

A P P E N D I X S I X

COOPER PARTNERSHIP & EPR MANAGEMENT REGIME DOCUMENT

HEYFORD PARK

APPENDIX 5
LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGICAL BASE MANAGEMENT REGIME

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The management regime, required to implement the Management Objectives set out in Section 2, is described below. The works include initial operations, annual maintenance tasks during the establishment period (Years 2-5), and subsequent infrequent operations such as coppicing on a 7 or 10 year cycle. Each objective is considered in turn.
- 1.2 For site operations, a health and safety method statement will be agreed regarding the making safe of any site feature which is a potential danger to site users, and regarding the use of machinery and chemicals which are to be used.

2.0 THE COLD WAR CORE AREA**2.1 QRAA:**

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Confirm agreement with local farmer to maintain the grass sward by sheep grazing (or as agreed).	Y	Y	
2. Remove bramble scrub and self-sown trees where these have established by digging out and/or treatment with Timbrel.	Y	Y	
3. Remove any dumped or stored materials or artefact which do not relate to Cold War era.	Y		
4. Check integrity of double fenceline and make good if damaged.	Y		

2.2 The wider cold war core area:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Draft standard specification clauses for use by NOC as part of any construction works, to ensure evidence of buildings, taxi-ways, etc. is retained as a feature on the ground, following any demolition.	Y		
2. Confirm agreement with local farmer to maintain the grass sward by sheep grazing.	Y	Y	
3. Maintain the external fence by inspection and repair work where required.	Y	Y	

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
4. Remove bramble scrub and self-sown trees by digging out and/or treatment with Timbrel to preserve openness of former airfield.	Y	Y	
5. Draft standard clauses for inclusion in any letting agreement, for use by NOC with lessees of airfield structures, to control external storage areas in order to maintain openness of airfield.	Y		Y
6. Erect and maintain new security fence as shown on Landscape Key Plan.	Y	Y	

3.0 MEASURES TO ASSIMILATE THE FORMER AIRFIELD INTO THE LANDSCAPE

3.1 Western nib of main runway to west of Portway:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Take up tarmac/concrete runway area and the extension spine road to the west, and grade/infill excavated area with soil from adjoining areas to eliminate sharp changes of level. Bare soil areas to be sown with grass seed mix appropriate for shallow soils over limestone.	Y		
2. The runway nibs and taxiways will be scarified, where these are of concrete. Scarification will be designed to allow limestone grassland to develop, the detailed specification and methodology for which will be agreed with the Council. Concrete is alkaline and suitable for such grassland. Scarification will allow for percolation of water.	Y		
3. Where the nibs are of tarmac, this material is likely to be thin and will be removed. If the ground underneath is limestone or gravel, it will be left alone, except for scarification and adjustment of levels. If there is rubble underneath, it will be levelled and an alkaline subsoil/ crushed concrete mix used to adjust levels.	Y		
3. Remove chainlink security fence with coiled wire and concrete posts on the northern, western and southern sides of the nib projection.	Y		
4. Erect a stock proof woven wire fence 1.15m high with 8No. horizontal wires and timber posts to BS1722 Part 2, along the line of the dismantled security fence.	Y		
5. Plant a new native hedge, mainly Hawthorn, inside the post and wire fence listed in 4) above. Install mulch mat and rabbit protection. Provide 2No. pedestrian gates on line of Portway. Trim annually to promote dense growth. Lay hedge after 7 years.	Y	Y	Y
6. Erect and maintain a new security across the western end of the main runway, linking with the existing security fence to the north and south, incorporating 1No. gate for farmer's access, design to be agreed.	Y	Y	

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
7. Plant new native hedge, mainly Hawthorn with hedgerow trees at intervals not exceeding 15m, on airfield side of new fence listed in 6) above. Trim annually to promote dense growth. Lay hedge after 7-10 years.	Y	Y	Y
8. Confirm agreement with local farmer to maintain the grass sward by grazing sheep; newly sown areas to be excluded from grazed area using portable electric fencing.	Y	Y	

3.2 New and existing tree planting on edge of airfield:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Inspect existing areas of trees and fell non-native and non-local species, eg. Pines, Lawson Cypress and Leyland Cypress. Stack cut wood on site.	Y	Y	
2. Plant new trees and shrubs with rabbit protection using native species local to the area. Plant to achieve an open structure, ie. intermittent rather than continuous cover.	Y	Y	
3. Maintain young trees and shrubs, keeping ground free of vegetation using non-residual herbicide.	Y	Y	Y

4.0 MEASURES TO PROMOTE RECREATION AND EDUCATION

4.1 Reconnect Aves Ditch Footpath:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Erect timber post and woven wire stock proof fence with 8No. horizontal wires to BS1722 Part 2, to prevent access onto County Wildlife Site by walkers and dogs.	Y		
2. Incorporate 4No. timber gates into the fenced corridor to create crossing points for livestock, one on each side of the main runway.	Y		
3. Provide openings in existing security fence at northern and southern edge of former airfield and provide pedestrian gates.	Y		
4. Confirm agreement with local farmer to maintain grass sward by grazing sheep; include for periodic grazing within the fenced footpath corridor.		Y	Y
5. Erect and maintain new security fence as shown on Landscape Key Plan.	Y	Y	

4.2 Reconnect Portway Footpath:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
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Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Install pedestrian gates in new stock proof fence at northern and southern ends of reconnected path.	Y		
2. Contact highways authority to clear vegetation from sections of public footpath to north and south of former airfield section to allow use by the public.	Y		
3. Erect and maintain new security fence as shown on Landscape Key Plan.	Y	Y	

4.3 Manage areas around the SAMs and Listed Buildings to conserve and promote their historic interest:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Confirm agreement with local farmer to maintain the grass sward within the Northern Bomb Stores by grazing sheep.	Y	Y	
2. Clear rubbish and tidy.	Y	Y	Y

5.0 PLANTING TO ENHANCE THE SETTLEMENT AREA

5.1 Maintain the existing trees:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Carry out an annual inspection to ensure the trees are in a safe condition, ie. no major deadwood, no storm damaged and hung up limbs, no forks or cavities likely to lead to structural failure, and no evidence of fungi likely to affect the structural integrity of the tree.		Y	
2. Trees which require removal as set out in Tree Survey, and as agreed with Cherwell District Council Tree Officer, or which require tree work: give Cherwell District Council 6 weeks notice of intended works to trees (the former airbase is a designated Conservation Area).	Y	Y	Y
3. Where new development is likely to affect existing trees, apply the procedures in BS 5837: 2005 'Trees in Relation to Construction: Recommendations'.		Y	
4. Carry out tree work ideally in January and February to avoid the bird breeding season.		Y	

5.2 Plant native trees at the margins of the development to soften the rural/urban interface:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
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Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Carry out new tree and shrub planting using locally native species along the margins of the settlement area, as shown on the Landscape Key Plan.	Y	Y	
2. Incorporate rabbit protection and keep ground around stems free of weeds using non-residual herbicide.		Y	
3. Apply slow release fertiliser (NPK 4:19:10) annually in February.		Y	
4. Replace failed plants in next available planting season.			Y

5.3 Plant ornamental and semi-ornamental trees and shrubs within the settlement area to create an attractive visual amenity:

Task	Initial Operation	Annual Works	Periodic Operations
1. Keep planting beds weed-free, with visits every 3 weeks during the growing season. Maintenance input reduces after Year 4.		Y	
2. Provide rabbit protection and check/repair each autumn.		Y	
3. Apply slow release fertiliser NPK to all new beds annually, in February.		Y	
4. Annually inspect and replace dead plants.		Y	
5. Replenish bark mulch in Year 2 to maintain 75mm layer.			Y
6. Cut back shrubs adjoining footpaths, signs and to clear sightlines.			Y
7. Water new beds in times of drought.			Y
8. Check tree stakes and ties annually and after high winds and remove once anchorage has been established.		Y	Y
9. Remove fallen leaves in late autumn.		Y	