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FORD PLAY AREA TENDER & OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT INVITE TO QUOTE

QUESTIONS RAISED BY INTERESTED PARTIES AS AT 13.10.2022

Q: Multiple tenderers asked for extra time to complete their submission

A: The deadline for both the play area tender and outdoor fitness quotes remains as 28th October 2022. The parish council wishes to complete the install by Easter 2023 and is unable to extend the deadline.

Q: Results of open space survey requested

A: Please see document uploaded to www.fordparishcouncil.org.uk and Gov.uk contracts finder site.

Q. Safety surfacing

A: The preferred safety surfacing for both the play area and the outdoor fitness equipment is grass mats. The reason for this is cost-driven. At the site meeting on 12th October, some suppliers said that it may be cheaper than grass mats to re-use the wet pour under the existing climbing frame as a sub-base for new wet pour over. The parish council is open to this option so long as it does not increase cost.

Q. Types of outdoor fitness equipment preferred?

A: The priority is to give a wide range of equipment that enables a full body workout and caters for all abilities from disabled through to fitness enthusiasts. The target age range is primarily adults.

Q: Welfare facilities – can the village hall be used?

A: The village hall is run by a separate committee and has bookings regularly. Hence, it is unlikely that this will be possible. We would ask suppliers to price for welfare facilities and highlight this cost separately, so it can be deducted if an arrangement is reached with the village hall.

Q. What does the parish council define as value for money?

A: Getting a good range of and number of items equipment for the budget, whilst not compromising on quality.

Q. Can the existing gates to the play area remain?

A: For cost reasons, we'd prefer these to remain unless there is a safety reason why they need to be replaced. If you wish to price for new gates, please explain why and highlight this is a separate cost.

Q: What type of play equipment is sought?

A: A range of equipment focused on 0 to 12s which includes both basic pieces like swings etc and also some innovative elements and disabled access equipment. Preference would be for a flush wheelchair access but options where user has to transfer from a chair will be considered if more cost-efficient. The parish council is looking to increase the number of pieces of play equipment to cater for a growing village (the funds for the play area have arisen from a 32-home development).

Q. Scoring matrix to be used – can suppliers see this?

A. The weightings to be used as part of the evaluation process are in the specification documents. A blank copy of the matrix will also be supplied. The final decision may not just be based on the scoring matrix, especially where tenders score closely.

Q. Can any of the existing equipment pieces be retained

A. The parish council is wanting to do a full refurbishment but if there is an exceptional reason for keeping a piece of equipment please highlight this in your submission.