

Growing together_a productive Framework

Re-Imagining The Garden City

The community center building is a simple & elegant structure functioning as a composite between the urban dwellings and the agricultural farming structures. A material palette of glass and timber. The structure opens up on all sides inviting in and allowing people to filter through.

Material Palette

- Timber Panels
- Terrace Vegetation
- Glass
- Food Hall
- Hard Landscape
- Meadows
- Shared Surface
- Pedestrian path

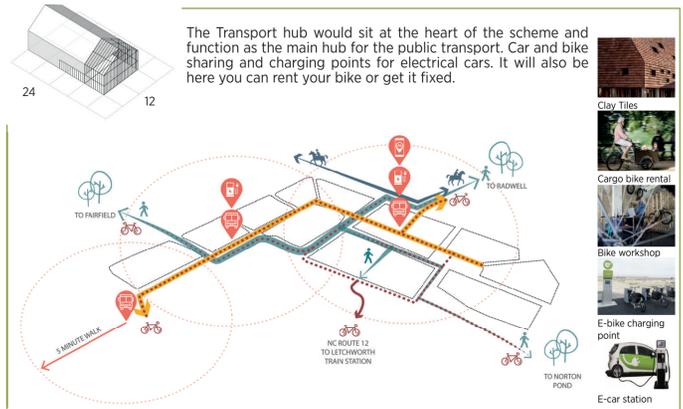
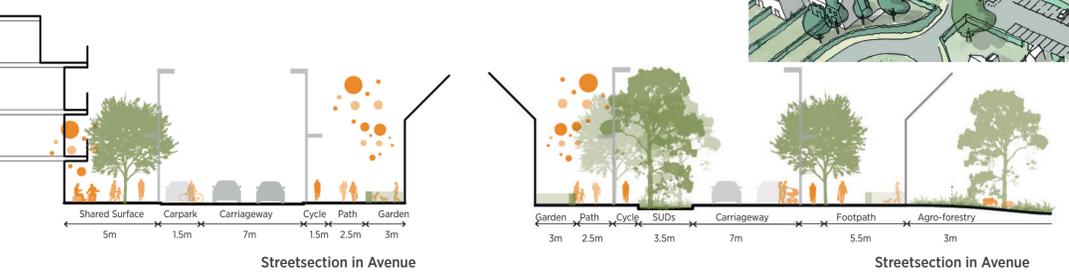
The Community Centre

Through-out the masterplan these flexible structures can be used for a multiple of activities from community growing, nurseries & sport activities. These structures can be completely open or more closed.

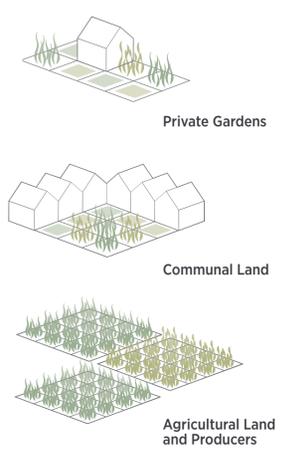
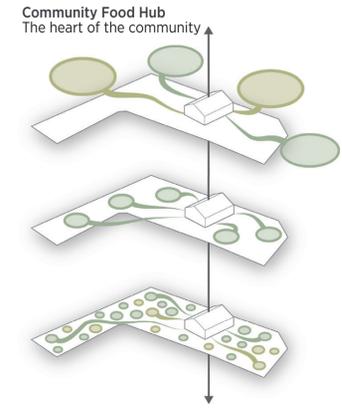
Activities Palette

- Workshop
- Turning Earth
- Training
- Skatepark
- Community factory
- tree top walk
- Education
- Events

The Flexible Structures



The Transport Hub / Connectivity



Celebrating local food

Spaces to Grow

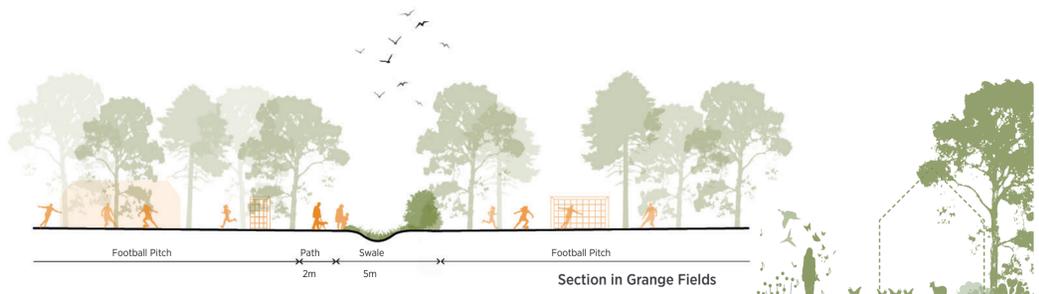
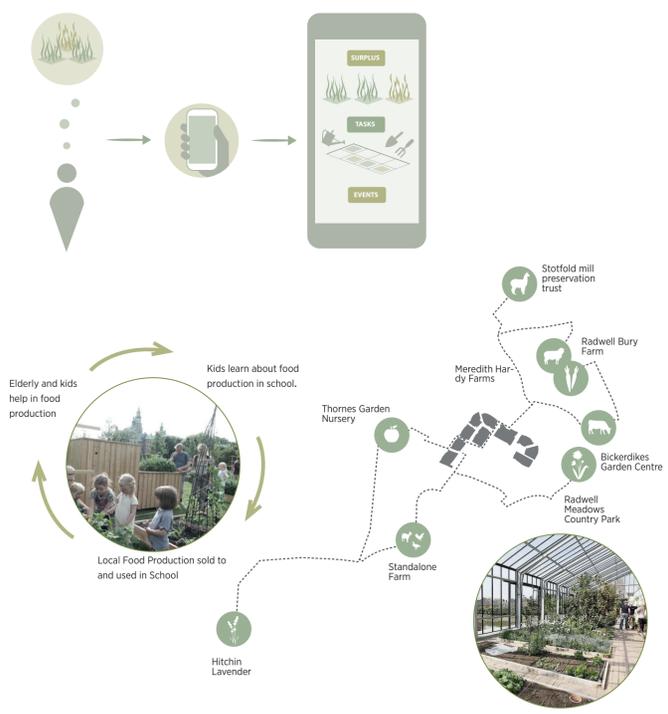
In the past, land has either been used for agriculture or for development. Our proposal is to use it for both. The masterplan is therefore organised into a series of neighborhoods each of which incorporates a hierarchy of productive growing spaces.

The Community Food Hub

The community food hub would sit at the heart of the scheme and function as the centre for every food growing space in the hierarchy shown in the diagrams above. Residents could use the centre to share and exchange surplus crops, cook and prepare food together and host events to share learning.

Learning / Research / School

The new school is positioned next to the food hub and the vision is that food production should be more integrated into the school curriculum - reconnecting children with the landscape and the food they eat. The compactness of the civic centre aims to create a synergy between the food production, the elderly people at the care home and the children in the school.



Growing a Community Sustainability & Stewardship

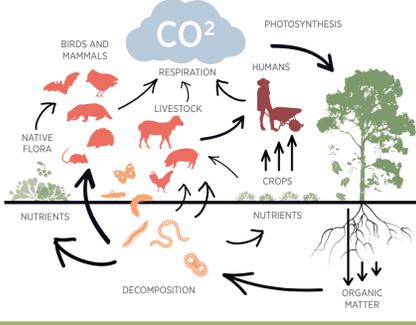
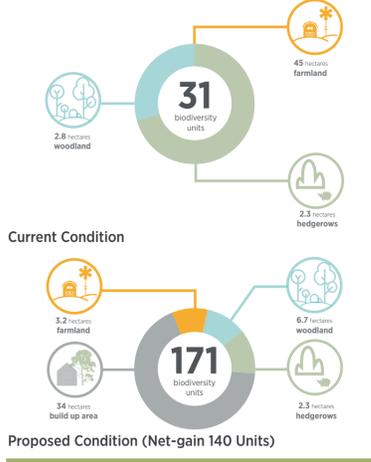
Bio-Diversity

After decades under intensive farming, the level of nutrients in UK soils is in sharp decline with direct impact on biodiversity and food quality. Agroforestry, as a complex system combining trees, crops and livestock, can contribute to achieve economic and ecological value - whilst restoring soil health.

Our vision is to design a neighbourhood transforming the monotonous farmland in a more complex landscape which integrates housing, woodland, hedgerows and agro-forestry, resulting in an expressive biodiversity net gain.

By incorporating trees in agriculture we can increase the amount of carbon sequestration in the soil, triggering a food chain that starts with the decomposition of organic matter and results in an overall biodiversity increase, from which we ultimately benefit.

A robust green infrastructure, articulating the existing hedgerows and spots of woodland with street trees, parkways, wild buffer and sustainable farming will increase the connectivity of the landscape, with great benefits for new species to thrive.



Social Sustainability

The food production will involve everyone from school children to elderly in the care home, so growing becomes the medium that unites the community. Each hamlet contains a mix of typologies and tenures resulting in a range of people of all ages, health and income. The community is an expression of a circular living arrangement, where residents can stay and be the co-creators of the good social life as a whole.

Economic Sustainability

Such a neighbourhood could provide for much of its fresh food needs. People could grow for themselves, grow communally with their neighbours and grow for sale in local markets. This would start to develop a circular economy in the neighbourhood where food waste is recycled and turned into productive output. It would also be self-supporting financially with the income from the production and processing of food being used to pay for the neighbourhood. The aim is by making it as easy as possible in regard to local food production, waste management, walking and cycling to create an everyday culture of living within our environmental means.

Environmental Sustainability

Converting regular farming into a door step productive landscape will massively reduce carbon emissions and, together with SuDS, preserve soil and water quality. This will benefit many generations to come and guarantee the health and well-being of people at present.

The landscape is hereby a vibrant and potential environmental troubleshooter solving climate challenges, whilst creating recreational variety and hotspots for social activities.

