

## BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL

20 High Street, Brackley, Northants NN13 7DS

Telephone: (01280) 702441

[www.brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk](http://www.brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk)

[town.clerk@brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk)

To: Cllrs Baker, Barrie, Butler, Cartmell, Judd, Kew, Langford, Sharps, Thompson, Tiller, E Wiltshire, Young.

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** to be held on **Monday 20 December 2021**, following Planning & General Works Committee at Brackley Town Hall, Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB.

Residents are very welcome to ask questions or speak to Councillors at the start of the meeting. Please email [town.clerk@brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk) if you require further assistance.

15 December 2021



Town Clerk

### AGENDA

#### *Members of the press and public are invited to attend*

**312/21 Apologies for absence**

Members are asked to receive and approve apologies.

**313/21 Declaration of interest**

Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda, **and the nature of that interest**, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and Brackley Town Council's Code of Conduct.

**314/21 Public participation**

This section of the meeting gives members of the public who are present an opportunity to speak. You may speak on any item which appears on the agenda for this evening's meeting. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the Chairman of the meeting.

**315/21 Approval of minutes**

Members are asked to receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 15 November 2021.

**316/21 Grounds Update – attached**

Members are asked to note the Grounds update report attached.

**317/21 Green Flag Award – report attached**

A report is attached that gives members information on the Green Flag Award for St James Lake.

Members instruction is requested.

**318/21 Purchase of new Tractor – report attached**

To provide Councillors an opportunity at the purchase of a new tractor and mower to meet the growing demands of Brackley Town Council.

**Recommendation:** To purchase a Kubota 75 hp tractor with power loader fitted with 4in1 bucket and rear weight.

**319/21 Countryside Charity – report attached**

Report attached to give information on the countryside charity expression of interest for grant funding for restoration and planting of hedgerows.

Members instruction is requested.

**320/21 Matters for Information**

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Minutes of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** held on **Monday 15 November** at Brackley Town Hall, Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB.

Present: Cllrs Baker, Barrie, Cartmell, Judd, Kew, Langford, Sharps, Tiller, E Wiltshire, Young.

Officer: Deputy Town Clerk (K Hale)

**270/21 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Butler and Thompson

**271/21 Declaration of interest**

None.

**272/21 Public participation**

None.

**273/21 Approval of minutes**

On the proposition of Cllr Baker, it was **RESOLVED** to:

approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 18 October 2021.

**274/21 Matters for Information or Discussion**

Green Flag Award Report to next meeting.

Red Lion at Evenley have put a notice up advertising Christmas Trees on Buckingham Road.

Meeting closed at 19:20

Signed:

Dated:



## Grounds update December 2021

### Mowing

The mowing season has now ended for this year. It has not been a great year on the mowing contract with a number of meetings held with the contract manager regarding the quality of cutting, amount of clipping residue and general care and attention the contractors gave to Brackley's grass.

### Open Spaces

Our open spaces have seen huge usage this year with large amounts of rubbish placed in bins and an increase of dog waste and Tikspac usage. Several additional dog waste bins have been added to keep up with demand.

A large amount of works has been carried out on our existing tree stock. This is ongoing to keep them healthy which is critical given the climate change challenges.

Additional wild flower areas have been added at St James Lake and Swift Way with more planned for next year. This has been done "in-house" rather than using contractors.

2 play areas have been resurfaced this year.

1 redundant play area has been removed and replaced by one of the wild flower areas, again carried out in house.

Works are still ongoing to the balance ponds on the Fox Hill development which should be ready for handover in spring 2022.

Linden homes are making progress on the Carpenters Place open space but slowly. The area is certainly improving and hopefully will soon be ready to be handed over.

We have a number of young trees and hedging plants to be planted again this season in various locations around the Town.

Thought needs to be given to "rewilding" or leaving the grass longer in some locations within our open spaces with stock to assist with climate change and bio diversity. Some margins around the open spaces have been left uncut this season but consideration needs to be given to a few larger areas.

The Queens Canopy project is looking for Towns to plant trees and perhaps an avenue of trees to commemorate the queen's jubilee The Lindens open space would be a possible area for an avenue of trees.

Work with Brackley Wildlife Trust is ongoing to improve our biodiversity further.

The community orchard in Tudor Open Space planted almost 2 years ago is establishing well, thought might be given to another orchard elsewhere.

Large amounts of wood chip have been place on pathways around the town which has been well received not only does this improve access to our paths and open spaces it also offers increased habitat for some wildlife.

### **School/Youth Engagement**

We have been into Bracken Lea`s school to talk about our work and to explain the planting trees from seed. This has been well received and we are doing an assembly at The Radstone in January.

Magdalen College School gardening club are also growing trees from seed for us.

The Brackley cub pack have been taking care of the trees they planted in Rose Open Space last year I have worked with them on a number of evenings during the summer on this project.

### **Cemetery**

Our cemetery is now being solely maintained by our grounds team and the larger area is now mown in house the new mower which has also speeded up the grass cutting at the cemetery.

**BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee  
Monday 20 December 2021**

**Purpose of report:** To give information on the Green Flag Award for St James Lake

**Recommendation:** To seek members' instruction on whether to investigate this further.

**Main issues and considerations:**

The existing lease with Anglian Water is until 2029. We are expected to get an extension. We would also need to ask their permission to proceed with the application for the award.

The criteria for the award are:

**1. A Welcoming Place**

Welcome  
Good and Safe Access  
Signage  
Equal Access for All

**2. Healthy, Safe and Secure**

Appropriate Provision of Quality Facilities and Activities  
Safe Equipment and Facilities  
Personal Security  
Control of Dogs/Dog Fouling

**3. Well Maintained and Clean**

Litter and Waste Management  
Horticultural Maintenance  
Arboricultural Maintenance  
Building and Infrastructure Maintenance  
Equipment Maintenance

**4. Environmental Management**

Managing Environmental Impact  
Waste Minimisation  
Chemical Use  
Peat Use  
Climate Change Adoption Strategies

**5. Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage**

Management of Natural Features, Wild Fauna and Flora  
Conservation of Landscape Features  
Conservation of Buildings and Structures

**6. Community Involvement**

Community Involvement in Management and Development  
Appropriate Provision for Community

**7. Marketing and Communication**

Marketing and Promotion  
Appropriate Information Channels  
Appropriate Educational and Interpretational Information

## **8. Implementation of Management Plan**

Some of the criteria is quite straight forward and we have in place already. However, to complete the submission, there is a lot of work to be done particularly with the community involvement criteria and writing a management plan.

Further investigation can be carried out following members' instruction.

### **Financial Implication:**

To be researched and regular reports will be submitted if Members wish to proceed.

### **Staffing Implication:**

Staff hours needed to investigate each criteria, write the management plan and carry out research. Difficult to quantify at the moment but would be significant.

### **Author:**

Kathy Hale



**BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Direct Responsibilities and Finance & Policy Committee**  
**Monday 20 December**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To provide Councillors an opportunity to look at the purchase of a new tractor and mower to meet the growing demands of Brackley Town Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To purchase a Kubota 75 hp tractor with power loader fitted with 4in1 bucket and rear weight

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

Extensive research has been carried out by the Operations Manager over the last 2 ½ years into our working practices along with current and future workloads. The council took delivery of a larger tractor in summer 2020 to run alongside the existing tractor. As a result of this, we have managed to improve the efficiency of the grounds team and stave off the requirement for an additional member of staff.

For the past 12 months the older tractor (15 years old) has started to require high levels of maintenance which impacts both as a cost and downtime and we are also experiencing challenges in getting spare parts due to its age. The tractor currently has a part exchange value of £7500 however, if we reach the point where parts cannot be sourced this value will be hugely reduced along with a large amount of downtime. Currently new orders for replacements can take many months from order to delivery.

The proposal is to purchase a Kubota 75 hp tractor with power loader fitted with 4in1 bucket and rear weight see attached quotations.

The benefit of having this type of tractor and equipment is:

- It is larger and more powerful so equipment can grow with the work load
- The tractor has a higher road speed thus improving efficiency
- The tractor is fitted with a passenger seat useful for carrying an extra member of the team and training.
- It would improve flexibility of the team.
- Carries a 5-year warranty.
- We will have more and more "d" cut mowing with the new areas we have and are taking over.
- A cleaner more efficient engine producing less emissions

Having studied the various tractors that would suit our needs this is the tractor that has come out as the best option both for price, quality and back up.

The supplier is a local company who we already deal with and offers excellent value for money and back up.

## **Agenda Item: 318/21**

It can also be argued that the new tractor is for the newly acquired areas those using "S106" funds

Investigations have been carried out to find a used tractor but the size of tractor required are not readily available in good condition.

Unfortunately, there is currently no option for electric or hydrogen powered machines of this type nor likely to be in the short to medium term.

Quotes have been sought 3 suppliers with a detailed specification sent to suppliers (attached).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

c.£39,000 + VAT (this includes a negotiated discount year warranty and the part exchange allowance).

S106 funding to be used.

### **AUTHOR**

Mark Stopps  
Operations Manager



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web site: www.georgebrowns.co.uk

Agricultural web site: www.georgebrownsagri.co.uk

*Services in all leading makes of agricultural machinery with parts from the most reliable suppliers*

Ref SC21092

QUOTATION

1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Mark Stopps  
 Brackley Town Council

Seb Cooke  
 George Browns Ltd  
 07787 584996

Dear Mark,

Following your interest in the Kubota M4 tractor, it gives me great pleasure to forward you the following quotation for your consideration: -

**KUBOTA M4073 36/36 Cab Tractor**

Specification To Include-

- 74hp 4 cylinder Kubota Turbo Diesel Engine tier 5
- Nokian TRI 2 Tyres front and rear c/w Wheels
- Air conditioning
- 3-Range synchronised multi stage transmission (36F/36R)
- 4wd with Diff Lock
- Mechanical Pick-up Hitch
- Electro Hydraulic Shuttle
- 540/540E PTO
- 2 Auxiliary Valves
- Deluxe Air-ride Seat
- Beacon and worklights
- Datatag
- 90 litre fuel tank
- 2500kg rear lift capacity
- Rear Wiper kit
- Rear Defogger Kit
- Instructor Seat
- Tool Box
- 40kph
- Road Registration and Number plate
- KUBOTA SHOCKLESS RIDE for loader
- LA1365 Self Levelling FRONT LOADER C/W 5' LWC 4 in 1 Bucket
- 3rd Service hydraulics for loader



Retail Price £53507.00

Less Part Exchange Allowance & Browns Purchase Discount £15562.00

**Balance To Pay £37945.00**

**Optional 5 Year (2000hour) extended warranty-** This will be supplied Free of charge as goodwill.

Kubota Rear Counterweight 600kg £695.00

Continued....

Directors: C.B.Brown A.P.Brown R.W.G.Brown

Registered in England No. 340609 E.&O.I.

Part Exchange Details-

Used Massey Ferguson 1547 year 2006. Approx 5300 hours c/w Lewis Loader and Bucket

**Value            £7500.00**

This quotation is valid for 31 days. The above prices are **plus VAT** at rate ruling. Delivery dates are based on information received from the manufacturer and no liability can be accepted for any delays.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

*Seb Cooke*

**Branch Manager & Area Sales Manager**



## Quote

Prepared for:  
Brackley Town Council



Picture for indication only

# FAROL

Prepared by: **PETER HELPS**  
Turf

Business Phone: 01844 397509

Mobile Phone: 07584 701131

Email: [helpspeter@farol.co.uk](mailto:helpspeter@farol.co.uk)

## Quote Summary

Valid until: 15/09/2021

**Prepared for:**  
Brackley Town Council  
Mark Stopps

**Prepared by:**  
PETER HELPS  
Milton Common

Business Phone: 01844 397509  
Mobile Phone: 07584 701131  
Email: helpspeter@farol.co.uk

Products & Services	Unit Retail Price	Qty.	VAT	Total Price
John Deere 5075E tractor	51,664.00 £	x1	20.00 %	38,700.00 £
John Deere H240 loader	8,197.00 £	x1	20.00 %	6,735.00 £
HME wp000953 4in1 bucket 2m	3,495.00 £	x1	20.00 %	3,160.00 £
Brackley TC tyre option	3,000.00 £	x1	20.00 %	3,000.00 £
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>51,595.00 £</b>

**Total Products & Services** 51,595.00 £

**Balance to Pay** 61,595.00 £

**Balance to Pay inc. VAT** 61,914.00 £

**Deal Comments:**  
Please scroll down for specifications quoted;







**BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee  
Monday 20 December 2021**

**Purpose of report:** To give information on the countryside charity expression of interest for grant funding for restoration and planting of hedgerows

**Recommendation:** To seek members' instruction on whether to express interest in this project.

**Main issues and considerations:**

As part of the Queens Canopy initiative Brackley Town Council have been approached to see if there is any interest in restoration and planting of hedgerows.

Brackley Town Council has a number of hedges which could be restored or area`s where new hedges could be planted.

We have in the past couple of years laid a hedge in Tudor Park and will be laying another off Humphries drive.

We could do more hedge restoration but this can be costly in time and materials so funding would help to achieve more hedge works.

We could work with the community to get volunteers trained to help with restoration and planting.

**Financial Implication:**

To be researched following expression of interest

**Staffing Implication:**

Staff hours needed to investigate but initially this would be negligible.

**Author:**

Mark Stopps.

