



NORTHAW & CUFFLEY PARISH COUNCIL

7 Maynard Place, Cuffley, Herts, EN6 4JA
01707 875825

MEETING	Full Council
MEETING DATE	2 nd October 2024
SUBJECT	Home Wood – Path Maintenance
AGENDA ITEM NO.	2024/25 Item 36f
REPORT BY	Sally Griffiths, Office Manager, Northaw and Cuffley Parish Council

01 BACKGROUND:

Following the receipt of the WHBC E2 improvement grant, £2,980.00 of this has already been spent on creating the open ride in the centre of the wood, as recommended by HMWT, and other maintenance projects, leaving £3,020.00 to be spent on improvements at this location.

One of the projects that we had hoped to carry out using this grant was the replacement of the footbridge over the ditch at the Carbon Hill entrance to the wood. The current bridge is rotting and is becoming unsafe for use and, for health and safety reasons, additionally a hand rail is required that could not be fitted to the existing structure.



We have therefore reached out to various companies to get costs for a suitable replacement.



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02 TENDER RESPONSES:

All responses received are noted in order of receipt – all pricing shown are exclusive of VAT.

1 – Quote A - Local general contractor:

- To dismantle old damaged bridge discussed (nearest to Carbone Hill) and remove waste.
- To supply and construct new wooden bridge adding wooden handrail.

At a cost of **£1,980.00 +VAT.**

(They do not offer any warranty on this item “Unfortunately we would not be able to offer warranty on the construction due to the bridge being in a public place with possibilities of vandalism.”)

For the following 2 quotes there is an additional charge of £1,680.00 +VAT for a separate contractor to:

- *Dismantle old damaged bridge discussed (nearest to Carbone Hill) and remove waste.*
- *Install concrete plinths each side of the bridge for new bridge to be attached to.*
- *Construct new bridge, supplied separately.*

2 – Quote B – Online Outdoor Furniture Retailer (supply only):

- 4.21m x 0.78m Rambler High Rail would be: **Stained: £1,670.00 / Unstained: £1,600.00**

(Cost includes VAT and delivery, Cost does not include construction of abutments required for installation, installation, or removal of the existing bridge, **see above for additional cost of £1,680.00 + VAT.**

They do not include a formal warranty on this item “However if you have any issues we are always at the end of the phone.”.)



Rambler High Rail Bridge to the right, image showing unstained and stained wood



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3 – Quote C – Commercial bridge manufacturer (supply only):

- To design the superstructure, manufacture & deliver to site in component form **£3,165 + VAT**

*(Cost does not include construction of abutments required for installation, installation, or removal of the existing bridge, see above for **additional cost of £1,680.00 + VAT**).*

We can manufacture a timber bridge and deliver it in component form.

I have given an outline specification below and budget price. You would need to have the abutments designed and constructed by others and I have attached a typical detail of the type required. I hope this helps with your budgets.

General Specification

<i>Overall Length :</i>	<i>4.5m</i>
<i>Clear width between parapets :</i>	<i>0.8m</i>
<i>Design live load :</i>	<i>5kN/m²</i>
<i>Structural form :</i>	<i>Douglas Fir beams Flat (not cambered)</i>
<i>Parapet :</i>	<i>European redwood Type B (post and 3 rail) – All edges have a 6mm radius round over - Height 1.15m</i>
<i>Deck :</i>	<i>European redwood deck planks factory treated with the following non-slip system - Hi-Grip Excel (two strips of resin/bauxite inserted into grooves of deck)</i>
<i>Protective system :</i>	<i>All softwood to be vacuum/pressure treated in accordance with BS EN 351-1 for Hazard Class 4 as defined in BSEN 335-1 for a desired service life of 25 years with preservative tested in accordance with BS EN 599-1</i>
<i>Additional items :</i>	<i>Holding down bolts and bearings included A parts list, assembly drawing & assembly instructions will be provided. All fixings are included All components are pre-drilled for quick and easy assembly on site</i>

4 – Quote D – Countryside access specialist:

We can offer the following options:

	Supplied in kit form Ex works	Supplied delivered and installed
Compliant softwood bridge	£4,100	£5,500
Contractor Bridge (not compliant)	£3,100	£4,500

Your bridge would be 5m long and have an effective width of 1.2 m. It would have a Post and Rail Parapet 1150mm high.



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In order to contain the cost we propose to use tropical hardwood bearer retained by driven spikes for the bridge to rest on rather than concrete foundations. This would also protect the tree roots on the site. Due to the increased depth compared to the existing crossing there would be a small step at each end. This would not comply with DDA. Shipping rates are very volatile at present and we cannot supply reliable delivery cost for kit. An indicative cost of £750 is suggested, TBC if you place an order.

03 RECOMMENDATION REQUIRED FROM COUNCIL:

To resolve that the remaining grant monies to be spent on renewing the wooden footbridge at the entrance to Home Wood. Any monies remaining from the grant would be spent on improving the condition of the footpaths prior to winter. Any additional monies required for the bridge installation would have to come from reserves.

Implications (completed by the Clerk)	
Staffing Implications	Co-ordination, arrangement of works and overseeing, will be completed in normal working hours
Council objectives	Meets objectives
Equalities and human rights	There are no equality or human rights issues
Crime & Disorder	Crime and disorder have been considered
Biodiversity	There are no biodiversity issues
Financial	Monies would be from a designated grant from WHBC. £2,100 remains from the grant awarded.
Legal	Local Government Act 1894, Section 8 (i) to execute any works (including works of maintenance or improvement) incidental to or consequential on the exercise of any of the foregoing powers, or in relation to any parish property, not being property relating to affairs of the church or held for an ecclesiastical charity; and (k) to contribute towards the expense of doing any of the things above mentioned, or to agree or combine with any other parish council to do or contribute towards the expense of doing any of the things above mentioned.
Risk Management	Material risks exist and these will be assessed prior to works carried out. Insurances and all other documents from contractors will be retained