



**CLERK'S REPORT NO. 2020-031
GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT 2021-2022**

To all JPC Officers

By far the highest expenditure for the JPC, excluding grants, is the contractual costs for grass cutting, averaging £15K per annum. Obviously, we can reclaim the VAT which is of the order of £3K but this is still a significant amount, some 8% of the precept.

We have been given very dedicated service by our current contractor, Mr Jon Vale, but we owe it to our residents to get the best possible deal financially, whilst keeping Riverlands and other areas in very good order.

The PayBack team have been steadily growing in their involvement over and above the churchyard project, and it is a combination of their efforts, along with an economically pitched contractor that must now be the aim of the JPC to provide added value.

Local contractors capable of such an undertaking are few, and sadly I have had to turn away aspiring young people who wanted the work broken down into smaller sections.

I have THREE main contenders for the work, Jon Vale, of course will be given the opportunity to tender if he wishes to, and I have selected two others:

David Davies
Long Acres Gardens
07775 425004 / 01564 793993
david@longacresgardens.co.uk

Thomas Spencer
CDFM Group
0121 393 4738
Birmingham
Thomas.spencer@cdfmgroup.co.uk
cdfmgroup.co.uk

All three will be asked to tender, subject to a resolution in favour of doing so, by the JPC. The two new contenders will be invited to a 'walk-and-talk' tour around the sites.

It is hoped that all will have tendered in time for our November Meeting, Monday 16th November in readiness for taking up their duties no later than 31st March 2021, or sooner should there be a need to do so.

This important issue is listed under Item 10.00 of the agenda for the 19th and the Clerk will take your instructions on going forward. This document is posted on the website in support of the agenda.

Ray Evans Clerk B&HJPC