**Appendix B**

MOUNTSOREL PARISH COUNCIL

**GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

###### SPECIFICATION OF WORKS

**1.00 GRASS CUTTING**

**1.01** (i) Prior to cutting any area, the Contractor will ensure that it is free of significantly large stones, paper, tins, bottles and other debris.

(ii) The Contractor will also inspect each site for areas of ground sinkage/potholes and areas of potential hazard and will inform the Council immediately of any specific hazards.

**1.02** The Contractor will at all times during the period of the Contract, ensure that all machines engaged in grass cutting operations are sharp and properly set, so as to produce a true and even cut. Any damage or areas of grass not cut to the approval of the Council from such lack of maintenance will be made good by the Contractor at his own expense and to the satisfaction of the Council.

**1.03** The Contractor will at all times during the period of the Contract 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. The Contractor will provide his staff with all safety equipment, (boots, reflective vests, ear defenders etc.), and will ensure that staff use these at all times they are engaged in work for the Council.

**1.04** During the period of the Contract no growth regulators of any form will be applied to any area of turf without the Council sanctioning such an operation in writing, in advance.

**1.05** All grass will be cut cleanly and evenly and without damaging the existing surface.

**1.06** The Contractor will complete one area of grass cutting before moving onto the next, and immediately after cutting a scheduled area, the Contractor will ensure that all grass clippings and other arisings are cleared from all paved areas, playground equipment safety surfaces, memorial stones, paths and public footpaths, etc., by sweeping or using a blower.

**1.07** Soft vegetative growth, such as clover will be deemed to be part of the Contract where it falls within large areas of grass.

**1.09** Mowing will take place on the full area of grass at the site, up to the paving, fencing obstacles and any other boundaries.

**1.10** Areas not cut to the satisfaction of the Council will be re-cut by the Contractor at the Contractor’s own expense.

**1.11** In very wet conditions all operations involving grass cutting shall cease until conditions allow operations to recommence without damaging the surface levels and contours of the ground or grass cutting “divots” from the machine rollers or cutters.

**1.12** Should the Contractor cause damage to the surface or levels of the ground, or create divots during grass cutting operations, the Contractor will at his own expense reinstate such damage forthwith to the satisfaction of the Council.

**1.13** Mowing will be carried out as close as possible to fixed obstructions. Moveable obstructions can be removed to facilitate cutting, and replaced before the Contractor leaves the site.

**1.14** Mowing around obstructions including seats, trees, fence lines, posts, and the like, and in the proximity of margins, will be undertaken using methods, tools and machines as appropriate. The cutting of such areas will be undertaken within 24 hours of the main site being mowed and will be deemed to be included in the Contractor's rate for each location.

**1.15** In areas that contain bulbs or corms, the Contractor will ensure that the emergent bulbs are not cut. These areas will not be cut again until four weeks after flowering.

**1.16** All persons operating grass cutting machinery must be satisfactorily trained, and the Council reserves the right to ask the Contractor to provide adequate proof that his operators are well trained, conversant with Health and Safety legislation and competent in their operating methods.