

Glastir Woodland Creation Plan

Customer Reference Number (CRN)	A0055883
Expression of Interest (EOI) Reference number	7484107

1. Property Details

New woodland property name	Ty Gwyn Woodlands		
Site Reference Number (SRN)			
Contact Name	Executor of the Late A Burgess	Status	Owner at the time of EOI
Email	r	Contact Number	
Do you have management control of the land?	Yes		
Management Planner	Sonia Winder, Tilhill Forestry Ltd		
Email	Sonia.winder@tilhill.com	Contact Number	01550 721442/07721 566091
Agent Name and Company (If Applicable)	Sonia Winder, Tilhill Forestry Ltd		
Email	Sonia.winder@tilhill.com	Contact Number	01550 721442
GWC area (Hectares)	0.5		
Type of GWC planting mixture	Enhanced Mixed Woodland		
Six-figure Grid Reference for GWC area	SN 566 091		
Nearest town	Cross Hands		
Local authority (new planting site)	Carmarthenshire County Council		
Is this a GWC co-operative plan	No		
Tick to declare you will apply for Woodland Carbon Code validation within 24 months of grant approval (mandatory for Native Carbon GWC woodland mixture)	Yes		
Do you intend to claim annual GWC maintenance payment?	Yes		
Do you intend to claim annual GWC premium payment?	Yes		

New planting areas in the following designations (Hectares) – only fill in areas if known

Designated Area	Area (ha)
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)/Proposed Site (PSSSI)	0
SSSI with Nature Conservation Order (Section 29 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981)	0
National Park	0
World Heritage Site	0
Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)	0
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0
"Natural 2000" site (e.g.: special areas of conservation or special protection areas)	0

2. Long term Vision and Objectives

Describe your long term vision for the new planting	
<p>The planting area formed part of Rhos Fach Farm, a productive dairy farm which was largely planted with trees under the Farm Woodland Premium Scheme in 2003. Open ground was encouraged under that scheme. However without continuing management, these open ground areas lack purpose and are degrading into scrub. It is proposed to 'fill in' two of these areas with a productive mixture of broadleaves. The broadleaves have been selected and will be managed in a way which will permit timber production from thinnings in the longer term, as well as having biodiversity, carbon fixing and landscape value. The new woodland will also help dry damp soils and slow water flows into the river catchment.</p> <p>The EOI field parcel has not been subdivided; therefore the total EOI field area measures 22.65 ha, but most of this is designated as existing (p.2003) woodland, which will be excluded from the planting area.</p>	
Set out the objectives for the new planting	
1.	To establish and maintain a sustainably managed, productive forest.
2.	To aid the mitigation of climate change by providing a carbon sink.
3.	To improve the aesthetic value of the local landscape by adding a mix of broadleaved trees to the existing young mixed woodland.
4.	To provide a habitat for wildlife and enhance biodiversity value.
5.	To provide timber and other forest products to support the local economy in the long term.

3. Potential impacts of new planting

Lle map information layer *	Field Parcel Sheet and Field Number	Description of layer in new planting	Is there special guidance for this layer	How will the Lle information layer be dealt with (in accordance with UKFS)	Is consultation required for this layer	What consultation/ additional information is attached to this GWC plan
Existing woodland	SN5609 : 6614	Much of this field parcel is existing young woodland	Nos	Areas designated as existing woodland have been excluded from the woodland creation area	No	n/a
NRW Sensitive Habitat	SN5609 : 6614	There is designated sensitive habitat to the north, east and west of the planting area	No	There are no areas designated as sensitive habitat within the plan area .	No.	n/a
Deep peat	SN5609 : 6614	There is an area designated as deep peat approx. 400m to the west of the plan area.	Yes	There are no areas designated as deep peat within the plan area.	No	n/a.
Historic Environment Feature	SN5609 : 6614	There is a HEF on the map key, but nothing marked on the map.	Yes	There are no designated HEFs on the map. However, any undocumented HEFs will be retained during planting – these include old hedgerow boundary banks.	Yes	Email to AT as required by GWC rules

4. Design of new planting

Brief description of new planting site	<p>The site comprises agricultural land previously used for grazing livestock. At an altitude averaging 120 metres above sea level, on damp soils, this land has good potential for growing trees.</p> <p>The planting area sits close to historic coal mining areas and residential areas, interspersed with existing native broadleaf woodland and blocks of established mixed woodland of varying sizes.</p>
Pre-planting ground preparation	<p>The ground will be prepared by hinge mounding with an excavator or (where possible) ploughing with a single furrow plough.</p> <p>Ground prep operations will adhere to up to date UK Forest and Water Guidelines. Where there is bracken, pre planting bracken spraying will be done.</p>
Design of new planting scheme	<p>The planting mixture will comprise 20% sycamore, and 25% each of walnut and wild cherry. Sycamore offers a suitable alternative to the ash which was planted here in 2003, and wild cherry is already growing very well here. Walnut offers a productive alternative to diversity the broadleaved mixture. The remainder of the planting will comprise 15% Welsh Oak, and 15% downy birch. The woodland will therefore comprise 55% native species, 45% geographical near-natives, which should cope well with climate change.</p> <p>Within the field parcel, precise species layout will be determined by local site conditions, with oak, cherry and walnut on drier ground and sycamore and birch on damper ground. The stocking density will average 2,500 trees per ha in rows (2m x 2m spacing) across the entire planting site. Species will be planted in groups rather than an intimate mixture.</p> <p>There is no planted woody shrub element being included here, because this will regenerate by itself from existing neighbouring site native hedgerows and woodlands.</p>
Type of planting stock and size of trees/shrubs	Plants will be bare rooted UK grown nursery stock of a minimum size 20-40cm.
Tree protection – what type of tree shelters/spiral guards will be used and why?	<p>0.6m guards and canes will be used to protect broadleaves from rabbits.</p> <p>Rabbit control will be carried out as necessary if damage occurs to conifers.</p>
Fencing (livestock)	Livestock fencing is not required around the new planting as the perimeter of the woodland is already stockproof.
Deer protection (if an issue)	Not applicable at the current time.
Open ground	There is mapped excluded open ground adjacent to the house in the centre of the woodland.
Is the new planting within an open access area?	No

Are standing trees present?	There are some existing trees present. Planting will not be carried out under the 'drip line' of existing trees.
Pond, streams and rivers	Planting will follow UKFS riparian zone guidance. Planting will be kept 5m away from drainage ditches and small watercourses.
Timing of new planting	Ground preparation will be carried out in autumn of 2018. The planting will be undertaken in the winter 2018-2019 planting season, with all works completed by the end of March 2019.

5.Maintenance and monitoring of new planting site

Maintenance Operation	What needs to be maintained?	Who will maintain the new planting site?	When will the maintenance be undertaken?
Control of vegetation around trees	Competing vegetation – particularly, grasses and bracken – will be controlled by spot herbicide application.	Agent and contractor	Spring and summer, after the year of planting, until the trees are established. This is likely to be twice in the first year and then annually in the following two years.
Tree replacement	Beating up will be undertaken to replace dead and dying trees with new ones of the same species.	Agent and contractor	Trees to be replaced will be identified in beat up surveys in autumn, with replacements being planted over the winter planting season annually for the first two years, to maintain a stocking density of at least 2,500 stems per hectare.
Tree protection	All tree shelters will be maintained to ensure the trees are properly protected.	Agent and contractor	Annually. Tree protection will be checked in autumn when beating up and again in spring if required.
Removal of tree protection	Removal of tree shelters from broadleaves if they fail to break down	Agent and contractor	As required during the 12 years, depending on the growth of the trees and the speed of degradation of the shelters.

6. Stakeholder statement

There are 7 properties within 200m of the planting area. Only one property, Ty Gwyn farmhouse, will be able to see the area and will therefore be directly affected by the planting proposals.

The owner of Ty Gwyn farmhouse objects strongly to the new planting on the grounds that it will affect his view. He objects to planting within 60 linear metres of his house. However there is no legal reason to keep this land as open and indeed without mowing it will return to woodland by itself in time. Alternative uses to woodland, e.g. a grazing let would also have an impact on his property, and the planting area also contains (in the unplanted area) the farmhouse's septic tank.

The current proposal to plant 100% deciduous trees, and to keep a strip of 20 metres unplanted adjacent to the house, is believed to be reasonable and in accordance with UKFS. The impact on the amenity value of the garden will be minimal; the garden terrace is already approximately 1.5m higher than the west boundary of the field, and the planting area also slopes away from the house. The planting area is to the east of the property, and so isn't the sunniest aspect for the house. The new trees will be no barrier to light unless they exceed 25 metres in height. In the very long term there may be some loss of view in the summer months (when the trees are in leaf), but the UKFS is silent on prescriptions for maintenance of views.

7. Plan of Operation

Cpt. No.	Sheet Reference	Field Parcel	Map ID (e.g. GWC 001)	Capital Works Reference	Capital Works Number	Species (include mapped open ground)	Species %	Estimated Quantity
1	5609	6614	GWC001	Enhanced mixed woodland	803	Walnut Wild Cherry Welsh Oak Downy Birch Sycamore	25% 25% 15% 15% 20%	0.5 ha

8. Information required to support GWC plan verification

Documents	Attached: Yes / No
Glastir Woodland Creation Plan	Yes
Map of planting area(s)	Yes

Consents and Consultation responses	Provided: Yes / No / Not applicable
Natural Resources Wales: consent within Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Not applicable
CADW: response within 100m of Scheduled Ancient Monument	Not applicable
Archaeological Trust consultation	Awaiting response
Additional documents e.g. ecological survey, community consultation	Neighbour consultation response notes to be provided
Consultation responses e.g. National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty over 2Ha	n/a

Failure to submit all required information at this stage could result in delays during the GWC plan verification process.

Declaration

This must be signed by the main applicant. An agent may sign where they have been given authority to do so. Where an agent is signing this declaration, the agents must be registered with the Welsh Government to act on behalf of the applicant.

I confirm that all of the information contained in this Woodland Creation Plan is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand and accept that it is my responsibility to ensure that is the case. I confirm that if there is any change to the information I have provided I will notify the Welsh Government of the change within 10 working days. I accept that if a contract is awarded on the basis of outdated information, that contract may be withdrawn by the Welsh Government.

I confirm that I have management control of the land that is the subject of this Woodland Creation Plan. I am aware of, and have complied with, the conditions that apply to my application and the Woodland Creation Plan. I declare that I have read, understood and complied with all of the relevant guidance and information relating to Glastir Woodland Creation.

I undertake to keep for a period of 10 years from the date of the final payment, and to provide officers of the Welsh Government or their duly authorised agents, within such period as they may determine, such records and information as may be required in respect of this application and in order to determine my compliance with these declarations and undertakings. I agree to repay any aid received together with any interest, if I am asked to do so by the Welsh Government, as a consequence of a breach of any rule, declaration made or undertaking given in this application. I agree to repay, on demand, any overpayments made to me as a result of a miscalculation by the Welsh Government or otherwise.

I will allow duly authorised officers of the Welsh Government, or their duly authorised agents, access to any land or any woodland areas included in the Woodland Creation Plan in order to inspect the land, any relevant equipment, storage facilities and records (including computer records), and any other aspect of the land within the Woodland Creation Plan in order to verify the accuracy of the information in this application, and I will give them all reasonable assistance for that purpose.

I understand that if my application is successful, I will be required to enter into a Glastir Woodland Creation Contract and payment of any grant funding will be conditional on compliance with the terms of that contract. If I am offered a contract and do not enter into the agreement, or fulfil the terms of the contract I may be excluded from re-applying for Glastir Woodland Creation for the following two calendar years.

I understand that the use of an agent or Management Planner does not affect my personal responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided in this application, nor does it absolve me of responsibility to comply with the terms of any contract should my application be successful.

I understand that I must not commence project activity, before I have received written confirmation from the Welsh Government to do so. Any expenditure incurred before the approval date is at my own risk and may render the project ineligible for support.

I have read the Fair Processing Notice of the Glastir Woodland Creation Rules Booklet. I understand that the Welsh Ministers may share, publish or disclose information, including personal information, about my Glastir Woodland Creation application and Woodland Creation Plan with other organisations. I agree to any necessary disclosure or exchanges of information and this extends to the use of information which is created or obtained in connection with my application (including details of payments made to me/my business).

I understand that the publication and disclosure of information by the Welsh Government will be in accordance with the obligations and duties under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and Commission Regulation (EC) 908/2014. I understand that the Welsh Government may produce and publish maps showing the areas of land that have been brought into the agreements and other information provided may also be disclosed where permitted by law.

I understand that the Welsh Government may also obtain information about me from other organisations, or provide information about me to them, in order to verify the accuracy of the information, prevent or detect crime and protect public funds. These other organisations include government departments, local authorities and other bodies as appropriate.

I understand that any person who makes a false declaration or fails to notify the Welsh Government of a material change to the information set out in the Woodland Creation Plan may be liable to prosecution. A false, inaccurate or incomplete statement, or failure to notify the Welsh Government of any material changes to the information given in this Forest Management Plan, may result in termination of the contract and/or recovery of any payments.

I have disclosed details of all other management agreements or grants that I receive, or intend to apply for, that may raise the possibility of me receiving double funding.

I understand that European regulations (including controls) and the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme for Wales 2014-2020 may change from time to time. I accept that the Welsh Government may need to update rules and conditions to take into account any such change and I agree to abide by any changes following notification by the Welsh Government.

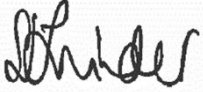
Agent's Declaration

Where the application is submitted by an agent, I, the agent, confirm that:

(a) I have drawn the attention of the applicant to the conditions that apply to this application, including the Applicant's Declarations set out above, and have informed the applicant that they are responsible for complying with the same; and

(b) I am authorised by the applicant to make the Applicant's Declarations set out above on their behalf.

Signed



Date

28/3/18

Printed Name:

Sonia F J Winder for Tilhill Forestry Limited

For Official Use Only

I confirm that this plan conforms to UK Forest Standard (UKFS) and Glastir Woodland Creation Scheme Rules, and Glastir Woodland objectives

Signed:

Date:

Print Name:

If Plan cannot be approved, please provide details below

Signed:

Date:

Print Name: