

## Grounds Maintenance

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust is looking to appoint a contractor to undertake grounds maintenance at a number of sites in the Stratherrick and Foyers area. These sites are recreational areas or car parks, footpaths and land surrounding buildings. All have direct road access and are generally well-drained.

The main requirements are regular planned grass cutting and vegetation control using strimmers and mowers, plus the annual removal of scrub.

Interested contractors should lodge an initial Expression of Interest via the Trust's website [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The Trust will then select up to three contractors to progress the detail of the work and the cost. A contract will then be concluded with a single contractor. The successful contractor will be judged on track record, technical capacity and will have the necessary insurances in place to cover public liability.

The contract will be for an initial period of twelve months. The nature of the work will be 'light touch' management and the contractor shall take particular note of the need to protect ground nesting birds, tree nesting birds, rabbits (at Foyers), hares (at Whitebridge). The contractor should undertake all work during the hours stated for each site to take account of neighbouring homes and sensitivities, where present.

The sites are

1. The Wildside Centre at Whitebridge IV2 6UN
2. The Field at Riverside houses, Foyers
3. The Lochside Strip at Lower Foyers.
4. The green areas at Lower Foyers Industrial Units (The Hub)
5. The former Free Church of Scotland at Errogie (The Errogie Kirk).

The contractor will undertake work at each site on at least two days per calendar month throughout the summer season. Summer visits will focus on grass cutting and winter visits on scrub maintenance and areas sensitive to bird nesting at other times of the year.

- There is no requirement for winter maintenance (gritting).
- There is no requirement for work to trees other than to light scrub.
- There is no requirement for the removal of green arisings or for the use of leaf blowers.
- There is no requirement for the clearance of rubbish.
- There is no requirement for the use of weedkillers or growth retardants.
- There are no annual displays of flowers or hanging baskets.?

Site 1	The Wildside Centre
Description	This is a detached community centre at Whitebridge set in its own grounds with off-road parking
Recurring work	Strimming work to margins of car park and to footpaths, strimming work to maintain visibility splays at the

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	public road and delineation between semi-wild areas and actively used areas.
Annual work	Trim the colonisation or ingression of scrub, brambles , dockens etc.
Timings	12 visits per year, two per calendar month (summer)
Notes	Work can be undertaken here on any day between the hours of 0800 and 1800. Hares are present, as are nesting birds.

Site 2	The Field at the Riverside Houses, Foyers
Description	This is a field of unimproved meadow grass owned by the community. It has gates to the public road and is close to the Riverside houses. The surface is good and can bear heavier grass cutting machinery.
Recurring work	Regular mowing / Allen scythe type work to form a circular grass path cut in the sward, between three and four metres wide, to facilitate walking. Strimming work to the areas around the current entrance, mowing / Allen scythe of a rectangular area of about 100m square within the field for use for picnics or sports such as rounders.
Annual work	Once a year cut to the entire area of the field to address the colonisation or ingression of scrub, brambles, dockens, birch, thorns etc. once all breeding bird activity is finished.
Timings	24 visits per year, one per calendar month
Notes	Work can be undertaken here on any day between the hours of 0800 and 1800. Pheasants are common. Rabbits are present and relatively tame. Children, walkers and dogs may be present on this site.

Site 3	The Lochside Strip at Lower Foyers
Description	This is an area of land leased to the Trust by SSE.
Recurring work	Strimming work to the full length of the margins of tarmac road, to the margins of areas around the compound and the track to the shore.
Annual work	Annual trim the colonisation or ingression of scrub, birch, brambles , dockens etc.
Timings	12 visits per year, two per calendar month (summer)
Notes	Work can be undertaken here on any day between the hours of 0800 and 1800

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Site 4	The green areas at the Hub, Lower Foyers
Description	The Hub is a detached building set in its own grounds with off-road black top parking.
Recurring work	Strimming work to margins of car park and to footpaths, strimming work to maintain visibility splays at the public road and delineation between semi-wild areas and actively used areas. Strimming work to the irregularly shaped area of fenced grass behind the Units.
Annual work	Trim the colonisation or ingression of the trees planted in the area across from the Units. Light prune of pendulous branches of planted trees within the green area overhanging the car park. Attend to any advancing scrub, bramble, dockens etc.
Timings	12 visits per year, two per calendar month (summer)
Notes	Work can be undertaken here on any day between the hours of 0800 and 1800

Site 5	The former Free Church of Scotland at Errogie.
Description	This is a detached former church building set in its own grounds with off-road parking
Recurring work	Strimming work to margins of the gravelled areas to form a strip of semi-managed grass at least 4 metres wide – where fencing and walling permits. Strimming work to maintain visibility splays at the public road and to give a tidy appearance of the verge between the public road and the boundary wall.
Annual work	Trim the colonisation or ingression of scrub, brambles, dockens, nettles etc.
Timings	12 visits per year, two per calendar month (summer)
Notes	Work can be undertaken here on any day <b>except a Sunday</b> - between the hours of 0800 and 1800. There are no monuments, no graveyard, church services or other interferences to grass cutting.

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