



Requirement 4 Biodiversity and Landscape Mitigation: Work No.10 Acoustic Fence 10 New Bridge Lane

(part discharge)

April 2025

Revision 1.0
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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Medworth CHP Limited (the Developer) has secured a Development Consent Order (the Order)¹ to construct, operate and maintain an Energy from Waste (EfW) Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Facility on the industrial estate, Algores Way, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Together with associated Grid Connection, CHP Connection, Access Improvements, Water Connections, Temporary Construction Compound (TCC), and an Acoustic Fence, these works are the Authorised Development.
- 1.1.2 The Authorised Development will recover useful energy in the form of electricity and steam from over half a million tonnes of non-recyclable (residual), non-hazardous municipal, commercial and industrial waste each year. The Authorised Development has a generating capacity of over 50 megawatts and the electricity will be exported to the grid. The Authorised Development also has the capability to export steam and electricity to users on the surrounding industrial estate.

1.2 The Developer

- 1.2.1 The Developer is a wholly owned subsidiary of MVV Environment Limited (MVV). MVV is part of the MVV Energie AG group of companies. MVV Energie AG is one of Germany's leading energy companies, employing approximately 6,500 people with assets of around €5 billion and annual sales of around €4.1 billion. The Authorised Development represents an investment of approximately £450m.
- 1.2.2 The company has over 50-years' experience in constructing, operating, and maintaining EfW CHP facilities in Germany and the UK. MVV Energie's portfolio includes a 700,000 tonnes per annum residual EfW CHP facility in Mannheim, Germany.
- 1.2.3 MVV's largest operational project in the UK is the Devonport EfW CHP Facility in Plymouth. Since 2015, this modern and efficient facility has been using up to 275,000 tonnes of municipal, commercial and industrial residual waste per year to generate electricity and heat, notably for His Majesty's Naval Base Devonport in Plymouth, and exporting electricity to the grid.
- 1.2.4 In Dundee, MVV has taken over the existing Baldovie EfW Facility and has developed a new, modern facility alongside the existing facility. Operating from 2021, it uses up to 220,000 tonnes of municipal, commercial and industrial waste each year as fuel for the generation of usable energy.
- 1.2.5 Biomass is another key focus of MVV's activities in the UK market. The biomass power plant at Ridham Dock, Kent, uses up to 195,000 tonnes of waste and non-recyclable wood per year to generate green electricity and is capable of exporting heat.

¹ Statutory Instrument 2024 No. 230 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2024/230/schedule/1/made>



1.3 The Authorised Development

1.3.1 The Authorised Development comprises the following key elements:

- The EfW CHP Facility and Site (Work Nos.1/1A/1B/2A/2B);
- CHP Connection (Work Nos.3/3A/3B);
- Temporary Construction Compound (TCC) (Work No.5);
- Access Improvements (Work Nos.4A/4B);
- Water Connections (Work Nos.6A/6B);
- Grid Connection (Work Nos.7/8/9) and
- Acoustic Fence (Work No.10).

1.3.2 A summary description of each Authorised Development element is provided below.

- **EfW CHP Facility and Site:** A site of approximately 5.3ha located south-west of Wisbech, located within the administrative areas of Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. The main buildings of the EfW CHP Facility would be located in the area to the north of the Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board (IDB) drain bisecting the site and would house many development elements including the tipping hall, waste bunkers, boiler house, turbine hall, air cooled condenser, air pollution control building and chimneys. The gatehouse, weighbridges, and laydown maintenance area would be located in the southern section of the EfW CHP Facility Site.
- **CHP Connection:** The EfW CHP Facility would be designed to allow the export of steam and electricity from the facility to surrounding business users via dedicated pipelines and private wire cables located along the disused March to Wisbech railway. The pipeline and cables would be located on a raised, steel structure.
- **TCC:** Located adjacent to the EfW CHP Facility Site, the compound would be used to support the construction of the Authorised Development. The compound would be in place for the duration of construction.
- **Access Improvements:** includes access improvements on New Bridge Lane (road widening and site access) and Algores Way (relocation of site access 20m to the south).
- **Water Connections:** A new water main connecting the EfW CHP Facility into the local network will run underground from the EfW CHP Facility Site along New Bridge Lane before crossing underneath the A47 to join an existing Anglian Water main. An additional foul sewer connection is required to an existing pumping station operated by Anglian Water located to the northeast of the Algores Way site entrance and into the EfW CHP Facility Site.
- **Grid Connection:** This comprises a 132kV electrical connection using underground cables. The Grid Connection route begins at the EfW CHP Facility Site and runs underneath New Bridge Lane, before heading north within the



verge of the A47 to the Walsoken Substation on Broadend Road. From this point the cable would be connected underground to the Walsoken DNO Substation.

- Acoustic fence: This comprises of a 3m high acoustic fence fronting a residential property at 10 New Bridge Lane, Wisbech.

1.4 Purpose of this document

1.4.1 Schedule 2 of the Order requires the Developer to comply with and/or submit detailed information to implement the Authorised Development.

1.4.2 Requirement 4 (biodiversity and landscape mitigation) of Schedule 2 states:

*“(1) No part of the authorised development may commence **until a written landscape and ecology strategy for that part** [emphasis added] has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. The landscape and ecology strategy must be substantially in accordance with the outline landscape and ecology strategy.*

(2) The landscape and ecology strategy must be implemented as approved under sub-paragraph (1).”

1.4.3 **Section 2** of this document provides the Landscape and Ecology Strategy to discharge the pre-commencement of development requirements of Requirement 4 for the Acoustic Fence (Work No.10).

1.4.4 Since the Acoustic Fence is a relatively minor component of the Authorised Development and to allow the owner/occupier to maintain the land as a private garden, limited post implementation landscaping and ecology mitigation is proposed.

1.5 Structure of this document

- **Section 2** – the Landscape and Ecology Strategy

2. Landscape and Ecological Strategy

2.1 Introduction

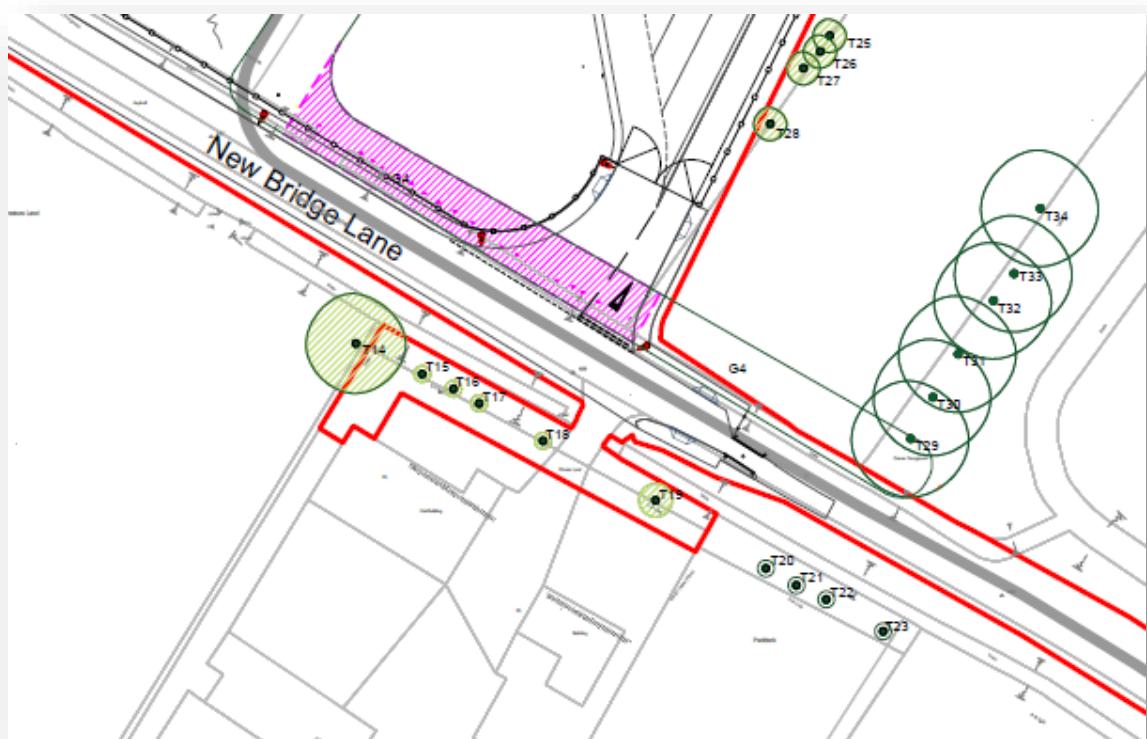
- 2.1.1 Beyond felling trees adjacent to the Acoustic Fence and reflecting the land is a private garden, no landscaping or ecological mitigation was proposed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Strategy Figure 3.14 Revision 2.0 (Volume 6.4) [REP2-026]**. Therefore, this Strategy is limited to summarising which trees were felled under ecological supervision and returning the land to a private garden.

2.2 Pre-construction activities

Tree felling

- 2.2.1 To accommodate construction and maintenance of the Acoustic Fence and improve maintenance access to the adjacent IDB ditch, the trees (T14 to T19) along the existing fence line at 10 New Bridge Lane were identified for felling, see **Figure 3.24i of the Environmental Statement Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development, Revision 1.0, Volume 6.3 [APP-049]** and the extract in **Figure 2.1**.

Figure 2.1: Trees identified in the Environmental Statement for felling



- 2.2.2 T14 and T15 were felled, and other adjacent trees coppiced by a third party during 2024, see **Figure 2.2** and **2.3**.



2.2.3

In February 2025, T16 to T19 were felled by the Developer following a preliminary ground level roost assessment for Potential Roost Features (PRFs) by an ecologist, see **Appendix G** of the **Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)** for Work No.10, and **Figure 2.2** and **2.3**.

Figure 2.2: Trees felled adjacent to 10 New Bridge Lane

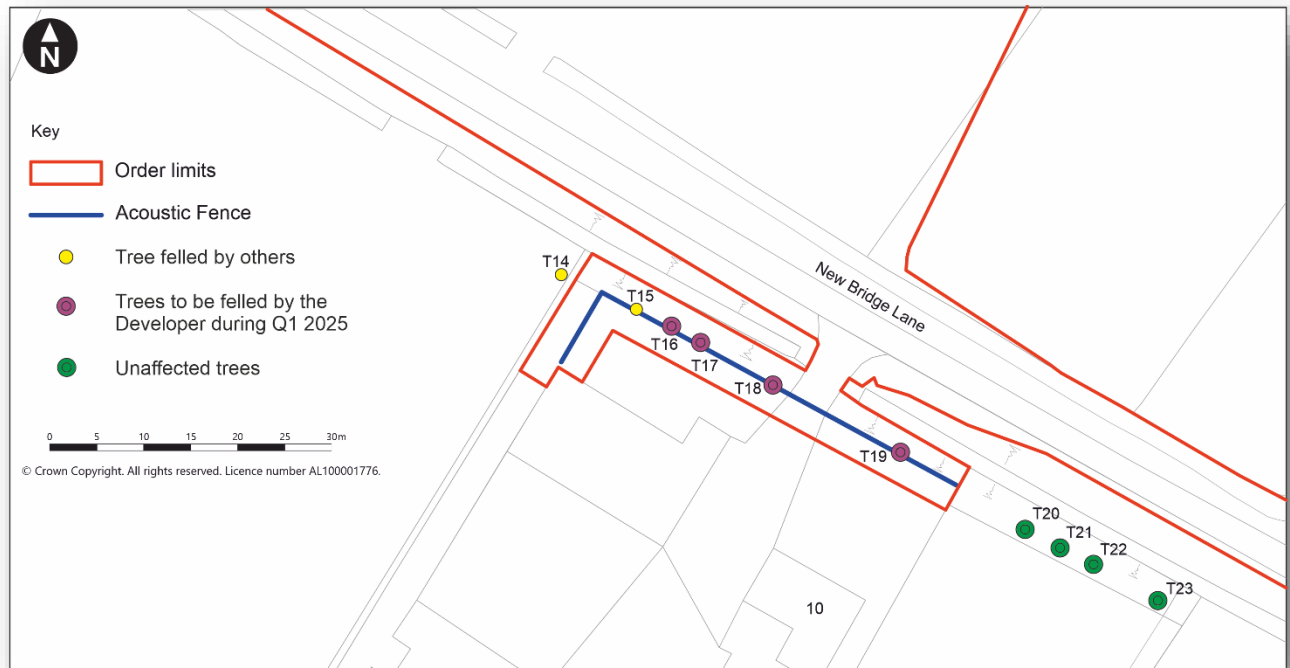


Figure 2.3: Photograph of 10 New Bridge Lane post tree felling



Ecological mitigation

2.2.4

An Ecological Mitigation Strategy (EMS) has been produced to document the environmental measures that will be adopted to ensure potential effects on ecology receptors during construction of Work No.10, the Acoustic Fence, are avoided and/or minimised. This document is **Appendix G** of the **Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)** for Work No.10.



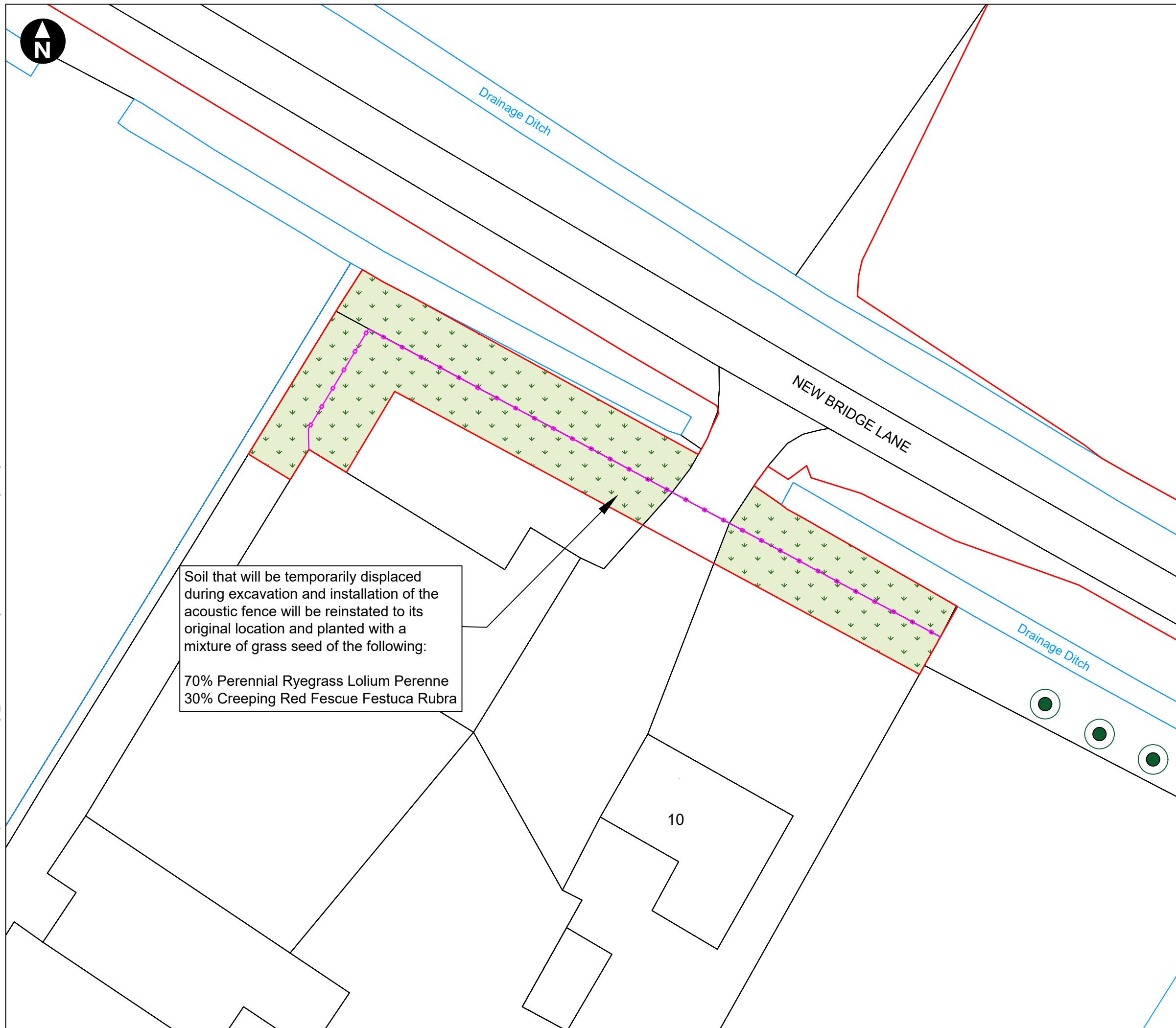
2.3 Post construction activities

Biodiversity and landscape mitigation

- 2.3.1 As highlighted in **Paragraph 2.2.1**, To accommodate the Acoustic Fence and to improve access to the ditch for IDB maintenance, the felled trees (T14 to T19) are not replaced.
- 2.3.2 Acknowledging it is a private garden, on completion of construction, biodiversity and landscaping mitigation (see **Figure 2.4**) is limited to reinstatement to grass. **Figure 2.5** is the biodiversity and landscape mitigation plan. Note that the loss of the trees is considered in the wider Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy, secured by Order Requirement 4.
- 2.3.3 Providing it does not interfere with the maintenance of the Acoustic Fence, the Developer does not intend to prevent the owner/occupier of 10 New Bridge Lane incorporating ornamental planting or redesigning the private garden.

Figure 2.4: Photograph of the private garden at 10 New Bridge Lane





Soil that will be temporarily displaced during excavation and installation of the acoustic fence will be reinstated to its original location and planted with a mixture of grass seed of the following:

70% Perennial Ryegrass *Lolium Perenne*
 30% Creeping Red Fescue *Festuca Rubra*

Key

- Order limits
- Acoustic fence and gates
- Proposed grass seed mixture

0 m 15 m
 Scale 1:250 @ A3
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Client

Medworth CHP Limited
 Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility
 Requirement 4 / Work No.10 (Acoustic fence)

Figure 2.5
Biodiversity and landscape mitigation plan

March 2025

wsp

