# **CINDY MUNTZ**

## Landscape & Garden Design

03 November 2024

### 281 SHEEN LANE, SW14 8RN



#### Introduction

Landscape and garden design proposal for the front and rear garden areas to 281 Sheen Lane. The proposal in brief is to provide a harmonious and well jointed practical and social space for the family, both with much thought given to the property style, age and character, along with the surrounding area and neighbouring landscape diversity.

#### **Ecological and Biodiversity Benefits**

The proposed scheme would seek to achieve the following benefits associated with the Richmond Local Plan:

- 1. Incorporate and create new habitats or biodiversity features
- 2. Support enhancements to biodiversity

Proposed plant species have been selected to provide a source of food.

The following ecological enhancement features are to be incorporated:

- 1. 1no. bird box
- 2. 1no. Insect box is being considered TBC



Bird box



Insect box

Green waste management would be approached using a cyclical plan and general management of the garden would be through organic methods.

#### Hardstanding Areas / Paving

It is proposed that the existing 60x60 concrete slabs that form paving to all existing areas are replaced with brick paving paths. These would form the entrance paths along with the rear garden path. All paths will have new borders with low level planting or hedging. Terrace areas to the rear are proposed to be porcelain tile and create more social spaces.

The proposed material for the entrance and rear garden paving is clay brick laid in 'fishbone' bond. This will match the brick to the front elevation the property (red multi) and along with the porcelain tile which has an 'earthy' pallet, the space created forms a well-balanced finish.



200x50 aged brick paving



Porcelaine - Edge Comoscio Grip

#### **Border Hedging and Bushes**

These are to be standard yew hedging (*taxus baccata*) arriving in pots approx. size #6 and circa height 150-180cm. In terms of nursery size, these would have a spacing of circa 60-80cm between plants and be bed in a single row to the front garden boundary wall and as indicated on the plan.

Hedging plants are to be dug into the ground and backfilled using soil that is well drained/graded and includes soil improver mix along with mulch and well-rotted manure. The plants will be fed with a liquid feed monthly from Spring to August.

In terms of the 5-year aftercare, management and maintenance plan, the yew hedging is generally a hardly and self-sufficient plant. We recommend it to be trimmed when it reaches it desired height (180-200cm) and from this point the client can simply trim, using shears or a hedge trimmer annually. Prune from late-spring to summer once a year. Taper the hedge slightly to ensure light reaches the bottom of the plants.



Taxus Baccata (yew hedge)

We recommend cleaning and clearing any new plants or growth to the base of the plants to retain the original nursery size and also to avoid new unwanted growth of various other plants. The overall plating scheme is generally a mixture of minimalist so the intention is to have clean and clear bedding areas.

In addition to the general care and maintenance and feeding by the client and their family, they have also invited several local garden maintenance firms to quote for providing services including regular attendance to care, maintain and advise on the management of the plants to the front and rear garden. As such, this third party will be providing an additional level of care, management and maintenance once instructed.

#### Olive Trees

The front garden is to have 3no. decorative olive trees. The proposal is for these decorative olive trees to remain in pots circa #25 size and to be displayed in front of the bay window. These trees are to be retained in the pots and be trimmed and remain decorative with a clean and tidy shape. These potted trees will be similar in size as indicated on the submitted plan (circa 180-200cm in height).

The rear garden proposal shows 3no. olive trees. These trees will be ground planted and also remain as decorative styled trees that will have their crown trimmed and shaped to keep tidy. These planted trees will be similar in size as indicated on the submitted plan (circa 220cm in height).



Potted and planted olives will be bed in loam-based peat-free compost such as John Innes No. 3, and additional use of horticultural grit will be used to aid drainage. The recommendation is to also use a soil improver mix along with mulch and well rotted manure. The plants will be fed with a liquid feed monthly from Spring to August.

To confirm, the location of the olive trees is to be as indicated on the submitted plan.

Regarding maintenance and care. Olive trees in pots will have their pots 'wrapped' during cold winter periods to avoid freezing of the roots.

Prune in mid spring only. Partially refresh soil to potted plants annually for the first 3-5 years along with new manure to aid growth and good health to the tree. Branches that hang low to the ground should be removed along with any dead branches that occur over time. We also recommend to open up the centre of the tree and reduce height where excessive or lop sided growth has occurred. Crossed branches and all suckers should also be removed when noted. We have recommended that the client undertakes an annual inspection of the trees and carries out the above pruning although this may be handed over to the garden specialist firm who may be in attendance.

After 5-years the olive trees with then be pruned as required to maintain health and required height and body.

#### Other Potted Plants (as indicated on the plan)

Where the proposed plan shows other potted plants, namely to the front and rear lower patio areas. These are to be perennials. The client has asked for roses, Daylilies and Lithodora Diffusa Grace Ward to be considered. These are generally low level plants and of decorative order in pots for display/pleasure. In terms of maintenance and care, these will be potted in. John Innes soil and general seasonal pruning will take place dependent upon the plant type. The idea is that these posted plants do not grow over a height of 80cm within their pots.



Bring Me Sunshine (English Shrub Rose)



Daylilies (*Hemerocalli*)



Lithodora Diffusa Grace Ward

#### Rear Garden and Beds

The rear garden is to be generally minimalistic with a field lawn located to the centre. The borders are to have a mixture of low-level perennial grass in small patches such as Calamagrostis with a bark bedding around the base, along with lavender filled beds. For any shady locations we are recommending to add in a few low maintenance and hardy ferns such as fantastic fern 'ghost' and 'lady in red'. These will be acclimatized in pots for 7-10 days before planting in the organic rich matter soil.



Feather reed grass *Calamagrostis* 



Vera Lavender

There will be a Jasminium Officinale 'clotted cream' to the rear elevation adjacent to the sliding rear gate. See image below.



#### Front Garden Lightwell Beds

The front garden lightwell beds are to have a similar mixture of perennials as the rear, along with roses, grasses and small ferns. The idea is to create a garden visible from the basement bedroom. The plants considered here will be more shade loving in variety due to the orientation and location of the beds.



Photo showing example of planting variety in basement tiered beds to the front garden

#### Maintenance

Along with the detailed plant maintenance descriptions above, the client is fully committed to ensuring that the garden is well maintained. We will be sourcing all plants from our preferred and trusted local suppliers and nurseries, ensuring all plants and trees are healthy. We will look to acquire perennials from local trusted suppliers. We attend and ensure that the planting scheme and methodology is followed, thus ensuring the plants have the best opportunity from the start.

The large rainwater water harvest takes into consideration our changing climate and hotter summers and will provide much needed water for the plants during these periods. In addition an irrigation system will be installed initially to help with plant establishment and growth.

To ensure the garden is maintained, we will be providing a maintenance schedule that can be handed over to the client and copy to their employed gardener. We will also continue to monitor and advise the client as the garden grows and develops.

#### Conclusion

We hope that this report provides the additional information required to help consider the application. We also believe this proposal, along with its aims and objectives, is in keeping with the surrounding gardens, area and character of the landscape locally to Sheen Lane and Richmond Park.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you wish to discuss matters further.

Very best

#### C Muntz

Cindy Muntz Landscape & Garden Design