Review of Specification for Grounds Contract

in Wickhambrook 2023/24

The Estates Committee reviewed the specification for the grounds contract for 2022-23 at its September '21 meeting, which was subsequently approved by the parish (**Min. 21.09.16iii refers**).

In February of this year the Parish Council appointed R H Landscapes and Maintenance to undertake the grounds contract for a further year (**Min. EO.22.02.05 refers**).

The first cut took place in March, and the service has received positive comments throughout the season to date.

The contractor has been flexible and has consulted on:

- reducing cuts to protect spring flowers in the cemetery; and
- reducing cuts during the extended period of dry weather throughout July and August.

The clerk has identified two further adjustments to the contract for the Estates to consider including in the next specification, namely:

- footpath (FP24) side to hedge running alongside cemetery
- removing FP24 from the Suffolk County Council cutting schedule and including it in the parish groundworks specification with other footpaths

Accordingly, the clerk has updated the specification with respect to the 2023/24 season, for which quotes will be invited in early September. This revised specification is attached as **Appendix A** to this report, and updated plans at **Appendix B**.

Recommendation

1) To approve the proposed revised specification for cuts and proposed areas set out at Appendices A & B, (subject to any changes agreed at the meeting) in advance of quotes being requested for the grounds contract for financial year 2023/24.

Appendix A

Revised Specification for Grounds Contract

		NO.CUT	5 colect	Leaf Cle	Notes
ap Item	Greens		(
		10			leave small triangle at rear for wildflower
1	Attleton Green	18	No		colonisation
2	Coltsfoot Green	18	No		strim down into all culverts
3	Meeting Green Verge & Triangle	18	No		small triangle must be trimmed to ensure visibility
	Nunnery Green Verges	18	110		verges uneven, take time in dips to obtain even cut
	Cemetery & Churchyard				
				1	
5	All Saints Churchyard	18	No		Only in Churchyard, not verges or car park
6	Cemetery and Memorial Garden	18		yes	Delay cuts where bee orchids indicated, or to allow spring flowers to set seed, as agreed with contractor - when cuts delayed, cost per cut to be adjusted accordingly.
	Play Areas				
7	Bury Road Play Area	18	yes	yes	
	Cemetery Road Play Area - leaves & debris collected	18	yes	yes	
	Six Acres & Recreation Ground				
	Bowling Green (in and outer banks)		yes	yes	not the bowling green itself
	Tennis Courts surrounding Grass	18			
11	Inner banks of Recreation Field and Six Acrees	18			
12	Recreation Ground & Six Acres	18			*please quote for both collection of arisings, and arisings left in place
	Other				
13	Footpaths per plan	8			
14	Outer banks of Recreation Field and Six Acres	3			strim/brushcut - note steep banks
	Memorial Social Centre Grounds	16	yes		· · · ·
	Hedges - bowling green, along the track next to the rec, the beech hedge near the car park (cut one side) and the hedge around the cemetery cut hedges both sides on road and alongside Footpath & one				
16	side elsewhere.	2	yes		
18	Scrub to rear of hard standing between Bowling Green and Tennis Courts	2	yes		

Hilary Workman Clerk & RFO August 2022





































