Proposal to build a driveway along the south edge of the playing field

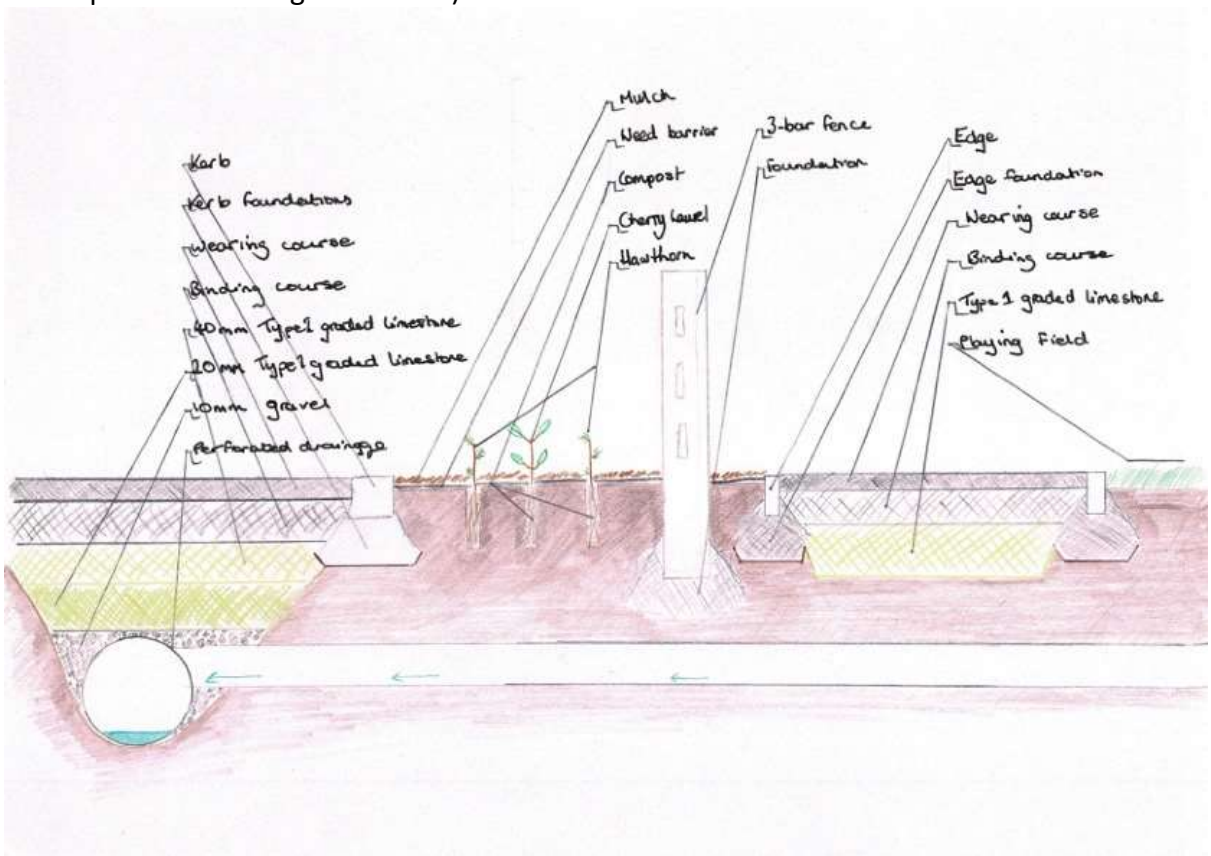
We would like to build a 4500 mm wide driveway along the south edge of the playing field to access the back two houses on Lime Grove from Normanby Road. This new driveway would allow us to rotate the farthest back houses so that the back gardens are south facing (subject to all the necessary planning approvals).

Currently there is an unusable ≈15-metre strip of the south end of the playing field that is a ditch (≈5-metres wide) and a rough ground section (≈10-metres wide) that cannot be mown. The boundary that is south of the ditch is a mix of fence and patchy hedge.

Working from the southern-most boundary of the playing field moving northwards we propose, at our expense, to build:

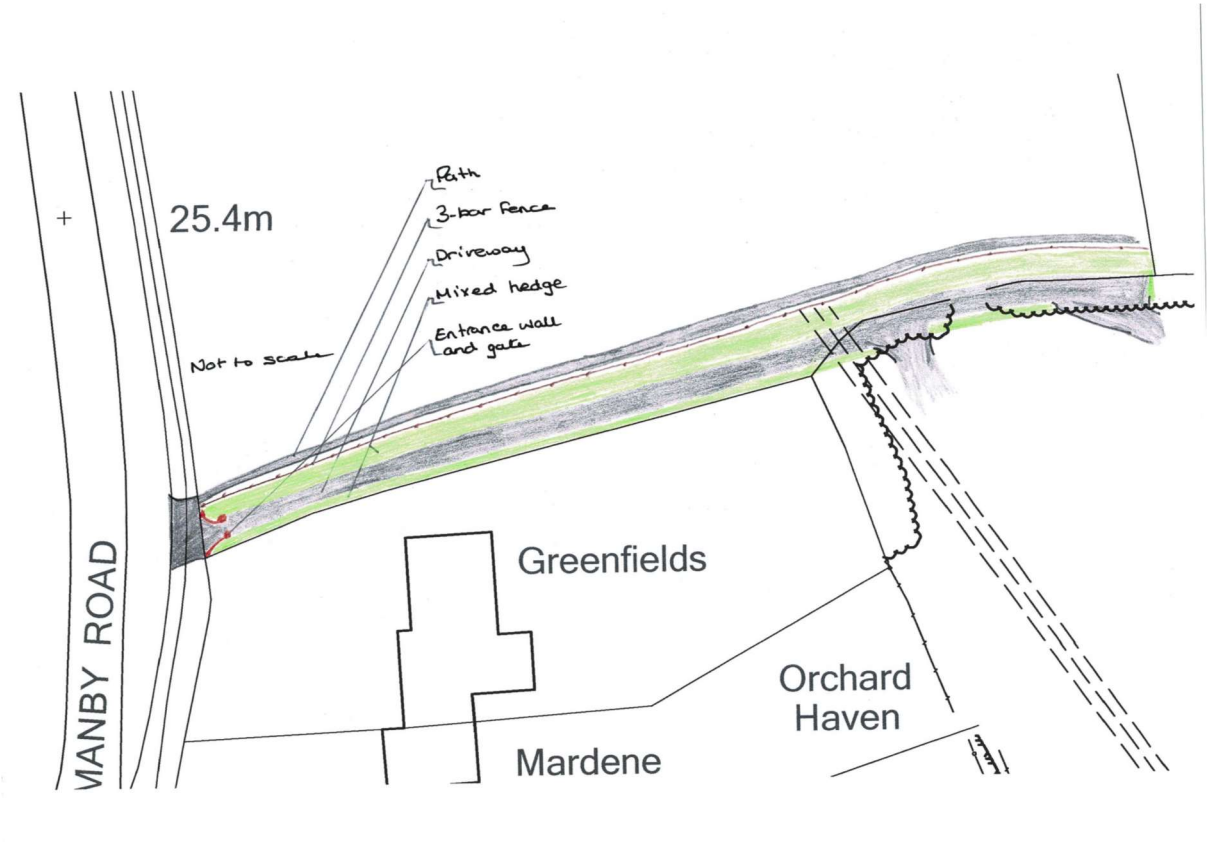
1st Strip	500 mm	New hawthorn *(Crataegus monogyna)* / cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) or common holly (*Ilex aquifolium)* mixed hedge
2nd Strip	4500 mm	Permeable tarmac driveway
3rd Strip	1000 mm	New hawthorn *(Crataegus monogyna)* / cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) common holly (*Ilex aquifolium)* mixed hedge
	1st Row	200 mm hawthorn at 500 mm spacing
	2nd Row	200 mm cherry laurel at 500 mm spacing
	3rd Row	200 mm hawthorn at 500 mm spacing
4th Strip	250 mm	3-bar, hardwood fence
5th Strip	1500 mm	Path

(The reason for placing the fence between the path and hedge is to prevent the canes and rabbit protectors being vandalised).



We would build a Tarmac vehicular crossing over the verge and path of Normanby Road to the field boundary where it would join the new driveway and new path. This could also be an opportunity to create a second vehicular access to the playing field: Such access may come in useful for events where the southern end of the field is used for car parking.

At the Normanby Road end of our new driveway, we would like to build a brick* or stone** entrance wall with buff-coloured cast-stone pier caps*** from which we could hang gates. Adjacent to this we would create an entrance of your choosing e.g. kissing gates suitable for wheelchair access to the new Tarmac path along the south-edge of the field.



We think that allowing us to build the driveway, fence, hedge and path helps the community field in several ways;

- the danger to children of a water-filled ditch is removed
- the ongoing maintenance burden of the ditch is removed
- an unbroken, uniform and evergreen boundary is created along the south edge of the field
- a hard-standing wheelchair-friendly access is created at the southern entrance
- a 1500 mm wide, wheelchair-friendly path is created along the southern boundary
- ducting for services can be laid under the path

We realise that a path along the southern edge of the field might not be the ideal position. Therefore, we would be quite happy to build a path(s) of equal area anywhere of your choosing.

We would also like to offer the possibility of connecting to our foul water drains that run up Lime Grove. Fortuitously, the foul drain on Fen Road is nearly 3-metres deep, so even towards

the end of Lime Grove there is still considerable depth to the drains. If you were to site toilets or a cabin at the south-east corner of the field, we believe it would be possible to connect to the foul drain and maintain the required fall gradient. We believe this would offer the community park a large saving in the total cost of getting services into the field. The cost of creating a vehicular entrance from Fen Road and simultaneously connecting to the foul drain under Fen Road was £16,500 (nil VAT); the cost of each part was 50:50.

We would also be happy to lay ducting under the path for electric, telecoms, water etc which would offer some flexibility to the future siting of infrastructure on the field.

Appendix

Hedge Planting
The strips into which the hedge will be planted will be sprayed with Roundup at least 2-weeks prior to planting. The soil will be rotavated and any large stones removed. A weed-inhibiting geotextile membrane will be laid. Cuts will be made in the membrane and 40 mm soil cores removed. Bare-root hedging plants will be placed into the holes and the hole back filled with compost. The plants will be staked with canes and rabbit guards placed around all the plants. A drip irrigation system will be laid along the length of the new hedge and will be turned on daily for 1 hour during the warmer months and 1 hour weekly in the cooler months. A woodland mulch will be used to cove the membrane to further prevent weed growth and to improve aesthetics.

3-bar Hardwood Fence
A standard construction 3-bar fence with the posts bedded in concrete would be installed adjacent to the path and hedge.

Existing Ditch / Road
The existing ditch will be turned into a French drain over which a permeable driveway will be laid. The ditch will be sprayed with Roundup weedkiller at least 2-weeks prior to work commencing. A perforated 300 mm pipe will be laid into the ditch; the drainage which crosses Normanby Road and all existing playing field drainage pipes will be connected into this. This new drainage pipe will be connected to the existing pipe at the south-east corner of the field. The pipe will be covered in 10 mm gravel. The road will then be made up of the following layers;

1st Layer	20 mm open-graded, Type-1 graded limestone up to 330 mm below FSL
2nd Layer	40 mm clean open-graded, Type 1 graded limestone up to 180 mm below FSL
3rd Layer	150 mm open-graded Tarmac binding course
4th Layer	30 mm open-graded Tarmac wearing course

Because the road design is permeable it does not alter how the land will react to heavy rain or storm events. The road will be edged with standard bullnosed dropped kerbs.

(Key: *FSL* = Finished surface level. *Open-graded* means that the aggregate has been sorted such that only the specified size is present, this creates an open-lattice through which water can drain).

Path

The length of the path will be excavated and foundations laid for the concrete edges. The concrete edges (50 x 150 x 915 mm) will be bedded onto mortar. 150 mm of Type-1 graded 20 mm limestone will be compacted into the path then a 70 mm Tarmac binder coarse will be laid and finished with a 25 mm Tarmac wearing coarse.

(*) – Weinerberger, Jennifer Red Blend. These are the bricks we have used on the new houses on Lime Grove

(**) – Regularised, Rough-face Lincolnshire Limestone. The same as the new stone houses built in Owmby-by-Spital by Andrew Birkitt

(***) – I would look to use the same style and colour pier caps use on the earth-retaining wall at the front of Lime Grove.