Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council

Invitation to tender

BASSINGBOURN CUM-KNEESWORTH

Quote Title: BKPC GRASS CUTTING

Quote Reference Number: BKPC-2025/2028

Closing date/time for submission of quotations: **Monday 16th December 2024 not later than 5.00pm**. No quotes will be accepted after this deadline. Quotations can be submitted earlier than the above date. All quotations received by the deadline will be opened on 17th December 2024.

Quotations should be submitted in a plain sealed envelope for the attention of the Parish Clerk to the address provided, marked with only the quote title and reference number.

OVERVIEW OF BASSINGBOURN-CUM-KNEESWORTH

Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth is in the South Cambridgeshire district of Cambridgeshire, England, 14 miles southwest of Cambridge and just north of Royston, Hertfordshire. Since the 1960s the parish contains the villages of Bassingbourn and Kneesworth.

Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council (hereafter BKPC) is responsible for the direct provision and management of village facilities, including services to the community, many of which are provided through contractors.

OUTLINE CONTRACT SCOPE AND CONTEXT

Prospective contractors must not contact councillors or staff to encourage or support their tender outside the prescribed process. If a contractor is found to have done this, they will be removed from the tender process.

BKPC reserves the right not to award any contract as a result of this tender and is not bound to accept the lowest bid. Tender bids will be treated as private and confidential. BKPC reserves the right to award the contract if only one bid is received.

BKPC reserves the right to publish the cost of the winning tender.

Any responses to queries raised by bidders will be included in a document entitled 'Additional information for bidders'. This will be found with the tender documentation in a tenders section of the Parish Council's website and will be updated regularly.

Invitation To Quote - KEY INFORMATION

Quotation No:	BKPC-2025/2028
Quotation Title:	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Grass Cutting
Quotation Availability date:	Monday 4 th November 2024
Quotation latest return date & Time:	Monday 16 th December 2024 not later than 5.00pm
	Tenders can be returned before this date
Quotation return address:	Parish Clerk
	The Old School Community Centre
	53 High Street
	Bassingbourn
	Herts
	SG8 5LD
Contact Officer (Proper Officer)	Mrs Natalie Mulvey (Interim Clerk)
Contact Officer Telephone:	parishclerk@bassingbournparishcouncil.gov.uk
Contact Officer E-mail:	07907 811435
Number of copies required:	(1)
Expected Tender Decision Date:	January 2025
Contract Start Date:	1 st March 2025

CONTENTS

Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council's requirements:

Section 1. Information for Bidders and Terms

This section contains information on how the bid will be assessed, together with BKPC contract terms and expectations. Bidders should read and accept these terms before bidding.

Section 2. Quotation, Bidder's Information and Declarations

This section details the information to be provided to describe the aspects of the bidder's organisation that are important in the evaluation of the bid.

Section 3. Schedule of Works Required, Methods of Work and Safety

This section contains the detailed specification of the work and requires the bidder to set out how the work is to be done (Method statements) and how safety is to be assured (Risk Assessments)

Section 4. Cost and Quality Competencies Information Sheet (Bid Return Form)

This section needs to be fully completed and returned for the bid to be accepted.

Section 1

Information for Bidders & Terms

BKPC is looking for a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to provide complete grounds maintenance for village areas, as specified in this Invitation to Tender, contract commencing on 1st March 2025.

The contract is for a 3-year term.

the tour please email the Parish Clerk.

BKPC requires a level of liability insurance to the value of £10,000,000. Bidders are required to confirm adherence to this level and enclose a copy of their insurance certificate at the time of bid submission. Failure to provide this evidence, may result the bid being rejected.

Submission and evaluation of quotations will be a single stage process.

Potential bidders may ask questions or seek clarification of the contract terms during the bidding period. Any questions or clarification needed should be put in writing to the Parish Clerk (parishclerk@bassingbournparishcouncil.gov.uk) and their questions will be answered in writing. It should be noted that questions and answers to those questions will be posted on the Parish Council's website. In addition, any potential bidder who wishes to take advantage of a tour of the village to include visiting areas within the specification are invited to meet an officer of the council and a councillor on Friday 15th November at 10am. To join

The contractor will complete and return the 'Bid Return Form' along with supporting information requested. Any omission in the detailed costs or supporting information required may result in the bid being rejected.

The evaluation scheme is described below. Bidders' responses to the method statements will be scored out of a possible maximum of 3 marks.

Depending on the questions the statements will be scored on either of the following bases: -

Scoring method A (SMA)

Scored 0 – Not answered or evidence submitted.

Score 1 – Answered and/or evidence submitted but does not meet the requirements.

Score 2 - Answered and/or evidence submitted partly meets the requirements.

Score 3 - Answered and/or evidence submitted meets or exceeds the requirements.

Scoring method B (SMB)

Score 0 - No

Score 1 - Yes

Scoring method C (SMC)

Score 1 - No

Score 0 - Yes

The price will carry 40% of the score. The lowest bid price will score full marks. The other offers will then receive scores expressed as an inverse proportion of the lowest price. The formula used will be lowest bid price/bidder's price) x 40 = bidder's price score.

Mrs N Mulvey, Interim Clerk to Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council Email: parishclerk@bassingbournparishcouncil.gov.uk - Telephone: 07907 811435

It should be emphasised that BKPC are not bound to accept the lowest price:

Evaluation Criteria	Percentage
Quality	60%
Of which,	
Risk assessments & method statements for all contract sections.	20%
H&S and staff competencies	10%
Certificates and Membership	5%
Additional services	10%
References	10%
Equalities	5%
Cost (completion of all parts of the cost schedule)	40%

The schedule in section 3 sets out tasks required by BKPC. These tasks have been agreed by BKPC and the successful contractor must follow the schedule without exception.

BKPC Councillors and officers will undertake regular and random inspections of the areas listed in schedule 3. If necessary, photographic records will be used to illustrate problems to Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council.

Failure of the contractor to comply with the contracted specification (unless agreed with BKPC in advance) shall be seen as contrary to the contract agreement and may/will result in the loss of the contract at any period during the contract. BKPC reserves the right to terminate the contract if it finds fault or non-compliance with the schedule of work or any other area of dissatisfaction.

By this is meant:

- a. Quality and standard of work
- b. Customer service
- c. Conduct of staff
- d. Any changes to those items listed below.
- e. The Parish Council does not tolerate any form of bullying or harassment (please refer to their Dignity at Work Policy)
- f. A period of 21 days will be given to enable the contractor to rectify any issues made known to the contractor by BKPC. If issues are not rectified, then 14 days' notice of cancellation of contract will be given in writing.

Monies paid to the contractor will only be paid on submission of a monthly invoice. The invoice will need to be accompanied by a detailed timesheet including dates and work completed in the month. BKPC has a 60-day settling of invoices policy, however every effort will be made to accommodate a 30-day time frame.

Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council does not expect contactors to exceed authorised work on a voluntary basis.

Expectations

BKPC expects the contractor to be professional, diligent, trustworthy and proactive in the execution of the contract. The contractor will always comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including Health & Safety laws.

The contractor will notify BKPC as soon as practicable of any health and safety incidents or material health and safety hazards which it becomes aware, and which relate to or arise in connection with the performance of this contract.

The contractor shall ensure that they have in place the necessary Public Liability Insurance and shall provide BKPC with a copy annually.

The contractor will ensure that all pathways are blown clean of grass cuttings.

Where relevant, contractors should carry out work in a way that respects the nesting season for birds.

The contractor must not obstruct entries or exits to resident's property, the public highway, driveways and access to sewers, fire hydrants etc.

If for any reason the contractor finds they are unable to fulfil the contract in any way at any part through the contract term, BKPC "reserves the right to terminate the contract forthwith and seek a new contractor at no additional costs to BKPC. (Monies will only be paid to the contractor for work done and not for the remaining contract period).

BKPC will not be liable for any monetary loss by the contractor under any circumstances.

An inspection of the areas to be cut and/or maintained will take place before the contract is issued to which the successful contractor will be invited. This inspection is to ensure that the contractor fully understands the contract scope and both contractor and BKPC agree that any existing damage to stock, plants or village fabric is understood and documented clearly and not the fault of either the contractor or BKPC. Non-attendance to meet or failure to agree the inventory process will see the contract null and void. BKPC will then look for a new contractor. By default, the contractor at fault will be excluded from bidding.

BKPC reserves the right to levy payment for reimbursement against the contractor, if it is found that the contractor or any employee of the contractor are found to have caused damage or loss to any of the tree stocks, planting etc. or the Village 'fabric', this includes tree guards, tree supports, fencing, gates, low level planting. This reimbursement will be payable immediately or the damage made good (to the satisfaction of BKPC) whichever is the most convenient to BKPC. BKPC reserves the right to withhold any monies due to the contractor in lieu of damage not reimbursed.

Should additional areas of work be identified during the life of the contract these will be separately negotiated.

The parish council and contractor are and shall remain independent with respect to each other. No employment or other relationship which would impose liability on the council shall be created or implied. Neither party shall have the power to bind the other party or create any obligation or responsibility on behalf or in the name of the other party.

Section 2

Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council - Quotation & Contractor Information

To: Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council The Old School Community Centre 53 High Street Bassingbourn SG8 5LD United Kingdom

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Company name:	
Contact name:	
Date:	
Company address:	
Telephone no:	
Email:	

To compare quotes from different bidders, you are required to complete the bid return form and provide supporting information requested.

The period of the contract annually eight months of the year March to October. If successful, you will submit monthly invoices that reflect one eighth of the total bid price entered in the box below. This will commit you to carrying out the maintenance to the frequency standards as set out in the bid document.

QUOTATION FOR: BKPC-2025/2028

I/ We the undersigned, having examined the specifications and schedule of works set out in Section 3 are willing to execute the whole of the work required, based on estimated visit frequencies in this document, for the sum of:

£	The breakdown of this quotation has been completed on the BKPC-2025-	
	2028 bid return form.	

Declaration and Contractor Quotation Approval

I / We understand that:

- (a) This bid shall be returned in a plain sealed envelope for the attention of the Parish Clerk to the address provided only marked with the quote title and reference number not later than 5.00pm Monday 16th December 2024.
- (b) We accept the information and conditions set out in Section 1 of this document.
- (c) We accept the terms as set out above, namely that the quotation value is derived from individual job-area visit costings and estimated visit frequencies defined in Section 3 of this document.

Mrs N Mulvey, Interim Clerk to Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council Email: parishclerk@bassingbournparishcouncil.gov.uk - Telephone: 07907 811435

- (d) Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council will not necessarily accept the lowest or any quotation, and no allowance or payment will be made for participation in the bidding process. All costs arising during the preparation of the quotation are to be borne by the bidder.
- (e) We have examined and agree to the quotation, have submitted only one bid and agree to the contract terms.
- (f) We understand that is our responsibility to ensure that the contract documents have been completed correctly.
- (g) This is not an order. If your quotation is accepted, an official purchase order will be raised. The order will be subject to the terms and conditions.

Authorised signatory of the contractor: -

Signature:	
Name & position:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Section 3Specifications & schedule of works required

Contract reference:	BKPC 01 (BKPC-2025/2028)
Contract title:	Verge cutting (between the village speed limits)
Contract:	To maintain the grass verges in a tidy condition along specified roads within the 30-mph
	speed limit area of Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth.
Scope:	To maintain the grass verges on the specified lengths of Fen Road, Guise Lane, North End
	(to include corner between the Fillance and North End), Mill Lane, Church Close, Brook
	Road, South End, High Street, Spring Lane, The Causeway, Old North Road and Chestnut
	Lane within the 30-mph speed limit area of Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth.
	Definitive maps are held by the Clerk to the Parish Council and are available for inspection.
	(For information the Cambridgeshire County Council cut the remainder)

- 1. To maintain the grass verges in a tidy condition in the areas outlined in the scope as indicated above. Where grassed areas are cut by residents the contractor will not be required to cut these areas.
- 2. The Parish Council arranges the cutting of the verges as an agent of Cambridgeshire County Council. The work and the scope of work are conditional upon the agency agreement with the County Council.
- 3. Area to be maintained and cut a maximum of <u>6x per</u> year according to the growth requirements. In general, all grass cutting shall be carried out from March to October.
- 4. The contractor must take every care to prevent mowing identifiable clumps or drifts of naturalising spring bulbs until six weeks after the bulbs have flowered, or other agreed date subject to prevailing weather conditions.
- 5. The contractor must also ensure that pavements are left clear of debris.
- 6. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

BKPC 01 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional cut.		
Contract cost for visits March to October:	£	

Additional cost per visit:	£
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Contract reference:	BKPC 02 (BKPC-2025/2028)	
Contract title:	The Cemetery	
Contract:	To maintain the areas within the cemetery (excluding the buildings), The Causeway,	
	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth.	
Scope:	To maintain the grassed areas around all the graves and surrounding areas within the	
	cemetery boundary.	

- 1. To maintain the sucker growth on trees along the avenue, the avenue drive to a height of 2.4 metres high from the ground. To maintain all shrubs within the cemetery area, including the hedge fronting The Causeway. It is anticipated this work would be undertaken **at least 4 times** a year.
- 2. To cut back hedges on the east, west and north boundaries of the cemetery to a height of 2.3 metres removing all debris, **on an annual basis**.
- 3. To maintain the grass in a tidy condition a maximum of 10 cuts from March to October.
- 4. To notify the Clerk immediately on any health and safety issues relating to the memorials or grave areas. BKPC does not expect the grounds maintenance company to move memorials without first obtaining the authorisation of the Clerk.
- 5. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

BKPC 02 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional cut.	
Contract cost for visits March to October:	£
Additional cost per visit item 1 (Sucker growth & shrubs):	£
Additional cost per visit item 2 (hedges):	£
Additional cost per visit item 3 (grass):	£

Contract reference:	BKPC 03 (BKPC-2025/2028)		
Contract title:	The Designated Village Footpaths, Byways and Bridle Ways – Contractors Responsibility		
Contract:	The maintenance of the Designated Village Footpaths, Byways and Bridle Ways in the parish of Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth		
	- T	•	<u>es</u> – Footpaths <u>1.5 metres</u> , Bridleways <u>3 metres</u> , Bye
		•	s <u>1 metre</u> , Bridleways <u>2 metres</u> , Bye Ways <u>3 metres</u>)
Scope:	To maint	ain the designated footpaths	outlined below to the required legal width:
	i.	Footpath 2 (350 metres)	From Fen Road by the side of the farm
	ii.	Footpaths 4 & 5 (1015 metres)	From Brook Road bridge down Mill Lane/ Shedbury Lane end
	iii.	Footpath 6 (1120 metres)	'Backside' High Street to Guise Lane
	iv.	Footpath 9 (180 metres)	Section of footpath from the Southern Boundary of the Recreation Ground across the land known as The Rouses to Footpath 11
	iv.	Footpath 7 (310 metres)	Saddleback Lane to footpath 6
	v.	Footpath 11 (490 metres)	From South End to Spring Lane
	vi.	Footpath 12 (780 metres)	Section of footpath from benchmark on electricity distribution pole at National Grid Reference
			TL 3411 4358 for a distance of 390 metres in a generally Northerly direction and then in a Westerly direction to Spring Lane
	Vii	Footpath Allotments	Footpath along the boundary of the allotments Saddleback Lane

- 1. To maintain the grass and **overhanging shrubs** along these paths to the required width and length. Debris to be removed. (footpaths to be maintained at least 1.5 m wide and please refer to the minimum widths as above for remainder)
- 2. The above work to be carried out 4 times from March to October.
- 3. The contractor must take every care to prevent mowing identifiable clumps or drifts of naturalising spring bulbs until six weeks after the bulbs have flowered, or other agreed date subject to prevailing weather conditions.
- 4. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

BKPC 03 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional cut.		
Contract cost for visits March to October: £		

Additional cost per visit:	f

Contract reference:	BKPC 04 (BKPC-2025/2028)	
Contract title:	Village Maintenance: The Main Village Green, the grass triangle at the entrance to Elm Tree	
	Drive, the Small Green opposite the Old School House, the War Memorial surrounds, and	
	the Churchyard	
Contract:	To maintain the grass and grass verges, hedges and shrubs the areas indicated in the Scope.	
Scope:	To maintain the grass and grass verges, hedges and shrubs in a tidy condition in the	
	following areas:	
	i. The main Village green, Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	
	ii. The small Village Green by the stream opposite the Old School House, the High Street, Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	
	iii. The grass triangle at the junction of The Causeway and Elm Tree Drive (shown on title CB7463)	
	iv. The War Memorial surrounds and War Memorial Green	
	v. The churchyard of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Church, Bassingbourn-cum- Kneesworth	
	vi. Doctors' triangle off Spring Lane.	

- 1. To maintain the grass, verges, hedges and shrubs in a tidy condition in the areas <u>specified in the scope</u> as indicated above.
- 2. All litter, dead leaves, weeds and other debris and vegetation are to be removed from hedge bases and taken to an authorised tip on each occasion that the hedge is cut.
- 3. Maintenance in the other specified areas to be carried out a fortnightly between March & October to maintain good order and tidiness.
- 4. The War Memorial surrounds to be tidied additionally in preparation for the Remembrance Day service.
- 5. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

BKPC 04 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional visit.	
Contract cost for visits March to October: £	
Additional cost per visit:	f

Contract reference:	BKPC 05 (BKPC-2025/2028)
Contract title:	The Willmott Recreation Ground
Contract:	To maintain the Willmott Recreation Ground, South End, Bassingbourn
Scope:	Grass cutting
	To cut the grass within the Recreation Ground and the Rouses extension.
	Peripheral Areas and Play Area
	To strim the perimeter of the recreation ground including the area to the side of Rivendell
	House and all areas inaccessible to the tractor. To cut the grass within and around the Play
	Area. To collect and dispose of litter within the Recreation Ground area and within the Play
	Area.

Detailed Outline of Work (Grass cutting):

- 1. To cut the grass within the recreation ground and the pathway through the Rouses extension. To be carried out fortnightly during the March to October and cricket pitch weekly between May and September.
- 2. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.
- 3. Prior to grass cutting the contractor will be expected to clear all areas of rubbish/litter, irrespective of its source, which should be placed in the litter bins provided or taken off-site to an authorised tip if too large
- 4. The contractor should flatten molehills present prior to mowing.

Detailed Outline of Work (Peripheral Areas and Play Area):

- 1. To cut the grass within the fenced play area. To strim or cut the grass around the entire perimeter of the recreation ground, including the area to the side of Rivendell House. To strim or cut the grass around trees, bins, benches, the pavilion, wooden bollards and any other area that cannot be accessed by other methods. To be carried out fortnightly during March to October.
- 2. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

Detailed Outline of Work (Bordering Hedge)

- 1. To maintain the hedge bordering the western edge of the recreation ground along South End. This will require at least three cuts per annum and three rubbish and weeding sessions. All debris to be removed from site. (This hedge had overgrown to include the streetlight on the pavement side, and the rubbish bin on the recreation ground side of hedge. BKPC wish to reduce the width gradually)
- 2. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

BKPC 04 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional visit.		
Contract cost for visits March to October: £		

Additional cost per visit (recreational ground full cut):	£
Additional cost per visit (cricket pitch only):	£
Additional cost per visit (Peripheral and Play Areas):	£
Additional cost per visit (Bordering Hedge)	£

Contract reference:	BKPC 06 (BKPC-2025/2028)	
Contract title:	Open Space: Elbourn Way, Fortune Way, and Park Close Recreation Grounds	
Contract:	To maintain the grass, shrubs and trees in the Elbourn Way, Fortune Way and Park Close Recreation ground areas, Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth.	
Scope:	 i. Elbourn Way recreation ground both outside and inside the play areas. ii. Fortune Way recreation ground both outside and inside the play areas. iii. Park Close recreation ground both outside and inside the play areas. iv. Trees at Rear of Elbourn Way. v. Kefford Close. 	

- 1. To cut the grass within the boundaries of the designated areas and within the fenced play area. Areas to be maintained and cut fortnightly from March to October.
- 2. Spray safety surfaces and play equipment railings twice per year.
- 3. To maintain the boundary hedges within the designated areas annually, removing debris.

BKPC 06 (BKPC-2025/2028) - Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional visit

4. Any cuts required outside this period will be at an additional charge, following instruction and formal approval by the Parish Council.

The contract water to october and charge for additional visit.	
Contract cost for visits March to October:	£
Additional cost per visit (Grass Cutting):	£
Additional cost per visit (Boundary	£
Hedges):	

Contract reference:	BKPC 07 (BKPC-2025/2028)	
Contract title:	Conservation Areas	
Contract:	To maintain the conservation areas in the village.	
Scope:	i. Between the War Memorial and in line with the rear entrance of No. 10 North End ii. Within the Churchyard as defined	

- 1. The areas to be cut and cleared twice between March and October. First cut in March and second in August.
- 2. At the war memorial there should be a metre edge around the area.

BKPC 07 (BKPC-2025/2028) – Cost per contract March to October and charge for additional visit.		
Contract cost for visits March to October: £		

Additional cost per visit:	£
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