

Invitation to Tender for partnering with Alderman Tom F Spence Charity

Ripon City Council (acting as the sole corporate trustee of the Alderman Tom F Spence Charity) invites tenders from experienced and suitably qualified organisations to manage and maintain Quarry Moor Nature Reserve. This unique nine-hectare site is of national importance due to its geological and ecological significance. Quarry Moor includes areas designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its calcareous grassland and geological cliff face.

The appointed organisation will work collaboratively with Ripon City Council and Natural England to develop, update and implement a Management and Maintenance Plan. This plan must align with regulatory obligations and the long-term sustainability of the site. In addition to overseeing the strategic aspects of the reserve's management, the organisation will provide support to the part-time Warden, ensuring the effective delivery of all necessary maintenance and conservation activities outlined in the plan.

To ensure the process is fair and transparent for all parties, please follow the instructions carefully. We would like to receive all responses by 20th February 2025.

Any enquiries should be addressed to admin@riponcity.gov.uk or 01765 604097.

Please read the instructions and return the following documents:

- Signed Tender Response with detailed proposal outlining your approach to the management and maintenance of Quarry Moor;
- Evidence of experience managing nature reserves, including SSSIs or similar protected areas and references from two similar projects. This should include the scope of the projects, the outcomes achieved, and your role in their delivery;
- CVs of key personnel, demonstrating relevant qualifications and expertise;
- Signed financial proposal, including a breakdown of fees and any additional funding strategies;
- Signed Certificate of canvassing and non-collusive tendering (see appendix 2).

We strongly recommend a site visit by interested parties prior to the submission of a tender. Please contact us via email admin@riponcity.gov.uk to arrange a visit.

We hope that you will be able to assist us in this tender and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Paula Benson
Chief Officer

Attachments

1. TENDER SPECIFICATION
2. Appendix 1 – SITE MAP AND LOCATION PLAN
3. Appendix 2 – DECLARATION OF CAVASSING AND NON-COLLUSIVE TENDERING



Tender Specification

1. Background

Quarry Moor is a unique nine-hectare site for nature conservation. It is important nationally because of its special geological features that date back 255 million years. The cliff face within Quarry Moor was designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in 1986, the calcareous grassland designation followed in 1988. Quarry Moor was also designated as a Local Nature Reserve in 2001. Historically the site was a limestone quarry whose stone was reputedly used in such buildings as Ripon cathedral and The Chapel of St Mary Magdalen in Ripon.

The site was given to the City of Ripon by Alderman T F Spence in 1945 as a 'children's playground' with the stipulation that it be 'kept for Ripon children for all time'. The site is managed to conserve its special geology and wildflowers and for recreation by the Alderman Tom F Spence Charity, the sole corporate trustee is Ripon City Council.

2. Our requirements

The appointed organisation will initially be required to develop a Management and Maintenance Plan for Quarry Moor Nature Reserve. The development of the plan should be done in close collaboration with Natural England to ensure compliance with all relevant environmental regulations, including the requirements for SSSI.

Once the Management and Maintenance Plan is approved, the organisation will begin implementing the identified maintenance activities and conservation tasks. The following tasks are an example of the core responsibilities and activities that the appointed organisation will be expected to undertake as part of the management and maintenance of Quarry Moor:

- Maintain the magnesian limestone grassland by removing scrub
- Maintain populations of key species – thistle broomrape, bee orchids, and autumn gentians
- Keep the geological exposure clear of vegetation
- Take all opportunities to enhance biodiversity by appropriate management.
- Ensure compliance with Natural England requirements for SSSI designations.

The appointed contractor will be responsible for providing all necessary tools, equipment and resources required for site management and maintenance.

The initial contract will be for a period of two years, with a break clause after the 12 months, allowing the possibility of review or termination depending on the contractor's performance or changes in the Charity's requirements.

3. How we would like you to respond to this Tender.

We welcome tender responses from all qualified companies. We would like the process to be as easy as possible and as such, we are not using an application form.

Please return the following documentation via email to admin@riponcity.gov.uk.

- Signed Tender Response with detailed proposal outlining your approach to the management and maintenance of Quarry Moor;
- Evidence of experience managing nature reserves, including SSSIs or similar protected areas and references from two similar projects. This should include the scope of the projects, the outcomes achieved, and your role in their delivery;
- CVs of key personnel, demonstrating relevant qualifications and expertise;



- Signed financial proposal, including a breakdown of fees and any additional funding strategies;
- Signed Certificate of canvassing and non- collusive tendering (see appendix 2).

The organisation does not bind itself to accept the lowest bid or any quotation.

4. Arithmetic Accuracy of the ITT

It is the responsibility of the supplier to check that all cost areas have been identified and are accurate.

If arithmetic mistakes are found after the contract has been awarded they will not be taken into account. The fees agreed at the time of contract will prevail. The Tenderer shall be deemed to have satisfied itself before submitting its tender as to the accuracy and sufficiency of the rates and prices stated in their tender which shall (except in so far as otherwise provided in the contract) cover all the contractor's obligations under the contract and the contractor shall be deemed to have obtained for itself all necessary information as to risks and any other circumstances which might reasonably influence or affect the contractor's tender. The contractor who submits a tender will be held to have by his/her own independent observations and enquiries fully informed and satisfied himself as to the nature and extent and practicability of the works and as to access to the site and/or storage facility and all points and conditions which can in any way affect the prices upon which this tender is based. The prices for the tender shall include all charges for profits and transport and cartage and labour, materials, plant and insurance and all other expenses.

Period of Acceptance of the ITT:

The potential supplier is required to hold their ITT open for acceptance for a period of up to six months from the closing date.

5. Final Submission

The organisation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any quote and will not accept responsibility for any expense or loss which may be incurred by any potential tenderer in the preparation of the ITT.

Tenderers should treat the tender documents as private and confidential between the tenderer and the Council.

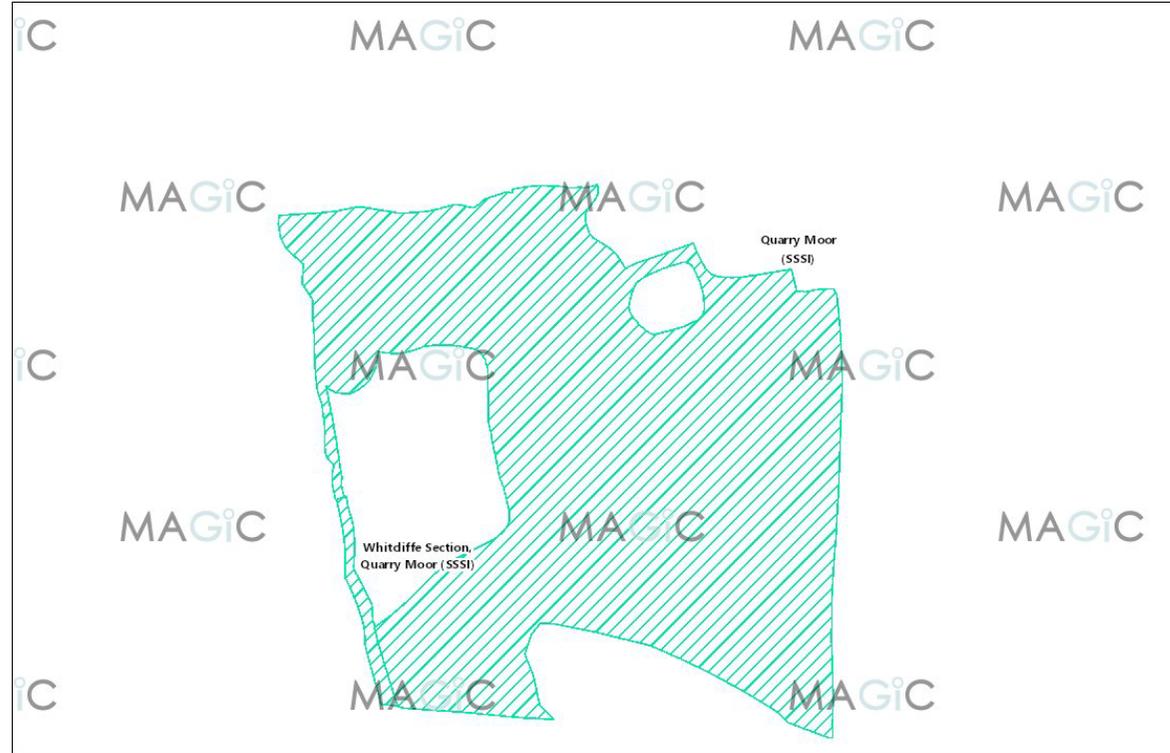
Appendix 1 – SITE MAP AND LOCATION PLAN



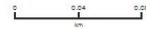
Legend		Legend	
Old Children's Playground	New Park Wood	Footpath	Site Boundary
The Dell	South Coppice	Access Gate	Access Track
Bird Feeding Station	Bottom Field	Wooded Area	Rotational Coppice
Top Meadow	The Ridge	Banking	Main Road
Middle Pasture	Activity Centre		
North Coppice	Dog Walk Area		
West Paddock	East Cliff Wood		
Playing Field	Car Park		
Cliff Face			



SSSI areas map



Map produced by MAGiC on 30 September, 2024.
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Quarry Moor has two SSSI* designations imposed and monitored by Natural England:

- 7.5 hectares of calcareous grassland
- 0.10 hectares of the cliff face (Whitcliffe Section) of Quarry Moor for geology

The designation highlights sections of Quarry Moor that are of national importance, giving protection to the area. Approval must be given by Natural England for all maintenance activities within the designated areas.

Appendix 2 - DECLARATION OF CAVASSING AND NON-COLLUSIVE TENDERING



In recognition of the principle that the essence of selective tendering is that the council shall receive bona fide competitive Tenders from all those tendering.

I/WE CERTIFY THAT:

1 The Tender submitted herewith is a bona fide Tender, intended to be competitive.

2 I/We have not fixed or adjusted the amount of the Tender under or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person.

3 I/We have not done, and undertake that we will not do at any time before the hour specified for the return of the Tender, any of the following acts:

(a) communicating with a person other than the person calling for this Tender the amount or approximate amount of the proposed Tender (except where the disclosure, in confidence, of the approximate amount of the Tender was essential to obtain insurance premium quotations required for the preparation of the Tender);

(b) entering into any agreement with any other person that he/she shall refrain from Tendering or as to the amount of any Tender to be submitted; and

(c) offering, paying, giving or agreeing to give any sum of money or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing, having done, causing or having caused to be done in relation to any other Tender or proposed Tender any act or thing of the sort described above.

Name:

Position:

Date:

In this declaration: 1 'person' indicates any person, body, or association corporate or incorporate. 2 'any agreement or arrangements' includes any transaction of the sort described above, formal or informal and whether legally binding or not.