

ORDSALL HALL MASTERPLAN

COMMUNITY BARN

Currently a grassed area, the proposal is for an oak building to be used for school visits, educational and training sessions, workshops and shelter from the elements for visitors. Rainwater will be harvested in a water butt to the rear of the building and piped from the front to feed the Bog Garden.

Community Barn Project
Ordsall Hall, Salford



PLEASANCE (FLOWER MEADOW)

Currently a grassed area, the proposal is to create a new flower bed to form a border to the path leading to the Barn. This area will contain a variety of herbaceous and woody plants, including roses, herbs, fruit trees and topiary, laid out to a pattern inspired by the vine carvings around the Oriel Window in the Great Hall.



HORSE FIELD (CEREAL MEADOW)

This existing Angela Sidwell's Horse sculpture will form the centrepiece to this area which will be planted with a variety of cereal crops inspired by the medieval three-field rotation system.

This meant farmers had to break their holdings into three fields – one to be planted with wheat or rye in the autumn for human consumption; a second to be used in the spring to raise peas, beans, and lentils for human use and oats and barley for the horses. The third field lay fallow. We will be sowing flax, oats, wheat, rye and barley in autumn and spring interspersed with green manures to ensure continuing soil health over the years, along with plenty of material for workshops and education.



BOG GARDEN

The outlying of the original moat is usually damp all year round. The proposal is to further feed this area with runoff from the community barn via an underground pipe. Having a permanently damp habitat will encourage further biodiversity within the grounds of the Hall. It will be planted with various marginal plants, including the native flag iris (*Iris pseudocorus*), bullrushes (*Typha latifolia*), Snakes head fritillaries (*Fritillaria meleagris*), quamash (*Camassia quamash*) and other attractive and interesting plants.



GREENHOUSE

Adjacent to the allotment the proposal is to erect a aluminium framed greenhouse on a low brick base. The finish is to tie in with the existing cold frames and finished to the same standards. This brick-based greenhouse will allow for greater propagation of new plants from cuttings over autumn and winter and protection for more tender plants in spring and summer. Rainwater will be harvested into water butts from roof guttering and used for irrigation inside the greenhouse and on the community growing garden for the establishment of young annuals.

