



Invitation to Tender

Landscape Connections:

Location: Buttlers Hangings, West Wycombe

Works: Fencing and water supply



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.

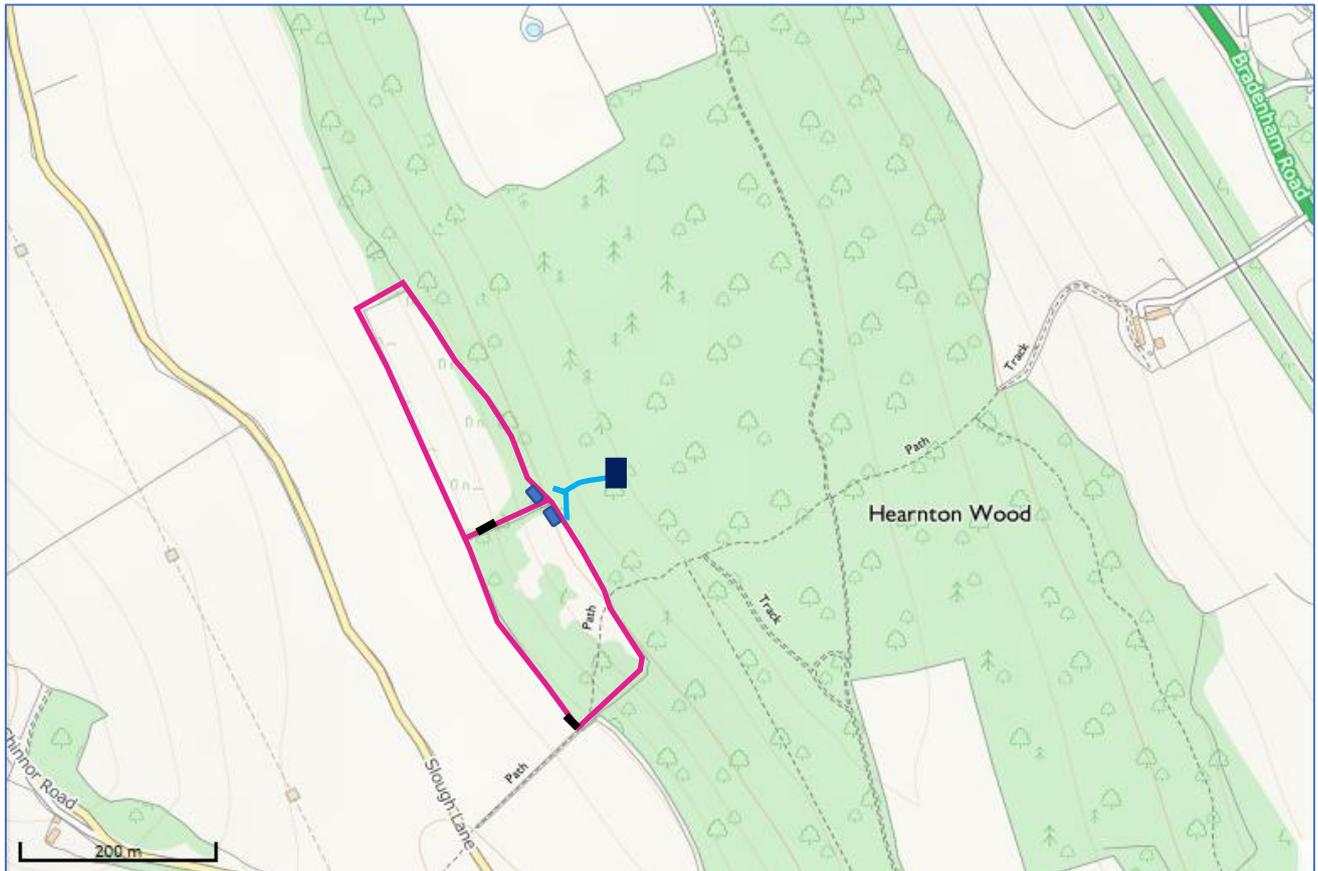
Buttlers Hangings

The site is a scrub and grassland area of 4 ha, designated as a SSSI. It is NE of Slough Road near West Wycombe (grid reference SU817962).

Yellow meadow ant hills are numerous, indicating that the site has been undisturbed for a long time. Orchids and helleborines are present here, including bee and fly orchids. Fourteen species of snails have been recorded. The site is particularly important for invertebrates, including four Red Book spiders.

Buttlers Hangings Fencing and Water Plan

A site plan is provided below.



-  Fence
-  Gate
-  Water supply
-  Water trough
-  Portable water tank

Schedule of works

Clearance prior to fencing work

The existing fence needs to be removed and taken off-site and some scrub and overhanging branches cleared to make way for the new fence.

Fencing

The fencing should be built using round sweet chestnut stakes (min 4" diameter), sheep netting and a strand of tensioned, barbed wire. Strainer posts should be at least every 100m and at each end of the fence and dug-in to a minimum depth of 90cm. Intermediate stakes should be min 2.7m apart and dug to at least 55cm. The barbed wire should be stapled on the outside of the posts at least 12.5cm below the top of the posts. The stock wire should be stapled at the top, 3rd, 5th and bottom strands.

Gates

The two gates should be 9' galvanised steel with posts and fixings.

Water supply

A 2000 litre mobile bowser will be provided and placed near the access track in Hearnton Wood. A plastic pipe will be installed to carry water to two troughs in the fields below. One trough is already on site and one new trough (galvanised steel, 400 gallons) will need to be installed.

Objectives and restrictions

- The proposed method for fence/scrub clearance, fencing and installation of water supply will be agreed before work.
- Vehicle movements will be kept to a minimum on the Site of Special Scientific Interest and ground conditions will be protected.
- Access routes will be agreed with the project manager before work.
- 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.
- Fencing work can take place as soon as possible but work must be completed by 31 January 2021.

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 / 07946 629708

Tenders should be submitted by 17:00 on 14 September 2020 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

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