



**Staffordshire**  
Wildlife Trust

## **Invitation to Quote for Repairs to Dry Stone Bridge at Cotton Dell Nature Reserve**

**Staffordshire Wildlife Trust**

**June 2024**



## **Summary**

We are looking for a contractor experienced in stonework repairs with particular experience in historic features and dry stone construction and repair.

## **Project Brief**

In Cotton Dell Nature Reserve, land owned by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust is a dry stone bridge dating back to the late 1800's. The bridge has no designated listing but it is a feature of interest on the reserve due to its construction methods using entirely dry stone methods.

The bridge is used by vehicles to access the private land at Oulscough as well as Staffordshire Wildlife Trust vehicles to access the nature reserve and visitors accessing Cotton Dell Nature Reserve on foot.

Recent surveys have identified a schedule of works to repair and protect the bridge.

This project is to carry out the final elements of the project.

## **Contract objectives, specifications & conditions**

Please see enclosed documents prepared by GCA Consulting:

- **8968 Cotton Dell Dry Stone Bridge**
- **Soffit Plan and Elevations Main Bridge**

The following specification of works relates to elements of the recommendations highlighted in the above documents:

Please note that much of the works in the GCA plans, tree works and vegetation clearance have now been carried out and it is only the works detailed below which are to be included in this contract.

1) Quotes to include all preliminary, access provisions, scaffolding, plant and machinery costs.

2) Repairs & reconstruction of N/W section of Elevation-1

Take down N/W section of displaced walling & retain stones, record existing stone locations for precise reconstruction placement (number & photograph), excavate adjacent bank & road / track edging to stable ground

Excavate tree stump & roots

Prepare historic foundation

Rebuild wall including packing & through / tie stones. Additional stones may be reclaimed from river bed & adjacent bank

Rebuild castellated copings,

Backfill rear of wall with clean drainage stone,

Lay compacted Type-1 hardcore footing parallel to road / track

Install stone filled gabion retaining walls including anchor rods & connecting ties (stone reclaimed from site),

Make good adjacent grounds & road / track surface (including 1no tonnes of gravel finish laid & compacted),

3) Elevations 2, 5, 7, 8:

All gaps in stonework to be infilled and tightly packed as required (all facing and soffit stones identified on GCA drawing SK03),

Stone reclaimed from location,

4) Elevations 3, 4 & 6 require no works.

Detailed Construction Phase and full set of RAMS to be provided once supplier is awarded contract. This file will also include company insurances and site operative qualifications.

## **Timing**

The works must finish by 7<sup>th</sup> January due to funding restrictions. If these timescales are too short we may be able to seek an extension from the funder.

Works are to be completed when ground conditions and water levels permit.

## **Work Location and Access**

a. The site and bridge is in the ownership of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. The working area is accessed via a third party track from the village of Oakamoor into the SWT landholding. SWT have access rights up the track.

The bridge is also the only vehicular access into private land at Oulsclough so access is to be maintained during the works.

The bridge is located at:

- Grid ref: SK 05612 45169
- What 3 words ///reviewed.redouble.glorious

b. The compound for plant machinery and welfare units will be located adjacent to the bridge

c. The site is public, unsecured, and is accessible by foot from multiple access points. Materials should not be left unattended on site without due consideration for security of and / or damage to materials; any materials left unattended will be at the risk of the contractor. Equipment, tools and vehicles should not remain on site overnight unless appropriate security measures are put in place.

d. Refuelling should take place only within the designated vehicle compound following an appropriate spill incident procedure.

e. There is no provision of amenities on site and prospective contractors should make provision for a welfare unit if required as part of their proposals detailing its location and storage.

- f. The works must be completed to a standard satisfactory to the client SWT and the land owner and any ground disturbance caused by repeated vehicle movements must be 'made good' to an acceptable level before the works are signed off by all parties including the contractor, client and landowner.
- g. Please contact the nominated officer to arrange a site visit ahead of submitting a quote. Applicants must attend a site visit as a condition of acceptance of their quote.