

DIDCOT TOWN COUNCIL INVITATION TO QUOTE



INSTALLATION OF INCLUSIVE PATHWAYS

Issue Date: Friday 24th May 2024

Closing Date: 9am on Friday 14th June 2024

Didcot Town Council is inviting quotations from interested companies for the installation of inclusive pathways in Ladygrove, Didcot and in Millennium Woods, East Hagbourne. The commencement of this project will be subject to confirmation of a successful Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Grant application.

Didcot Town Council has been invited to apply for up to £175,000 in CIL grants to improve access to our open spaces, specifically in Ladygrove (up, over and around the mounds and around the lakes) and in Millennium Woods.

It is vital that the town's open spaces remain accessible to all and improvements to these pathways would ensure they are for many years to come.

Millennium Woods – Wilcher Close, East Hagbourne, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 9LU

Millennium Woods is a mixed deciduous wood with native species scrubs, a stone circle and ephemeral pond. The wood is 3.6 Hectares/8.9 Acres and has three entrances with noticeboards.

At the present time the pathways within the woods are laid with bark chippings, which, during wet weather, become almost impossible to use if visitors have mobility issues, and when using a wheelchair or pushing a pram.

The official pathways start at each entrance and link at the middle where the stone circle and benches are located. This site offers visitors the opportunity to walk amongst nature. It is hugely popular and has the capacity to become a very successful educational site.

Ladygrove area – Tyne Avenue, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7PT

The area in Ladygrove managed and maintained by Didcot Town Council is an integral part of the community. It offers visitors the opportunity to connect with the outdoors through fishing the lakes, walking the open green space and up and over the mounds, playing tennis, visiting the skate and play park and generally just spending time outdoors in a natural environment, with the people they care about.

Ladygrove Lakes is a functioning fishery, alongside the informal recreation opportunities presented by the environment itself. The mounds offer visitors the opportunity to view Didcot from a height and experience being outdoors in a beautiful environment. Access to this location should not be restricted in anyway.

Didcot Town Council would like to establish safe and secure connections to our open spaces, so that every visitor can enjoy all Didcot has to offer irrespective of physical ability. It is paramount that we deliver safe access to all areas of Didcot with better viability.

Not only do these areas attract visitors from Didcot and the surrounding areas, but they are home to a variety of different wildlife: native fish swim in the lakes, ducks and other wild birds make Ladygrove their home, wild rabbits run the fields, Muntjac are often spotted at both locations, as are Foxes and Badgers. Smaller animals such as

Hedgehogs, are also found in these locations, not including all the insects and birds that live and visit the areas!

1. SPECIFICATION OF WORKS

Didcot Town Council would like to improve existing and create new access routes to the Ladygrove lakes and mounds in Ladygrove, Didcot, and improve pathways (access) at Millennium Woods. Current access to the lakes is via bark chipping pathways, although a new bound gravel pathway has been installed at the back of the large lake. This is the same case at Millennium Woods. It is hoped that improving existing provisions and creating new access routes to both the lakes, the mounds, and Millennium Woods, will ensure that everyone can benefit from safely accessing these sites without discrimination.

With Didcot expanding and the community growing, the number of people visiting these areas are increasing dramatically. It is essential that the Town Council ensure that access to these sites is safe and inclusive.

Didcot Town Council require a quote for the following:

- Creation of aggregate, bonded pathways. Total length needed would be approximately 998m in Ladygrove and 831m in Millennium Woods (as shown on the attached) – total length = 1829m
- The paths would need to be a minimum of 1.5m wide
- The “hardcore base” will need to be Type 1 and be at a depth of 100mm

Site visits are essential. Please email council@didcot.gov.uk to arrange these with the Outdoor Services Manager and Outdoor Services Supervisor.

- a) Prior to any work being undertaken, the Contractor will ensure that the site is clear of any obstructions
- b) The Contractor will also ensure adequate signage is displayed so visitors to the area are made aware of the work being carried out
- c) The Contractor will inspect each site for areas of potential hazard and will inform the Council immediately of any such potential hazards.
- d) The Contractor will at all times during the period of works, ensure that machines are properly guarded and maintained so as to present no danger to the operator, surrounding structures, vehicles or any person in the vicinity of operations.
- e) Operatives must be fully trained and competent in the use of any and all equipment being used and be supplied with all the necessary PPE.

2. OPERATIONS

- a) Any machinery used should be fit for purpose and should be well maintained
- b) Operatives must be trained in the use of the machinery and have proper and sufficient PPE to complete the work safely.

- c) During operations, the contractor should ensure that all operatives work safely and respectfully with regards to any interaction with the public.
- d) The contractor will be liable for any damage caused to any property, and vehicles throughout the duration of the works.
- e) Clear communication with Outdoor Services Manager on progress, is essential.

3. INSURANCE

The contractor must supply copies of both public liability and employer insurance cover with their tender application (minimum public liability cover is £10 million).

4. HEALTH & SAFETY

- a) The contractor shall accept full responsibility for compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all other Acts and Regulations in respect of work comprised in this contract.
- b) The contractor shall provide a Risk Assessment and their full Health and Safety Policy with the tender application.

Any queries on the tender details, please contact Mike Blake, the Outdoor Services Manager at Didcot Town Council, on 01235 812637 or email mblake@didcot.gov.uk

5. SUBMISSION OF TENDER

When returning your tender, please ensure that all documentation is properly enclosed and the deadline by which the tender must be returned, is complied with. Emailed tenders are acceptable but must be password protected. The password should be sent to the Town Clerk, Janet Wheeler, at jwheeler@didcot.gov.uk

Responses to be received in confidence, no later than 9am on Friday 14th June 2024 marked for the attention of Mike Blake, Outdoor Services Manager, Didcot Town Council Offices, Britwell Road, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7HN.

Any tender received after the deadline, will not be considered.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The success of this project is subject to a successful CIL Grant application award. If the application is unsuccessful, Didcot Town Council will be unable to pursue this project at the current time and will need to investigate further funding opportunities. The submission date for the CIL Grant application is 28th June 2024.

In the event of a smaller CIL grant being awarded, Didcot Town Council will look to make up the difference up to £175,000.

Didcot Town Council however reserves the right to reduce the scope of these works.

All quotation tenders will be opened at 9am on Monday 17th June 2024.

Lucy Blake
Deputy Town Clerk

Ladygrove Lakes and Mounds total area 998m



Millennium Woods total area 831m

Millennium Wood
at the Hagbourne

