**Amenities Committee – 21st January 2026** **Item 9**

**Wingfield Recreation Ground – Tree Works Quotations and Recommendation**

**Purpose of Report**

To present quotations received for tree works at Wingfield Recreation Ground, summarise the scope and costs on an anonymised basis, and make a recommendation to the Amenities Committee.

**Background**

Tree works have been identified as necessary at Wingfield Recreation Ground to address overhanging branches, boundary clearance, and proximity of mature trees to nearby properties and fencing. The works are intended to ensure public safety, prevent damage to structures and boundaries, and maintain the long-term health and management of the trees.

Two written quotations have been received from suitably insured and qualified arboricultural contractors. For transparency and fairness, contractors are anonymised within this report.

**Summary of Quotations (Anonymised)**

**Contractor A**

- **Scope of Works:**
    - Reduce lateral spread of two Holm Oak trees back to the boundary line.
    - Reduce lateral spread of one Ash tree back to the boundary line.
- **Standards & Compliance:**
    - Works to be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS3998.
    - Fully insured with public and employers' liability cover.
    - Site left clean and tidy with arisings removed.
- **Cost:**
    - £640.00 plus VAT (£128.00)
    - **Total: £768.00**

**Contractor B**

- **Scope of Works:**
    - Cut back a Holm Oak close to a property by approximately 2–3 metres to clear the building.

    - Reduce canopy of a second Holm Oak overhanging a rear garden by approximately 2–2.5 metres.
    - Cut back vegetation to maintain a 2-metre clearance along the fence line.
    - Sectionally fell one Ash tree to ground level.
    - Remove debris from site.
- **Standards & Compliance:**
    - Commercial arboricultural contractor with VAT registration.
    - Debris removal included.
- **Cost:**
    - £1,100.00 plus VAT (£220.00)
    - **Total: £1,320.00**

**Comparison**

- Contractor A provides a significantly lower overall cost.
- Contractor B includes more extensive works, including the full felling of an Ash tree, which is not included in Contractor A's quotation.
- Both contractors are suitably insured and experienced.

If the Committee's intention is limited to boundary and canopy reductions only, Contractor A's quotation meets the requirement at best value. If full felling of the Ash tree is considered necessary at this stage, Contractor B's quotation reflects a broader scope of works.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

- **Option 1 (Preferred):** The Committee accepts the quotation from **Contractor A** at a total cost of **£768.00**, subject to confirmation that the scope of works fully meets the Council's current requirements for Wingfield Recreation Ground.
- **Option 2:** Should the Committee determine that felling of the Ash tree is required, officers are authorised to proceed with the higher quotation from **Contractor B** at **£1,320.00**, or seek a revised quote from Contractor A to include felling for comparison.

**Impact Assessments**

**Equalities**

The proposed tree works will have a neutral to positive impact. Improved safety and accessibility within the recreation ground benefits all users equally, including children, older people, and those with disabilities.

**Environment**

The works represent routine and responsible tree management. Pruning will help maintain tree health and longevity. Any felling would be limited and justified on safety or proximity grounds, with no significant adverse environmental impact anticipated.

**Crime and Disorder**

There is no negative impact anticipated. Improved visibility and maintenance of the site may have a minor positive effect by discouraging anti-social behaviour.

**Financial**

The recommended option represents best value for money based on the current scope of works, with a clear cost advantage over the alternative quotation. Expenditure can be met from the existing budget allocated for grounds maintenance and tree management. No ongoing financial commitments are anticipated beyond routine future maintenance.

**Resources**

The works will be undertaken by external specialist contractors and will not place additional demands on Parish Council staff or resources beyond routine contract management and supervision.

**Risk Management**

Approving and undertaking the tree works will reduce risks associated with overhanging branches, proximity to property, and potential damage to fences or injury to members of the public. Failure to act could increase the Council's exposure to safety complaints, property damage claims, or insurance liability.

**Vanessa Ricketts FSLCC**
**Clerk and RFO**
**January 2026**