 Created Habitats - Allotments	30
14 Created Habitats - Cultivated disturbed amenity grassland	30
15 Created Habitats - Marshy grassland	
16 Created Habitats - Semi-improved neutral grassland	
17 Created Habitats - Standing Water	1 1 1
18 Enhanced Habitats - Broadleaved Parkland Scattered Trees	6
19 Enhanced Habitats - Broadleaved woodland plantation	2 1-0-
20 Enhanced Habitats - Semi Natural Broadleaved Woodland	
21 Enhanced Habitats - Conferous woodland plantation	SLMP Draft Ecology & Biodiversity Strategy
22 Enhanced Habitats - Mixed Woodland Plantation	
23 Enhanced Habitats - Cultivated disturbed amenity grassland	
24 Enhanced Habitats - Improved Grassland	
25 Enhanced Habitats - Semi-Improved Neutral Grassland	here and the second second
26 Enhanced Habitats - Poor semi-improved Grassland	
27 Enhanced Habitats - Dense Continuous Shrub	
28 Enhanced Habitats - Fen	A CONTRACTOR OF
29 Enhanced Habitats - Running Water 30 Enhanced Habitats - Bryophyte dominated spring	Service and
30 Enhanced Habitats - Bryophyre dominated spring 31 Enhanced Habitats - Flush and Spring - Acid Neutral Flush	A CONTRACTOR
31 Enhanced Habitats - Fizan and spring - Audi Redutar Fizan 32 Enhanced Habitats - Standing Water	Martin and a state
32 Enhanced Habitats - Standing Water 33 Enhanced Habitats - Swamp	Constant and a second
3.3 Enhanced Pachais - swamp 3.4 Retained Habitats - Buildings	Non States
Retained Habitats - Boildings     Retained Habitats - Poor semi-Improved Grassland	
35 Retained Habitats - Improved Grassland 36 Retained Habitats - Improved Grassland	
Retained Habitats - Cultivated disturbed arable land	
38 Retained Habitats - Other tall herb and fen - ruderal	198 J 18
39 Indicative Village POS based on OPA Proposals	and alace for
0 20 500 1000m	and the second
QUESTIONS	A REAL PROPERTY OF
What should the balance between accessible areas	
and areas for biodiversity be like?	
<ul> <li>Are there any areas where human use could be limited to allow biodiversity to thrive? If there</li> </ul>	UUT
are areas dedicated to biodiversity, how do we safeguard these and limit human intervention (e.g.	A Statement
people or dogs damaging these)?	a star and the
grant associates	GILSTON STRATEGIC LANDSCA WORKING GROU



### LIGHTING

### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- **RESPECTING NATURALLY DARK AREAS:** There should be a gradual change in lighting intensity from the villages to more rural areas
- CONSIDERING BAT CORRIDORS
- LIGHTING OF SPORTS PITCHES: Should be sensitive to limit ecological disturbance and have limited impact on residents.

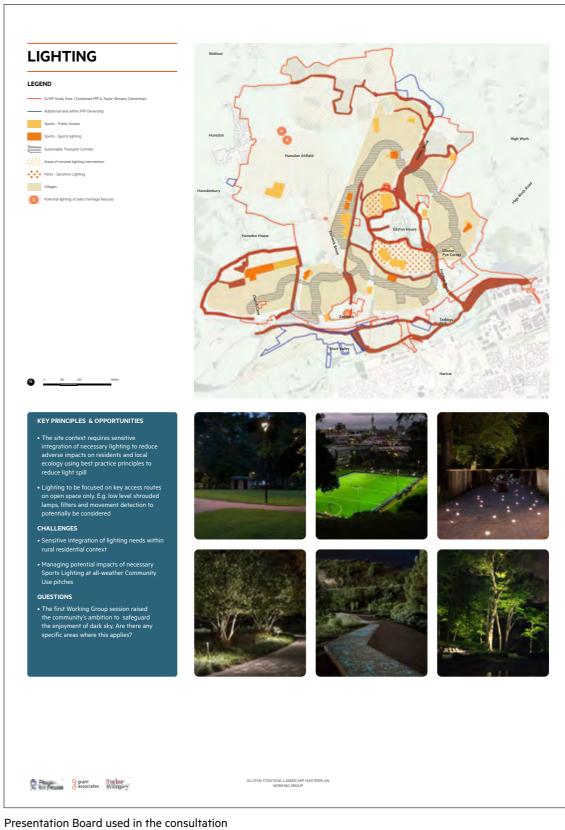












### **ACCESS**

### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- MANAGED ACCESS: How can access within nature areas be managed? In Pishiobury Park & Panshanger Park there are wooden edged walkways and boardwalks to manage this. In the buffers especially there is a need to manage the conflict between access, accessibility and wildlife
- TWICHELLS: Could improve permeability

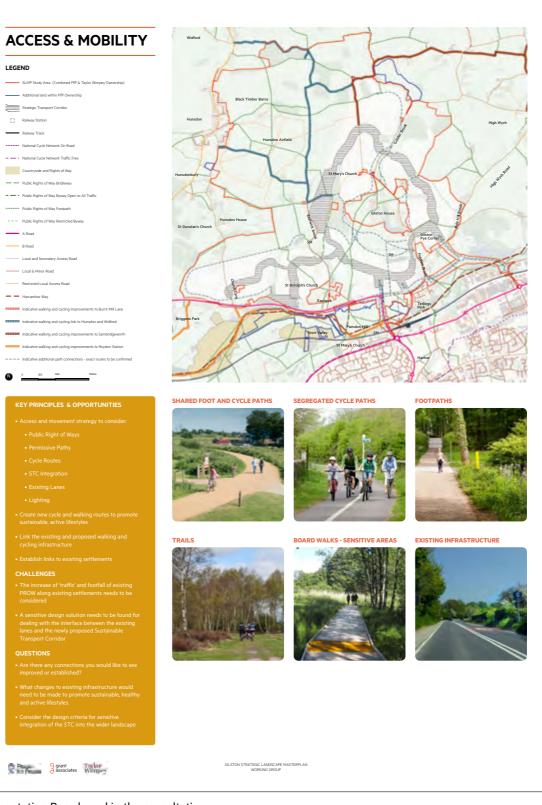


Boardwalk Pishiobury Park





Path typologies to restrict human access and intervention in nature



Presentation Board used in the consultation







### **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- **DEMOGRAPHICS:** What will the demographics of the area be like? This will influence the requirements of the Public Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure. This will be market led, so it will likely be similar to the rest of the area. However, the Green Infrastructure should work for everyone, regardless of the demographic
- **AIRFIELD:** Concern there will be houses close to the airfield although the developable areas are included within the outline application parameter plans. No decision has been made on what happens to the aircraft use, but it sits outside of the developable area
- **ROUTES AND LINKS:** What will the nature of these be? The green infrastructure focusses on active transport and leisure routes, so these could be lit more sensitively
- **EQUESTRIANISM:** For horseriders, it is preferable for bridleways not to be tarmacked, though tarmacked routes are more favourable for people with strollers and cyclists.
- **STEWARDSHIP OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:** Important consideration. There are examples of this in the region, like Southern Country Park in Bishop's Stortford which the CWG have pointed out



Taylor Wimpey

Parallel bridleway and footpath, Cole Green Way Hertfordshire



9 grant associates

Places for People



Southern Country Park, Bishop's Stortford

LEGEND	1
SLMP Study Area (Combined PIP & Taylor Wimpey Ownership)	
Additional land within PIP Ownership	5
Existing Woodland and Hedgerow	Black limber ba
Woodland Buffers 20m	Hunsdon
Waterway Buffer 20m	
Existing Hedgerows	
Village Corridors	1 400
Strategic Green Corridors	Husdenbury
Parks	
Stort Valley	
River Stort Corridor	Hunsdon House
Primary Landscape Corridor     Secondary Landscape Corridor	S Dunstan's Church
Secondary Landscape Contdor Woodland Corridor	
Enhanced Hedgerow Corridor	Y
Tributaries Corridors - Include SuDS	1
<b>3</b> <u>2 20 00 000</u>	P
Achieving strong connectivity through the site for wildlife and people. To encourage use and enjoyment of the countryside, healthy iffestyles and enhanced biodiversity.     Strengthening the existing natural corridors of the tributary valleys and existing vegetation as the core structure for GI connections.     Creation of multi-functional spaces which	
Creating of matrix industry spaces which integrate wildlife habitas, pedestrian and cycle movement, water management, play & visual integration     Creating diversity of landscapes through understanding of appropriate hierarchy of use and exploring opportunities to accentuate landscape character.     CHALLENGES	
Integrate wildlife habitats, pedestrian and cycle movement, water management, play & visual integration • Creating diversity of landscapes through understanding of appropriate hierarchy of use and exploring opportunities to accentuate landscape character. CHALLENGES	PUBLIC OPEN SPACE STRATEGY (BASE
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## **BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- LOCAL FLOOD ISSUES:
  - Channocks Farm is cut off 4 to 5 times a year
  - Hunsdon experiences flood issues
- **REED BEDS:** Could be used to filter water
- WATER HARVESTING: Could rainwater be harvested and reused?
- **REDUCE WATER USE:** People should be encouraged to use less and waste less water.



Reed beds providing ecologically rich edge condition and cleaning water



Golden Brook after rain event



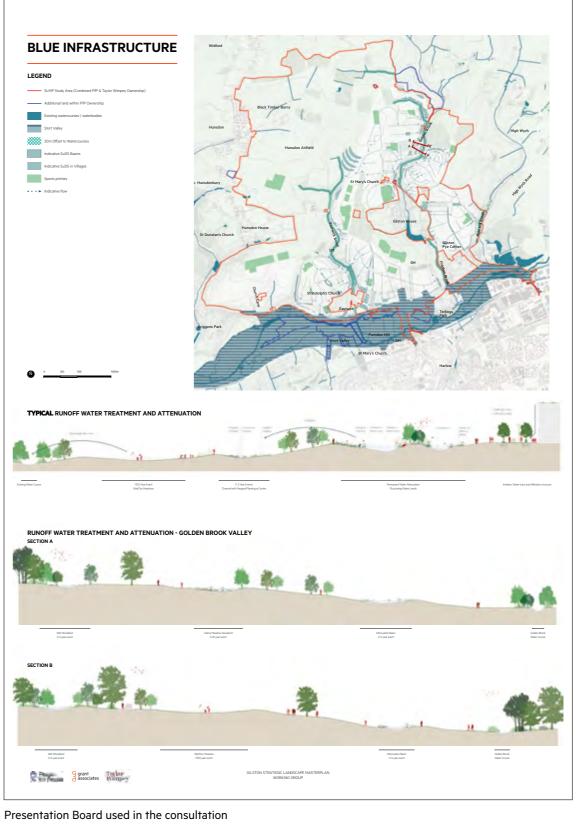


Bristol Harbourside, Grant Associates - reedbeds to improve water quality & ecology









GSLM605 GILSTON STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN - WORKING GROUP - WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS 16/09/2021

### **BUFFERS**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- SOFT EDGES: Soft edges to the villages need to be considered. They come in different forms but gardens are unlikely to back onto an open space. It is more likely there will be houses fronting onto a street
- TREE ROOT PROTECTION AND ROAD SIDE BUFFERS: Ancient woodland will be protected with root protection zones. This means there will be natural buffers and nature routes throughout Gilston Villages.
- CHANNOCKS FARM:
  - Why is there a 20m buffer around Channock Farm and 30m around other areas. Channocks is one of the highest points on the site?
  - The width of the buffers does not mean that there is going to be development up to that line. Soft boundaries and opportunities for different types of development.
  - There was a request for allotments along this boundary.



Home wood - 20m buffers are proposed to ancient woodlands



5m buffers to existing hedgerows









BUFFERS	
LEGEND VILLAGE 1-6 PARAMETER PLAN 02	
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LEGEND - VILLAGE 7 PARAMETER PLAN 02	S
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	Overlay of Globos Park Estato (DA) Paramerer Para Comband with Willige 7 OPA Parameter Para 022 but TYPICAL VILLAGE BUFFERS
Reference Image Village Buffer	ANCIENT WOODLAND
Reference Image Vilage Buffer	*
	REGENERATION DE LA COMPANY
Countryside Setting of Eastwick - Site Photo	
	VILLAGE - GOLDEN BROOK
Countryside Setting of Eastwick - Site Photo	VILLAGE - GOLDEN BROOK GLISTON STRAT

Presentation Board used in the consultation



### **ADVANCED PLANTING**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

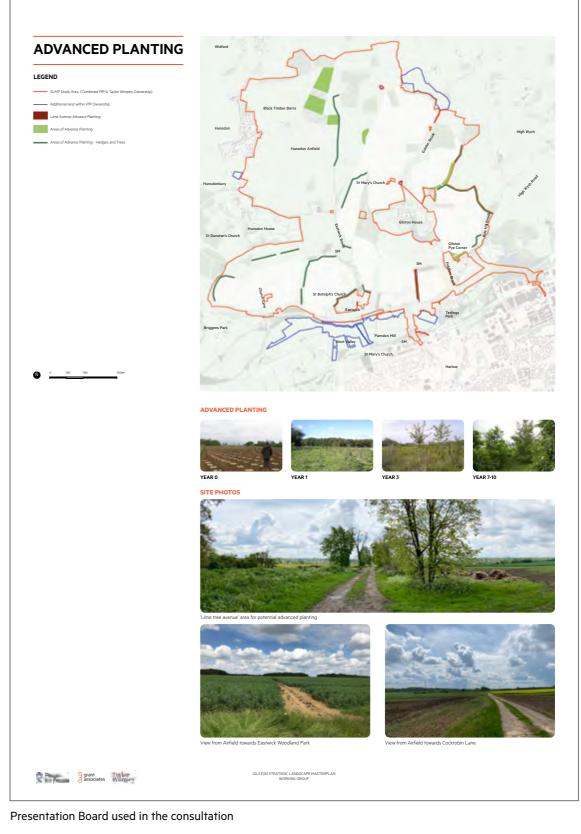
- TIMEFRAME:
  - When is advance planting expected to take place? Aim is currently October 2022 onwards, though there is a national shortage of trees. The plating will start before Village 1 commences.
  - Could all planting be done before works start? This is not possible due to the ever-changing nature of the work including tenancies etc. There are triggers related to number of residents and dwellings. These will set out when planting needs to take place.
- PHASING: Are phasing plans available to residents?
- CHANNOCKS FARM: Early planting around Channocks to get the trees surrounding the farm area to grow to a substantial height before homes are built in adjacent areas. This would allow the view to be tree canopies not houses.



Draft Advanced Planting Proposal Channocks Farm



Draft Advanced Planting Proposal Pye Corner







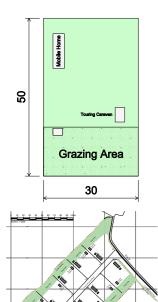




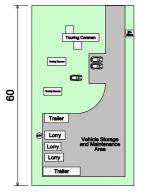
# **GYPSY, TRAVELLERS AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE SITES**

#### **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION RAISED BY CWG**

- WHAT ARE G&T&TS REQUIREMENT?:
  - Practicalities like access, facilities, community needs, noise and levels need to be considered. Will there be need for community rooms? Space to keep dogs and horses?
  - How will boundaries be treated?
- **OWNERSHIP:** Who will own this?
- WHAT DRIVES NEED AND REQUIREMENTS?: Policies are driven by demographics.







Typical G&T Pitch Layout from Reference Planning

Model TSP Site and Plot Layout from the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain



Indicative V7 Proposal

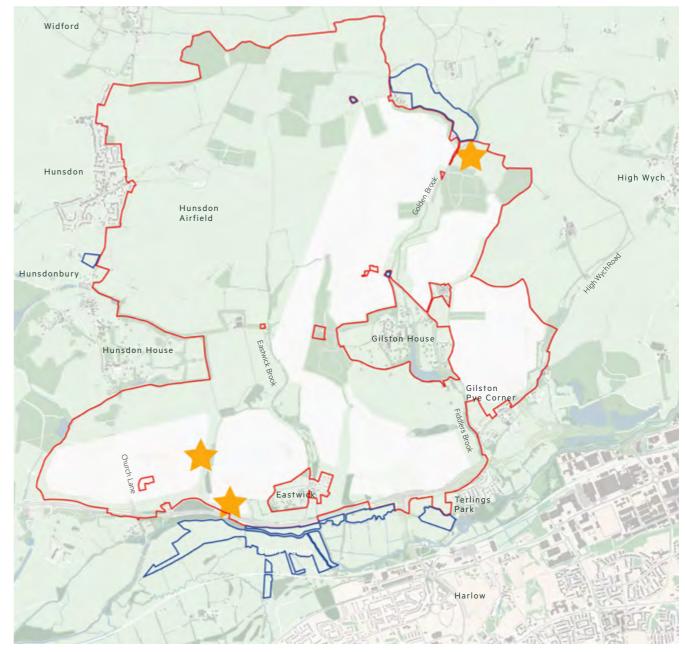


Diagram used in the consultation

KEY

**Combined Application Boundaries for** the Gilston Area



Land within Places for People ownership



Application





Indicative location of proposed Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Sites





