

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SCHEME

Erection of a General-Purpose Agricultural Storage Building

Land South of Wellsborough Road, Sibson, Nuneaton, Leicestershire, CV13 6LR

LPA Reference: 26/00366/AGDO

1. INTRODUCTION

This Landscape Management Scheme has been prepared by Foxes Rural Ltd on behalf of G Hodgetts in support of a prior approval application (LPA Reference: 26/00366/AGDO) submitted under Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended), for the erection of a general-purpose agricultural storage building at Land South of Wellsborough Road, Sibson, Nuneaton, Leicestershire, CV13 6LR.

By email dated 14 May 2026, the case officer for Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (Sophie Iliffe, Planning Officer, Development Management) confirmed that the Local Planning Authority requires prior approval in respect of the siting of the proposed building. The email further requested that the proposed new hedgerow planting be shown on the plans alongside timescales for planting.

This document has been prepared in direct response to those requests. It sets out the proposed soft landscaping works associated with the development together with explicit planting timescales, and demonstrates how the scheme integrates the building into its agricultural surroundings by reference to both the proposed new hedgerow and the existing vegetation that already contributes to the screening of the site.

This scheme should be read alongside the accompanying Landscape Plan, Drawing Reference LP01 (dated 19 May 2026, Scale 1:500 @ A2), which illustrates the location of the proposed building, the existing hedgerow along the B585 road frontage, and the proposed new hedgerow adjoining the existing strong field boundary hedgerow.

2. EXISTING SCREENING

The proposed building has been sited to make best use of the existing landscape features of the holding, which already provide meaningful screening from surrounding vantage points.

Existing Roadside Hedgerow (B585 Frontage)

A well-established native hedgerow runs along the full length of the Wellsborough Road (B585) frontage to the north of the proposed building. This hedgerow is retained in its entirety and will remain undisturbed. It provides the principal screen of the site when viewed from the public highway and forms part of the established landscape character of this part of Leicestershire. No works are proposed to this hedgerow.

Existing Strong Field Boundary Hedgerow

A strong, well-established native hedgerow runs along the eastern field boundary of the site. This hedgerow is mature and provides effective visual containment and screening of the proposed building position when viewed from the east. It will be retained in full and forms the framework to which the proposed new hedgerow will be joined, creating a continuous and well-screened boundary on this side of the holding.

3. SOFT LANDSCAPING

The soft landscaping proposals comprise the establishment of a new native hedgerow adjoining the existing strong field boundary hedgerow, as shown on Drawing LP01 (Key: Proposed New Hedgerow). The new hedgerow will connect directly to the existing established hedgerow, extending the continuous boundary vegetation to provide enhanced screening of the proposed building and to reinforce the field boundary structure of the holding.



Planting will be carried out using bare-root native whips installed by notch planting. All whips will be protected with biodegradable tubular shrub guards supported by bamboo canes to protect against browsing during the establishment period.

Species Mix

The species mix for the proposed new hedgerow has been selected to reflect and complement the character of the existing hedgerow on the site, which appears to comprise predominantly one or two species typical of the local agricultural landscape. The proposed mix is intentionally simple and consistent with this established character:

Species (Latin Name)	Common Name	Proportion (%)
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	75%
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	25%

Plants will be bare-root whips of 15-30 cm in height at planting, arranged in a staggered double row at a density of five plants per metre. This simple two-species mix mirrors the likely composition of the existing hedgerows on the holding and will ensure the new planting sits comfortably within the established landscape pattern of the site.

Trees

Two native trees are proposed as part of the scheme, incorporated within the new hedgerow planting as shown on Drawing LP01. The trees will be planted as feathered whips or light standards and will provide immediate vertical structure and long-term landscape interest, complementing the hedgerow planting and reinforcing the ecological and visual value of the boundary. Proposed tree species will be native and appropriate to the agricultural landscape of this part of Leicestershire, such as Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) or Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*).

Planting Timescales

In direct response to the Planning Officer's request, the following planting timescale is confirmed:

Stage	Detail / Timescale
Implementation	All new hedgerow and tree planting will be carried out during the first planting season (mid-November to mid-March) following commencement of the development — anticipated to be November 2026 to March 2027.
Replacement planting	Any plants which fail to establish, become seriously damaged or diseased, die, or are removed within five years of planting will be replaced on a like-for-like basis during the next available planting season.
Establishment period	Years 1-5 from planting: active management and maintenance as described in Section 4.
Long-term management	Year 5 onwards: routine trimming and maintenance as part of the wider farm hedgerow management regime, as described in Section 4.

4. LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

The long-term management of the proposed planting will be carried out by the applicant, G Hodgetts, as part of the wider farm management regime of the holding. The following management commitments apply.

Standards

- All soft landscape works will be carried out broadly in accordance with the relevant current British Standards, including BS 4428:1989 and BS 3936:1992.
- All planting will take account of the existing structure, pattern and character of the local landscape through the use of complementary native species.
- Any plants which fail, become seriously damaged or diseased, die, or are removed within five years of planting will be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species.

Establishment Period — Years 1 to 5

- Water all new planting during prolonged dry spells in the first two growing seasons to prevent losses.
- Re-firm any lifted or rocking plants promptly after strong winds or frosts.
- Inspect all new planting at least monthly during the first year for pest damage, browsing, disease or failure.
- Check guards regularly; replace or remove as plants establish.
- Trim lightly each winter (September to February, avoiding the bird nesting season) to encourage bushy lateral growth in the hedgerow whips. Do not cut leader stems until the desired hedgerow height is reached.

Long-Term Management — Year 5 Onwards

- Once the desired hedgerow height is reached (minimum 2-3 metres), cut back the previous season's growth by one third, or more if required, to maintain the hedgerow at the target height.
- Thereafter trim as required, typically every two to three years on a staggered rotation, to encourage flowering and fruiting for wildlife.
- All trimming to be carried out in winter only (September to February inclusive), avoiding the bird nesting season.
- Any significant die-back or structural failure to be addressed promptly, with replacement planting in the next available planting season.

5. Conclusion

This Landscape Management Scheme has been prepared in direct response to the Planning Officer's email of 14 May 2026, which requested that the proposed landscaping works be shown on plans with planting timescales.

The site benefits from an existing mature hedgerow along the B585 frontage and a strong, well-established field boundary hedgerow to the east, both of which are retained in full. The proposed new hedgerow will adjoin the existing strong field boundary hedgerow directly, creating a continuous and well-vegetated boundary that will provide enhanced screening of the proposed building. Two native trees are incorporated within the new planting to provide additional structure and long-term landscape value.

The new hedgerow planting is shown on Drawing LP01 and will be implemented during the first planting season following commencement of the approved development, anticipated to be November 2026 to March 2027. The species mix has been kept simple and consistent with the established character of the existing hedgerows on the holding.

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For and on behalf of Foxes Rural Limited
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