

Description of Driveway, Gardens and Planting

at Bella Vista to enhance Biodiversity.

The existing front hedge has been enhanced using Hazel and Beech hedging (25,26). In addition to this, we have built a large log pile with branches, logs, rocks and foliage to create cover and structure for reptiles, invertebrates and insects. Please see photo and planting list.

We have created a raised planter (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,) to accommodate disabled access to the front door. A new low-level planter in the front garden has a large variety of native shrubs (8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24) to attract insects, butterflies and birds.

The new 40-meter (approx.) rear garden is laid to lawn on 150mm minimum top soil using Premier Turf, supplied by CB Winter & Sons, Polgate.

The rear garden (27) also has a mixture of mature trees and shrubs comprising of Hazel, Yew, Spruce, Laurel, Bamboo, Taupata, Juniper, Spindle, Ivy and Bramble. In addition to this there are three existing Oak trees and two Crab Apple trees. Three fruit trees have been planted in the lawn (29,30,31) supplied by Pomona Fruits. Four mature grape vines remain on new boundary fence. Added to patio area to provide screening and privacy are eight conifer trees (28). Please see photos and planting list.

Three bird boxes have been erected in the rear garden facing North East.

Two bat boxes have been erected on the West elevation and two others erected within the rear garden.

A permeable driveway has been created using grids and 20mm shingle. Rear patio formed with Calibra linen porcelain slabs.

Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy

We aim to retain and expand the natural environment, which is typical of the surrounding area and introduce additional measures to support and enhance biodiversity. Taking into consideration the relatively small plot size of the new dwelling, only a certain amount of additional enhancement can be achieved.

As the present owners of Pentland we have already created a thriving biodiverse garden in 5 acres over the last 20 years. This includes numerous plantings of trees and shrubs, open Gables to allow bats, bees and the like to flourish. The open car ports created, greatly support House Martins and Swifts, who return every year. Bird tables and nesting boxes are positioned around the garden to encourage local garden birds.

Our aim to similarly create these features within the new plot as well as:-

- Restore lawn and grassland in consideration of local Field Voles and Hedgehogs.
- Maintain and managed existing hedgerow to encourage nesting birds, Bees and Wasps.
- In addition to local garden birds, install external bird boxes to enhance the existing diversity, for example, Owls, Woodpeckers, Housemartins, Jays, Cuckoo's etc that are resident in the area.
- Protect existing broadleaf trees in consideration of squirrels and birds.
- Plant additional fruit trees to support wildlife, for example, Apple, Pear, Plum, Greengage and Crab-apple.
- Provide integrated bat boxes to the rear and west of the property within the Gables.
- Provide additional wildlife-friendly/nectar-rich planting to benefit bats, nesting birds and invertebrates (slugs, snails, butterflies, beetles, spiders etc.) for example, evening primrose, honeysuckle, night scented stocks.
- Create insect houses/log pile to make available hibernaculum for Bees and Insects.
- Frogs, Toads and Newts are already present in the wet areas of Pentland. We have considered the benefits of creating a pond; however, we feel that currently this would be too dangerous for our small grandchildren. This is something that we are willing to install once they are older.

Planting list for new house at Pentland (Bella Vista)

Plant Species	Height (root to tip) x Width cm	Planting area
1. Dwarf Conifer	80 x 25	Front raised planter
2. Osmanthus x Burkwoodii	60 x 25	Front raised planter
3. Prunus Brilliant	25 x 45	Front raised planter
4. Mixed Heathers	53 x 40	Front raised planter
5. Prunus Brilliant	25 x 45	Front raised planter
6. Osmanthus x Burkwoodii	60 x 25	Front raised planter
7. Phormium Yellow Wave	73 x 40	Front raised planter
8. Osmanthus Goshiki	90 x 50	Low level planter
9. Phormium Platts Black	80 x 60	Low level planter
10. Cornus Sericea Flaviramea x Hybrida	73 x 35	Low level planter
11. Deutzia Hybrida Perle Rose	70 x 40	Low level planter
12. Buddleja Davidii Pink Delight	93 x 40	Low level planter
13. Viburnum Kilimanjaro Sunrise	90 x 60	Low level planter
14. Hazel	85 x 25	Low level planter
15. Griselinia Littoralis	80 x 40	Low level planter

16. Cornua Alba Elegantissima	80 x 40	Low level planter
17. Prunus Angusti Folia	110 x 45	Low level planter
18. Photinia x Fraseri Red Robin	70 x 55	Low level planter
19. Prunus Angusti Folia	110 x 45	Low level planter
20. Photinia x Fraseri Red Robin	70 x 55	Low level planter
21. Prunus Angusti Folia	110 x 45	Low level planter
22. Photinia x Fraseri Red Robin	70 x 55	Low level planter
23. Euonymus Japonicus Bravo	70 x 30	Low level planter
24. Euonymus Japonicus Bravo	70 x 30	Low level planter
25. Beech Hedging x 4	120 x 40	Front hedge
26. Hazel Hedging x 15	85 x 25	Front hedge
27. Dwarf Conifer	60 x 35	Rear garden
28. Thuja Occidentalis Brabant x 8 Planting depth 35cm	180 x 50	Rear garden raised planter
29. Malus Domestica Greencats Apple Planting depth 35cm	100 x 20	Rear garden
30. Victoria Plum 2 yr Bush SJA Planting depth 35cm	200 x 130	Rear garden
31. Apple Herefordshire Russet BR M26 Planting depth 35cm	170 x 50	Rear garden