CONTRACT SPECIFICATION: PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

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1. Hanging Baskets in Neston and Little Neston

1.1 Preparation and supply of 29 x 16" (41cm) diameter self-watering hanging baskets to various locations in the Neston town centre and Little Neston areas as directed by the Council (current locations listed in appendix 1).

1.2 Baskets to be filled with sufficient and suitable plants throughout the year (two plantings per year - one in early spring/summer and a second in summer/early autumn). Baskets to be removed once the autumn flowers have finished and then stored by the contractor until hanging baskets are reinstated in early spring.

1.3 Removal and installation of all hanging baskets and the securing of them with black stainless steel banding threaded through the chain to the bracket or hanging basket tree (as appropriate).

1.4 Removal of all rubbish and debris.

1.5 Regular watering, feeding and maintenance of hanging baskets throughout the Term at an appropriate rate to maximise the quality and longevity of the display.

2. Hanging Baskets in Parkgate

2.1 Regular watering of three hanging baskets in Mostyn Square throughout the Term at an appropriate rate to maximise the quality and longevity of the display.

3. Neston Parish Church Planters

3.1 The supply of plants and the planting of six existing wooden planters.

3.2 The removal of all rubbish and debris.

3.3 Two plantings per year.

3.4 The regular watering, feeding and maintenance of planters throughout the Term at an appropriate rate to maximise the quality and longevity of the display.

4. Town Hall Planters

4.1 The supply of sufficient and suitable plants and the planting of three existing stone planters outside Neston Town Hall.

4.2 The removal of all rubbish and debris.

4.3 Two plantings per year.

4.4 The regular watering, feeding and maintenance of the planters throughout the Term at an appropriate rate to maximise the quality and longevity of the display.

5. Bushell Fountain Planters

5.1 The supply of sufficient and suitable plants and the planting of existing planters at the Bushell Fountain (two tier planting on four sides).

5.2 The removal of all rubbish and debris.

3.3 Two plantings per year.

5.4 The regular watering, feeding and maintenance of the planters throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependant on the prevailing weather conditions.

6. Mostyn Square Planters

6.1 Mostyn Square (by St Thomas' Church): the regular watering of two troughs throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependant on the prevailing weather conditions.

7. Middle Slipway Planter

7.1 Middle Slipway: the regular watering of one planter throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

8. Station Road Planter

8.1 Station Road (by Cricket Club): the regular watering of one planter throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

9. The Parade Planters

9.1 The Parade (by Mostyn House): the regular watering of two planters throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

10. School Lane Planters

10.1 School Lane (by the public toilets): the regular watering of two planters throughout the year at half the frequency of hanging baskets, dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

11. Neston Railway Station

11.1 The supply of sufficient and suitable plants and the planting of six large self-watering Amberol planters at Neston Railway Station.

11.2 The removal of all rubbish and debris.

11.3 Two plantings to be made per year in May and September.

11.4 Periodic topping up of the planter reservoirs sufficient to ensure that the planting displays receive an adequate and consistent supply of water.

12. Welcome to Neston Sign – Hinderton Road

12.1 Replacement of current hedging with perennial planting that adds both leaf and flower interest.

12.2 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

12.3 Two plantings per year.

12.4 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

13. Welcome to Neston Sign – Liverpool Road

13.1 Replacement of current hedging with perennial planting that adds both leaf and flower interest.

13.2 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

13.3 Two plantings per year.

13.4 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

14. Welcome to Neston Sign – Parkgate Road

14.1 Replacement of current hedging with perennial planting that adds both leaf and flower interest.

14.2 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

14.3 Two plantings per year.

14.4 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

15. Welcome to Parkgate Sign – Parkgate Road

15.1 Replacement of current hedging with perennial planting that adds both leaf and flower interest.

15.2 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

15.3 Two plantings per year.

15.4 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

16. Welcome to Parkgate Sign – Boathouse Lane

16.1 Replacement of current hedging with perennial planting that adds both leaf and flower interest.

16.2 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

16.3 Two plantings per year.

16.4 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

17. Ivy Farm Drive – Neston Town Council Noticeboard

17.1 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

17.2 Two plantings per year.

17.3 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

18. Ness (approx. 4m x 4m) – Corner of Neston Road & Well Lane

18.1 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

18.2 Two plantings per year.

18.3 Monthly maintenance of the planting.

19. West Vale (approx. 4m x 4m) – Neston Town Council Noticeboard

19.1 The planting of sufficient and suitable seasonal colour and structure plants.

19.2 Two plantings per year.

19.3 Quarterly maintenance of the planting.

20. Land at the Raby Road Railway Station Approach/Entrance

20.1 Quarterly maintenance of the perennial planting.

APPENDIX 1 – HANGING BASKET LOCATIONS

Current locations of the 22 lamppost hanging baskets in Neston town centre (one at each location unless specified otherwise):

- Neston Methodist Church
- Shop 4 Neston
- Opposite Claire House charity shop
- Ladbrokes
- Oriental Flavour
- Perfect Getaways
- The Over Draught
- Allister & Simpson Optician
- The Neston centre
- Hallwood Court
- Bridge Street/Station Road mini-roundabout by Escape
- Bridge Court (x2)
- Kri Kri
- Chester Road flats opposite car park entrance
- Royal Arcade
- Phillip Bates
- Pennington's Weint
- Costa
- Tesco (High Street)
- Tesco (Brook Street)
- Brook Street bus shelter

Current locations of the seven lamppost hanging baskets in Little Neston (each lamppost has a double bracket to support two baskets):

- Outside 11 Town Lane (opposite The Village Chef)
- Corner of Town Lane/Ivy Farm Drive (by the Neston Town Council noticeboard)

- In front of the parking bays by the post office row of shops
- Opposite 6 Town Lane (currently only one basket at this location due to growth of the hedge on an adjacent property)

APPENDIX 2 – RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANTING

a) Any plants, whether they be annual, biennial or perennial, that are planted by the contractor during the term of the contract will remain the sole responsibility of the contractor and will be replaced at the contractor's cost should they become diseased or die at any point during the term of the contract.

b) Any plants, whether they be annual, biennial or perennial, that are subject to vandalism or theft, will be replaced by the contractor only following discussion with, and the agreement of, Neston Town Council. Under these circumstances, the cost of purchasing replacement plants will be borne by the Town Council in addition to the agreed contract fee, but the sourcing and replanting will form part of the existing contract and will not involve any additional payments.

c) The cost of purchasing any necessary replacements for perennial plants maintained as part of the contract but planted prior to the commencement of the contract, will be borne by Neston Town Council in addition to the agreed contract fee, but the sourcing, removal and replanting will form part of the existing contract and will not involve any additional payments.

APPENDIX 3 – RESPONSE TIMES

Positive and effective communication between both parties will be vital for the smooth-running of the contract and the contract will include a schedule of agreed response times. In addition to fulfilling the requirements of the specification, both parties will agree reasonable response times to remedy issues that arise during the contract term and these response times will form part of the contract.

APPENDIX 4 – RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Given that the weather is becoming increasingly unpredictable and prolonged spells of hot, dry weather during the summer months are a more regular occurrence, the contractor will need to be mindful of this and prioritise climate-resilient planting wherever possible.