



GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT FOR COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL April 2024 – March 2027



Postal Address: Highfield Park Visitor Centre, Hill End Lane AL4 0RA



Telephone: (01727) 825 314



Website: <https://colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk>



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GRASS CUTTING SPECIFICATION

Key Aims

- To provide a good quality service, within agreed levels, which is fit for the purpose for which it is intended
- To ensure each site is left tidy

Specification of Work

To cut the recreation areas individually noted and pictured as follows:

1	General Scope of work	The work involves cutting grass in public open spaces and amenity areas.
2	Plant and Transport	The Contractor is to provide all tools, plant and cutting machinery, together with fuel etc. The Parish Council will not be liable for any damage to contractor's equipment caused by carrying out these works. The contractor is to provide any equipment including transport which he requires to carry out the work
3	Areas to be cut Recreational & Common	Area 1 - Tyttenhanger Park Area 2 – Roestock Park Area 3 – Sleapshyde Park Area 4 – Sleapshyde Village Green Area 5 – Colney Heath Common
4	Period of work	1st April to 31st October each year of the contract
5	Dates of Cutting	6-15 cuts dependent by area. These dates may be varied by agreement with the Clerk having regard to growing conditions and any other material considerations. The Parish Council reserves the right to omit any cut or cuts and any area after year 1 of the contract at review times in October 2025 and October 2026.
6	Mowing	The Contractor shall keep all grass areas mown using pedestrian operated or ride on rotary or cylinder mowers or strimmers. Clippings may be left on and evenly distributed over the area. Areas where spring bulbs are planted should not be mowed until the bulbs have died back sufficiently. The grass on verges and other open spaces shall always be maintained at a height of between 15mm and 60mm.
7	Strimming	On alternate grass mowing dates, it will be necessary for the contractor to trim round trees, lampposts, road signs, waste bins, dog bins etc, at least 8 times per year.
8	Cleaning up after mowing	At the end of grass cutting operations, the contractor shall ensure that any grass cuttings or debris that have been distributed over roads, footpaths or other hard surfaces shall be swept up or blown on to grassed area

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9	Damage to Manhole Covers	Should a mower damage or move a manhole cover, then the contractor, where possible, is required to remedy the situation immediately. If this is not possible, the Contractor should inform the Clerk, who in turn will inform St Albans District Council or Hertfordshire County Council as appropriate. Any costs billed to the Parish for remedial work carried out by CHPC will be recharged to the contractor.
10	Access to areas	If access is blocked or unable to be obtained for any reason a photograph of the blockage should be emailed to the Parish Clerk detailing the failed visit.
11	Rectify	The contractor shall be required to recut, within 24 hours, any area deemed to be unsatisfactorily mown, at their expense.

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GRASS CUTTING AREAS **RECREATIONAL**

AREA 1 – TYTTENHANGER PARK (3 acres) (1.21 hectares)



Postal Address: Tyttenhanger Park, Accessway between 19/25 Tyttenhanger Green, AL4 0RN

Specified monthly cuts – 15 cuts per season

The area to be cut is the playing field behind Charles Morris Hall and the access strip between numbers 19 and 25 Tyttenhanger Green (see accessway in photo below). Any goal posts to be cut around. Access will be from Tyttenhanger Green, between numbers 19 and 25 via a pathway and entrance gate. The Contractor will be supplied with a key to the padlock.



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AREA 2 – ROESTOCK PARK (2.5 acres) (1.01 hectares)



Postal Address: Admirals Close, Colney Heath, AL4 0QD

Specified monthly cuts – 15 cuts per season

The area to be cut is the entire recreation area. All benches to be cut around.

Access will be via Admirals Close, the entire area is protected by bollards, there are three bollards which lower into the ground and a key will be provided.

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AREA 3 – SLEAPSHYDE PARK (0.77 acres) (0.31 hectares)



Postal Address: Sleapshyde Lane, AL4 0SD

Specified monthly cuts – 12 cuts per season

The area to be cut is the entire recreation area. All play equipment to be cut around including benches.

Access will be via roadway gate. Padlock on gate, key will be provided.

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AREA 4 – SLEAPSHYDE VILLAGE GREEN (18 sq. yds.) (Approx 15 sq. mtrs) AND POND (5 sq. mtrs)



Secondary site will have to be seen on foot by contractor.

Postal Address: Sleapshyde Lane, AL4 0SD

Specified monthly cuts – 6 cuts per season

The area to be cut is the small semi-circle of grass in the picture above and the pond area accessed by a gate (not pictured) towards the top right corner of the picture.

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GRASS CUTTING AREAS

Area 5 - COLNEY HEATH COMMON NATURE RESERVE THE WARREN FURZEFIELD PATH

PATHS & AMENITY GRASSLAND

5 per season in March/April, May/June, early September and October.

The Warren and Furzeffield (along the track by Warren Farm) include a small piece of land at the start of the path OUTSIDE of the fenced grazing area. The path goes along the Southern boundary then along the Coursers Road boundary, all outside of the fencing. There is a limited turning area.

Contractor should ensure that when cutting paths and amenity areas that low ferns and shrubs are removed by cutting into the edges, particularly along the paths which run alongside the woodland and by the side of 'The Rice' takeaway shop at the High Street entrance to the Common.

The areas are shown in the attached Map shaded in orange.

MAIN COMMON

1 x 3" cut in September, all arisings must be removed.

The Contractor can cut and bale the grass for collection and use at their discretion except for 6 bales which are to be collected and used by local residents.

(The contractor should liaise with the Clerk and Common Ranger concerning management of any ragwort). The areas are shown in the Map shaded in green

ALL AREAS

There are stands of scrub and woodland, shown in the Map shaded in blue, these will be managed over the next few years. Meanwhile the areas must be mown as close as possible to the scrub to prevent any further encroachment.

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