

Supply and Installation of New Play Equipment for Meriton Recreation Ground, Corsham

Background:

Meriton Recreation Ground is a large public open space close to Corsham town centre. It is accessed off Meriton Avenue (SN13 0BP). The Rec consists of a large grassed open space with some trees and an enclosed play area catering for a wide range of children.

The eastern end of the play area features relatively new metal-framed equipment (catering for older children) which has recently been re-furbished, re-painted and re-surfaced.

The western end of the site contains mostly older timber-framed kit which caters for younger children. The equipment here looks somewhat drab and some of it is not in the best condition. The Town Council wishes to improve the western end of the play area by removing the old equipment and installing new exciting facilities that will appeal to young children and their parents.

The area in question is approximately 440m² and is shown outlined in red below:



Specification:

Corsham Town Council invites quotes for the following works:

1) The removal of the following items:

- Timber-framed swings and associated surfacing.
- Timber-framed rope bridge and associated stepping stones.
- Timber beam trail, associated stepping stones and timber-framed chain bridge.
- Metal-framed rope climber and associated wooden stepping stone.
- Metal climbing frame.
- Elephant springer.

Photos of each of these pieces of equipment are appended to the end of this document.

The Town Council will retain all timber frames, swing chains, the elephant springer and all rubber stepping-stones.

The contractor is expected to price in the removal and disposal of the wooden stepping stone, the metal framed rope climber, the metal climbing frame, existing wetpour surfacing, rotted posts, old postcrete and materials securing the existing equipment in place.

If the (wetpour) base layer under the swings is not needed in the new design, the contractor should price to remove it and restore a grass surface. It may be more economical to re-use the base layer, but that is at the contractor's discretion at the quotation stage.

2) To design, install and appropriately surface new play equipment at the western end of the play area.

The new design should cater mostly for younger children (approx. 3-7 years of age).

The layout and equipment should be interesting, fun and visually appealing and create a place where children want to go and where their parents want to take them.

The choice of materials is at the discretion of the contractor at the quotation stage, but the Town Council favours robust, metal equipment which entails less maintenance and ensures greater longevity of use.

On occasion the play area has been the scene of anti-social behaviour, so the proposed equipment needs to be reasonably resistant to the attention of vandals (surfaces from which it is easy to remove graffiti and equipment for which it is easy to source spare parts would be beneficial).

The number of pieces of equipment in the design is at the contractor's discretion. However, as we are asking for 6 pieces to be removed, we would anticipate putting in 4-8 new pieces.

All equipment must conform to the ROSPA Code of Good Practice for Play Areas and to the British and European Standard for Playground Equipment: BS EN 1176.

For each piece of equipment, the appropriate surfacing should be installed. The Council recently installed bonded mulch around the equipment at the eastern half of the site.

All surfacing must accord with BS 7188 and EN 1177.

More generally, the design should accord with BS EN 1176 with regard to minimum spaces around equipment and zones (spatial networks).

Site Visits:

Prospective contractors are strongly advised to undertake a site visit before submitting a proposal. Please contact James Whittleton (Head of Technical Services) to arrange a time/date: jwhittleton@corsham.gov.uk 07879 256215.

Submission of Tenders:

Tenders are to be sent by post or delivered by hand in an envelope clearly labelled "Tender – Meriton Play Area", addressed to:

Mr David Martin – Chief Executive
Corsham Town Hall
High Street
Corsham
Wiltshire, SN13 0EZ

Tenders should be received no later than **12.00 noon on Friday 9th April 2021.**

The submission must include:

- A proposal/design for the western end of the Meriton Play Area. Showing the pieces of equipment you propose to install, their proposed locations and any surfacing.
- As part of our assessment process, we intend to consult with users of the play area. For this we require a single A3 image of what the area will look like and the proposed equipment. It would be useful to have this image as a pdf or jpg as well.
- Technical specifications for all proposed pieces of equipment.
- Details (material, specific product/supplier, thickness, extent, edging and colour) of any proposed safety surfacing.
- Confirmation that the proposed design conforms to the ROSPA Code of Good Practice for Play Areas; that all proposed equipment conforms to BS EN 1176 and that all surfacing conforms to BS 1788 and EN 1177.
- An overall price for all the proposed work – the removal of existing equipment and surfacing, the installation of new equipment and surfacing.

All costs are to be included in this price. Corsham Town Council does not expect to incur (and will not pay) costs which could have been reasonably foreseen by the contractor. Costs such as the disposal of materials, erection of fencing, storage, security or provision of welfare facilities should all be factored into the overall price. The contractor will also be expected to make good any ground dug up or rutted as a result of the works.

- Warranty details for the works and warranty details for each piece of equipment and surfacing.

The Town Council does not have a fixed budget for the project, but estimates that tenders will be around £30,000.

Before Starting Work:

Before the commencement of works, the chosen contractor will be required to provide a method statement for the entirety of the works as well as a risk assessment (taking into consideration Covid-19).

The contractor will also need to provide evidence that they hold public liability insurance of £5 million minimum (and that this is valid for the duration of the works) before starting work at the site.

Selection:

Corsham Town Council does not bind itself to selecting the lowest quote. Instead, it will conduct an assessment having regard to:

- Overall cost.
- The quality of the proposed equipment – the extent to which the proposal might enhance the user experience.
- The durability of the proposed equipment and the ease of maintenance.

The Council will also have regard to the views of local residents expressed in the consultation process but will not be bound to selecting the most popular.

Corsham Town Council reserves the right not to award the contract if it feels that none of the proposals are suitable.

Corsham Town Council may reject any tender that does not supply the information asked for in the specification.

Timetable:

Tenders issued to shortlisted companies:	8 th March 2021.
Return date for Tenders:	12noon Friday 9 th April 2021.
Council assessment decision:	4 th May 2021.
Commencement of Contract:	10 th May 2021.
Completion of installation:	25 th June 2021.

Items to be Removed:

Timber-framed Swings and Surfacing:



Timber-framed Rope Bridge:



Timber Beam Trail, Stepping-stones and Timber-framed Chain Bridge:



Metal-framed Rope Climber and Timber Stepping-stone:



Metal Climbing Frame:



Elephant Springer:

