



## Landscape Feature Enhancement

### Project

The Pond at Elm Farm, Nailsea

### Client

Bryant Homes (SW) Ltd

### Background

Protection and reinstatement of a neglected and overgrown pond and associated fringe woodland was a planning condition imposed upon a new large housing development on the fringes of Nailsea in North Somerset.

Landmark was commissioned to undertake an ecological survey of the pond and environs, including an assessment of the mature, unmanaged woodland and adjacent specimen trees.

### Description

Following completion of the survey and subsequent negotiations with the Local Planning Authority, plans were drawn up to integrate the pond feature sympathetically into the open space fabric of the development. The scheme focussed on two prerequisites: enhancement of the habitat value of the pond and woodland, and controlled public access.

Landmark managed the separate treeworks and landscape contracts on behalf of the client. Controlled tree felling and clearance allowed more light into the pond and woodland floor, encouraging new marginal planting and stimulating dormant ground flora into new life. Planting of additional native species created a shrub layer and buffer zones in sensitive areas, along with a wildflower meadow. The work also included supervising the dredging and clearance of the pond and construction of a timber bridge, decking structure and boundary fencing to contain and define the space.

### Client benefits

The scheme has been widely acclaimed and the client uses the site for national promotional literature.