



Invitation to Tender

Landscape Connections:

Location: Promised Land Farm, Lacey Green

Works: Hedge coppicing



Issued: 10 August 2020

Chalk, Cherries and Chairs - Introduction

Chalk, Cherries and Chairs is a 5-year National Lottery Heritage Funded Landscape Partnership Scheme being delivered in the Central Chilterns. Working in partnership with a wide range of National, Regional and local partners Chalk, Cherries and Chairs aims:

- To restore, enhance and record wildlife habitats, landscape features and cultural heritage of the Central Chilterns.
- To create new opportunities for people to investigate and celebrate the cultural and natural heritage of the Central Chilterns, inspiring and wider range of people to become stewards for their local heritage.
- To strengthen the capacity of local communities to take action for their local landscapes and natural heritage.

Landscape Connections - Background

Landscape Connections aims to create, restore, manage and connect habitats across the Central Chilterns project area and will improve existing sites, create more and bigger sites and improve connectivity between sites.

Focus will be placed on priority habitats consistent with the Central Chilterns Landscape (Grassland, Woodland, Hedgerows and chalk aquifer fed Headwaters). The project will focus on large scale private estate and/or farmland projects, Local Wildlife Sites and Nature Reserves.

The project will support landowners to both deliver high quality habitat on their land and to work more closely with neighbours to agree collaborative approaches to land management.

Landowners will be offered an 'end to end' package including direct capital investment, practical advice, work parties to support habitat management, specific training and habitat/species monitoring. Specific woodland and hedgerow management advice will be offered and targeted advice to manage the negative impacts in woodland of deer and the edible dormouse (Glis Glis) and a growing intensity of grazing horses on grassland.

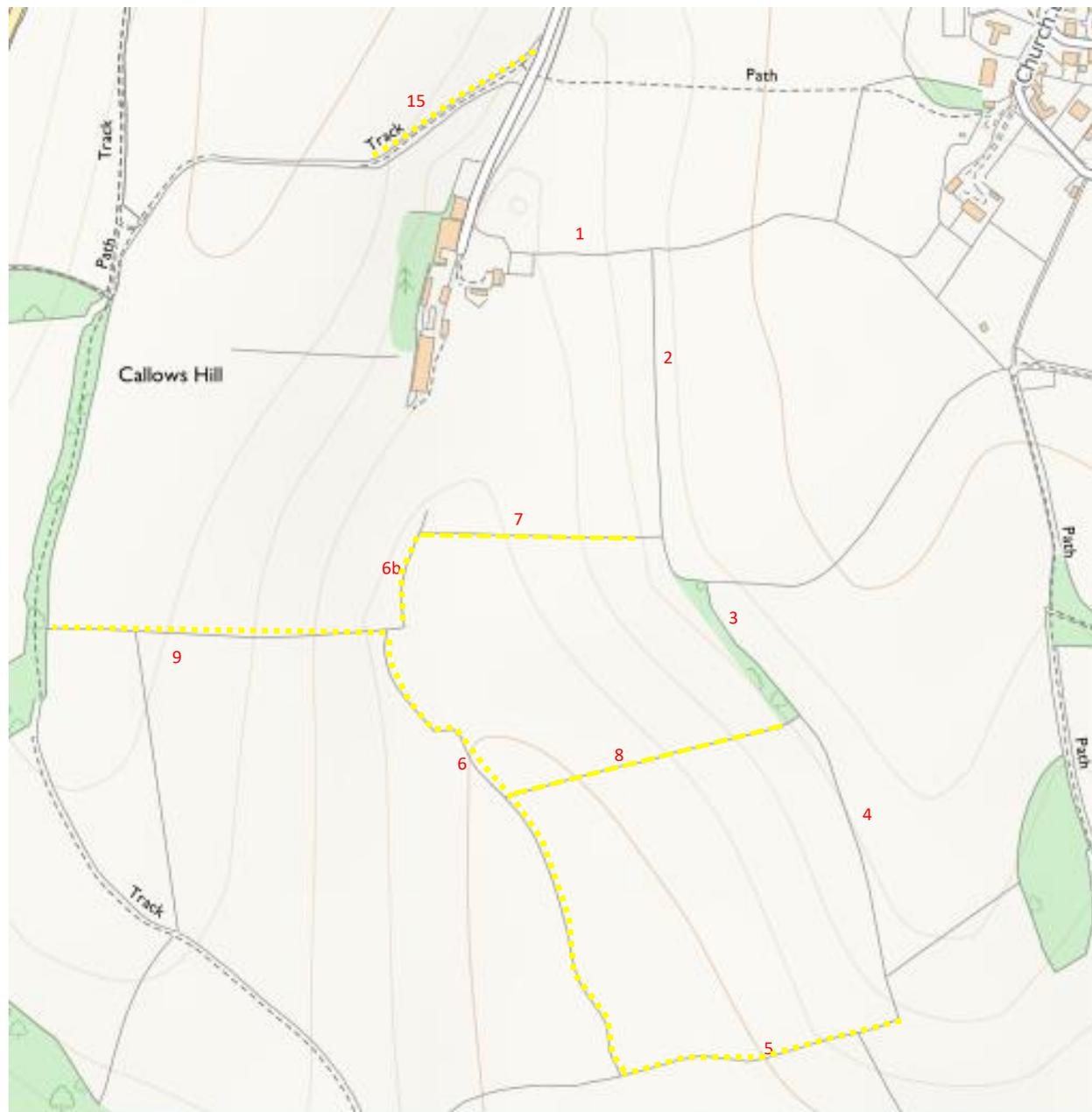
Specifically, the project will significantly increase the number of hectares of connected habitat in active and positive management. Its legacy of the project will be to increase the number of hectares of habitat in improved condition and also increased species presence, range and abundance.

Promised Land Farm

The farm is on the southern side of Lacey Green, Bucks (HP27 0QR). The holding is made up of permanent pasture with grazing cattle. The existing hedgerows are mature, characterised by plenty of crab-apple and whitebeam, with some standard trees.

Promised Land Farm Hedge Coppicing Plan

A site plan is provided below.



Hedges 5 & 6 = 670m and hedge 9 = 275m

Cutting back on Promised Land Farm side to make way for fencing.

Hedges 6b, 7 & 8 = 470m and hedge 15 = 150m

Coppicing no lower than bowl of stump and leaving some trees as standards.

Schedule of works

The hedges identified in the plan above are in need of rejuvenation and coppicing has been recommended by a whole-farm hedgerow survey.

The hedges should be cut using the most suitable machinery available to the contractor and the brash burnt safely on site. We expect that if contractors use tree shears the cut should be cleaned off with a chainsaw.

There is a separate tender for planting up the gaps and building a protective fence after coppicing.

Objectives and restrictions

- The proposed method for coppicing will be agreed before work.
- Brash should be burned on site.
- Firewood can either be taken away or left in an uncut pile for the landowner (this should be reflected in the price and two options could be offered in the budget).
- All staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for the work undertaken and will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Appropriate signs will be installed by the contractor to warn of work in progress.
- All work should be undertaken between 14 September and 20 December 2020.

Proposal

Tenders will be evaluated on the basis of the following details:

- An understanding of the project brief.
- A detailed breakdown of costs for delivering the project (including materials and daily rates/costing model and any other specific costs) according to the schedule of works.
- How the work will be carried out (a range of options are encouraged to be included).
- Machinery that will be used to carry out the work.
- How ground conditions will be protected.
- An estimation of when the work will take place and how long it will take to complete.
- Arrangements for the length and nature of warranties on works.
- Details of your insurance.
- Organisational and individual skills, knowledge and experience.

Submission

For a site visit or questions please contact: **Harriet Bennett**, Land Management Officer (Chilterns Conservation Board).

hbennett@chilternsaonb.org

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Tenders should be submitted by 17:00 on 5 September 2020 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

References from previous clients may be requested during the assessment process.