

**Location of construction**

Parsonage Down National Nature Reserve, Cherry Lodge Farm, Shrewton, Wiltshire, SP3 4ET

**Primary point of contact**

Elaine Ingram 07436 041599 / elaine.ingram@naturalengland.org.uk

**Site Information**

Parsonage Down National Nature Reserve has approximately 11,500m of external stock fencing and 6,600m of internal stock fencing. As an essential management we aim to replace approximately 10% of the sites total fencing per annum. This current year (2022), approximately 2,200m of stock fencing has been earmarked for replacement (see attached maps). Prior to commencing the new fencing, the old fence will need to be removed and in places scrub removal will be required in order to remove old fence and allow for installation of new fence (see attached map).

This new fence line will need to be erected by **1st February 2023.**

Contractor will be chosen based on availability and methodology.

**Ant hills / Uneven ground**

The compartment to be fenced has many anthills and is very uneven in places, the ant hills have developed over 100 years and are significant of historically unimproved pasture, it is therefore important that damage to the ant hills and the ground in general is kept to a minimum.

**Scheduled ancient monument**

The whole field compartment is a scheduled ancient monument, ground damage and compaction should be kept to a minimum, therefore the use of heavy machinery should be kept to a minimum.

**Scrub clearance and fence removal**

The north-west, top north and south-east section of fence, will have had the minor scrub already removed and will just require the fence removal. The north-east section of fence (see scrub removal map) has quite dense scrub along its length and will require scrub clearance alongside the fence removal.

Preference would be towards a method that results in the least ground damage.

**Bidding for the work**

Please provide a breakdown in your quotation for the scrub clearance and fence removal, and then the fence installation. If you would like to quote for one part of the work only please feel free to.

If you are unfamiliar with the reserve, we are more than happy for you to have a site visit. To organise a site visit please contact Elaine Ingram.

**Specification requirements**

**Site Tidiness**

* Contractor must remove all posts, netting, wire and strainers and take back to the main farmyard. Wooden posts must be put in the skip provided by Natural England and all wire and netting folded or reeled up neatly and placed next to skip on the ‘scrap metal pile’.
* All staples that are removed from the old fence line must be collected and taken down to the main farmyard also. Natural England will not accept staples left on the ground as they are a welfare risk to the livestock.
* Any other waste (plastic wrapping and rubbish) resulting from the job must also be collected and put into the skip supplied.

**Fence Materials**

The new fence line is to be constructed using Clipex fencing system and reclaimed telegraph pole strainers:

* Clipex Standard posts
* Clipex Beefy post every 4th post
* 9ft/3m reclaimed telegraph pole strainers
	+ 8ft struts – tanalised or chestnut

(Wood must be FSC Certified and a Chain of Custody certificate will need to be produced on request)

* High Tensile X Fence Stock netting XHT8-80-15
	+ High Tensile 2.0mm Twin Strand Barbed Wire
	+ Barbed Staples on strainers - 40 x 4.0mm

**Fence Specifics**

1. Strainers
* Strainers must be positioned every 100m on straight runs
* Where the ground undulates there will be a extra strainer placed at the highest and lowest points of a given dip or rise in the topography to ensure no netting is either cutting into the ground or has an excessive gap underneath it.
* There will be a strainer placed at every change of direction within the fence line.
* Strainers must be knocked into a depth of 76cm to 90cm (2.5-3ft deep) with the aim of the strainer being knocked in as close to 90cm as possible.
* Strainers to be knocked in using a tractor or tracked machine.
1. Clipex standard posts and beefy posts
* Clipex standard posts must be placed every 3m and beefy posts must be used every 4th post to give the fence line extra strength for cattle pressure. If there is a slight curve or change in ground condition extra beefy posts should be used.
* To reduce ground damage, clipex posts should be bashed in using a handheld post basher.
1. Wire
* High Tensile X Fence Stock netting XHT8-80-15 should be used. For ease of installation the wire should be rolled out first, strained between strainers then the clipex posts knocked in using a handheld post driver.
1. Staples
* Staples used on the strainers must be barbed

**Contractor requirements**

As per the Construction Design Management Regulations 2015, other civil law & Natural England internal guidance, contractors must supply to Natural England evidence of ticketed training for using certain machinery.

**Mandatory tickets include:**

* + Chainsaw.

**Desirable evidence of certification includes:**

* + Tracked Post Banger
	+ Tractor
	+ 4x4 driving
	+ 360 digger

Failing evidence of certification for the desirable items, competency can be evidenced by supplying the contact details of previous client/s where such machinery has been used.

Contractors must also hold a Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP) certificate. If an SSIP is not held, then a Natural England Contractor Competence Questionnaire will be provided to complete.

**Documentation requirements**

Contractors must provide the following documentation:

* + Relevant Risk Assessments & Method Statements e.g. fencing/chainsaw
	+ Covid-19 related risk assessments
	+ Lone working practices
	+ Health & safety Policies/certificates
	+ Past Work
	+ \*Construction Phase Plan

 \*The successful applicant will receive separate guidance and a Natural England template to

**Quotation format**

When bidding for the tender, Natural England needs to see:

1. Total cost for the work with the VAT included

1. A breakdown of the work. I.E Price per meter of fencing, gate installation, removal of old fencing etc.
2. An estimate of the total number of days you anticipate the work to take, and estimated date of works.
3. Please confirm that you will be able to complete the works by the appointed completion date (1st Feb 2023)

**Please email you quotation to** **elaine.ingram@naturalengland.org.uk**

**Deadline for submission is 28th October 2022**

**Fence example**

**Photos??**