

MASTERPLAN- *Lache BACKIES Nature Park*

A New Nature Park
Proposals to create a Nature Park connected by a network of new footpaths interlinking to a variety of habitat flora and fauna and open spaces for wildlife and informal recreation.
To maximise this very much underused community space which has historically suffered from anti-social behavior and fly tipping. The space has tremendous potential; both for wildlife/ biodiversity and as an informal recreational asset to the wider Lache community.

Site Entrance, Access and Natural Surveillance
Site access is restricted to one access point from Barwoods Drive. Sight lines and natural surveillance is very poor. Overgrown vegetation and raised ground levels from the former Adventure playground result in safety issues. Proposed works would require extensive vegetation and soil re-profiling to open views from the entrance into the park to make it more welcoming.

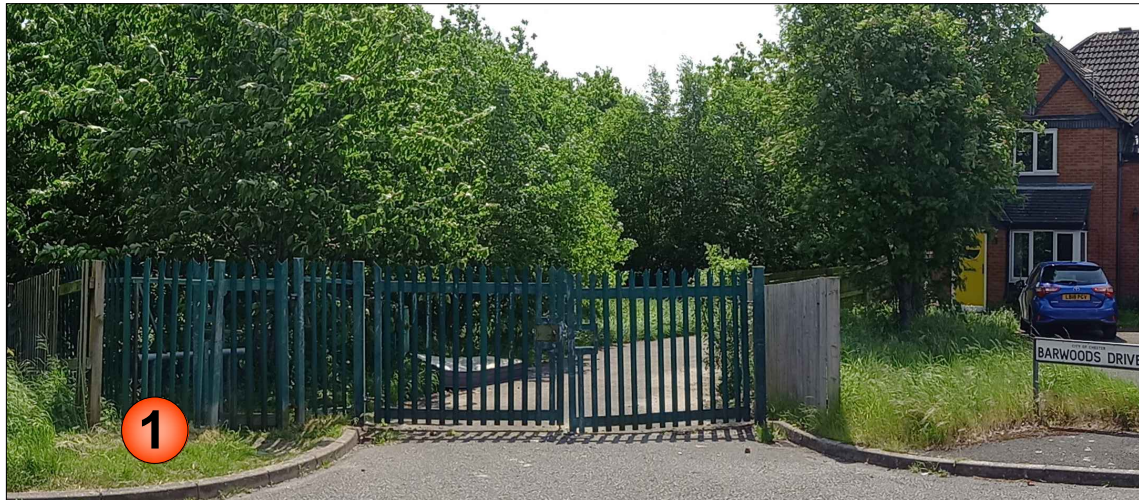
Footpaths, viewpoints and park furniture
Proposed footpaths will generally follow the existing desire lines to create a circular walk. The exact route widths and material choices are still to be confirmed. The works will include a viewing point which offers panoramic views across the site and beyond towards the Welsh hills. This will include seating for rest and relaxation. Exact numbers of furniture ie seating and bins and interpretation is still to be confirmed.

Ecology
Ecological surveys are currently being carried out and there is enough flexibility in the masterplan to avoid any sensitive areas and habitats that may be subsequently found. The Masterplan ensures limited ecological impact, but high effectiveness options to ensure the ecological value of the site is retained and enhanced. Improvements are focused on areas of the site already used by people eg following existing footpath desire lines to avoid ecological impact.
Existing grassland is to be enhanced. Proposals will include bird and bat boxes and planting with native species only. Opportunity to improve the pond area as a future phase which could include pond dipping platform.

Previous land use
The site has been neglected for a number of years. The previous (now removed) Adventure Playground is overgrown.
The area has a history of land fill and potential for contamination. Therefore there would be a requirement for Contamination and Soil analysis testing.

SITE ENTRANCE GATES

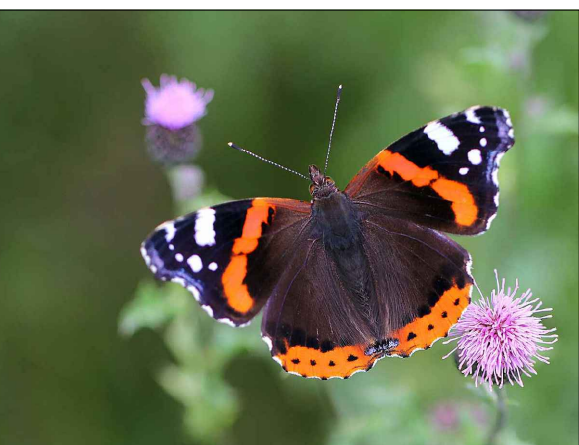
Existing access gates.
An opportunity to replace/ modify with bespoke gates that welcome the visitor into the park.



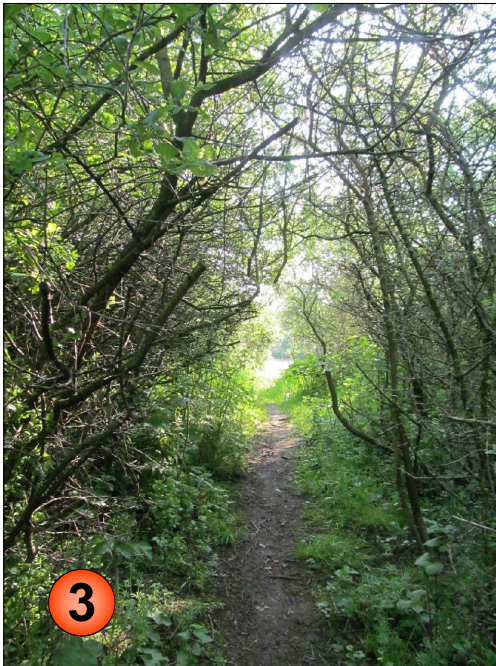
EXISTING ENTRANCE GATES



PROPOSED ENTRANCE GATES (spelling to be The Backies)



Bespoke Artistic nature themed gates



Further to recent improvement works, continue opening views through woodland walk



Meadow in Summer



Meadow in Winter



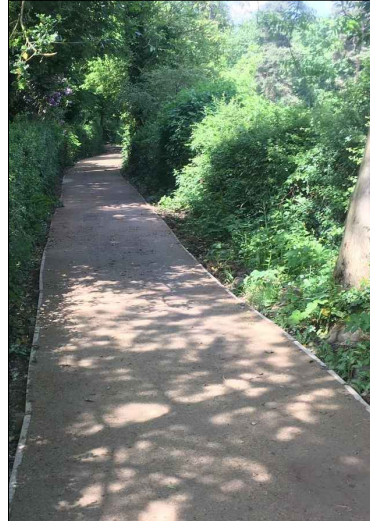
Informal recreation



Seating at Viewing Point



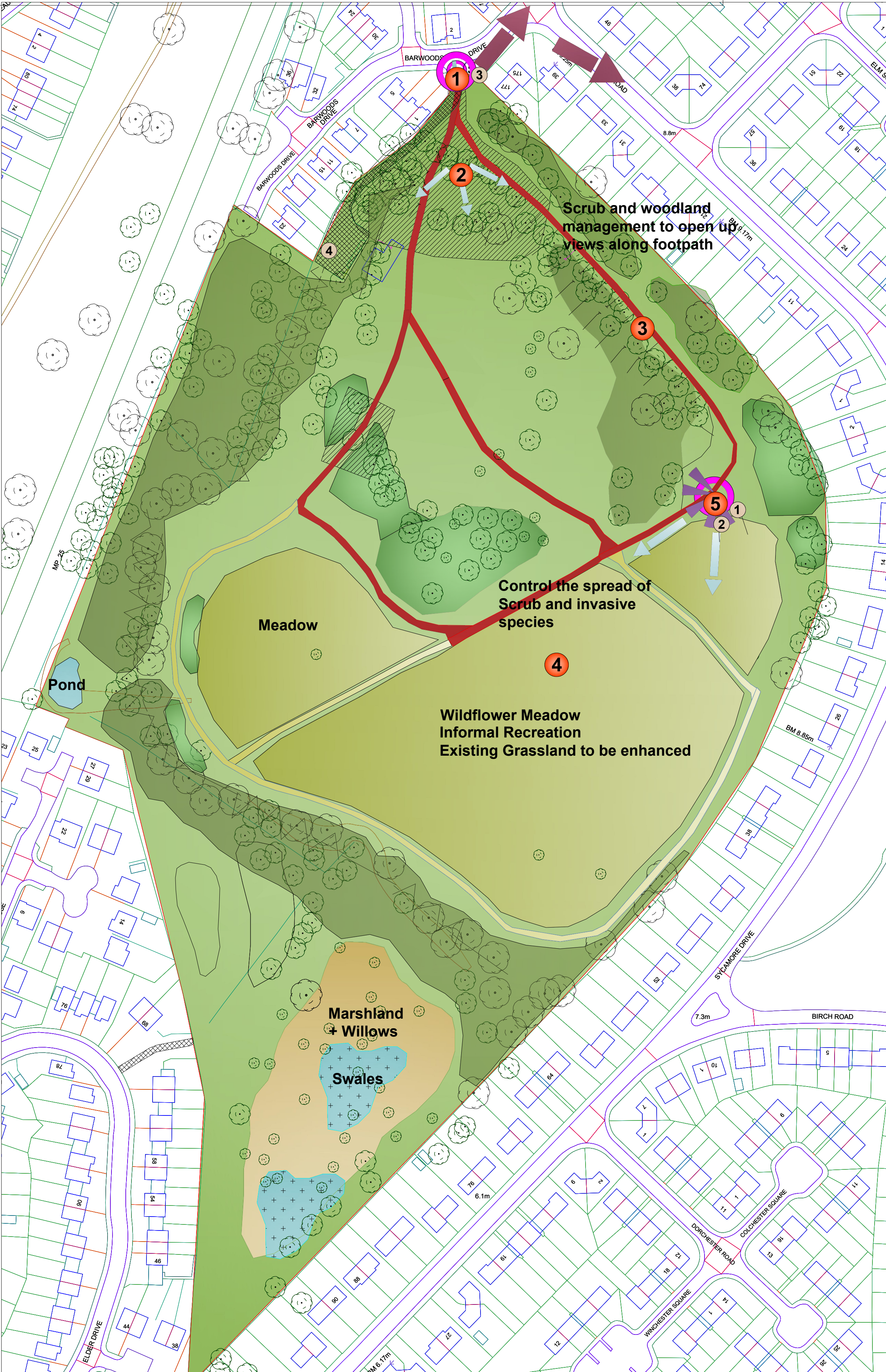
Native Planting/ Seasonal Interest



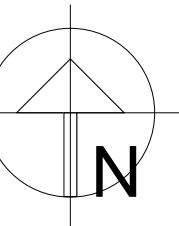
Surfaced Footpath Bound gravel



Interpretation



- KEY
- Existing Trees
 - New Tree Planting
 - Vegetation Clearance to Open up views
 - Swales and Scrapes/ Marginal Wetland Habitat
 - Wetland/ Marsh Area
 - Grassland –Meadow Wildflowers
 - Mixed Woodland
 - Mixed Scrub
 - Transitional Meadow
 - View Points/ Key Views Vantage points Interpretation
 - Surfaced Footpath 1.5 wide Accessible Circular Walk – Bound Gravel
 - Secondary Footpaths 1.5m wide Mown Footpaths
 - NODAL/ ENTRANCE
 - 1 Picnic Area
 - 2 Seating
 - 3 Litter Bins
 - 4 Potential Storage Container



THE LACHE BACKIES NATURE PARK MASTERPLAN PROPOSED LAYOUT

Drawing No. 001
Drawn by JS
Date Sept 2025
Scale: 1:1000 @A1



TOTAL ENVIRONMENT- LANDSCAPE DESIGN

A1