

St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council

Report #08.2

Corston Local Nature Reserve (LNR) Maintenance

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To invite the council to fund essential maintenance in the Corston LNR.

2. Background

- 2.1. The council has long accepted that to ensure the LNR at Corston is kept in a good condition and safe to use by visitors, ongoing maintenance will be required from time to time. Minor regular housekeeping tasks are normally undertaken by a small group of volunteers, however from time to time more complex tasks are required to be undertaken by professional individuals.
- 2.2. Currently the LNR requires work to cut and remove a willow that has partially collapsed and is rooting in the pond thereby reducing the amount of clear water. A local experienced professional (James Hinwood) who has previously worked on tree issues in the LNR has provided the following quotation. To remove the necessary material, chip it on site and spread on the paths for a cost not exceeding £530 depending upon the amount of assistance provided by the volunteer team.
- 2.3. In order to keep the pond in good condition it requires de-silting periodically; it was last done a few years ago. Also an invasive plant Typha (Bulrush) needs to be removed from the pond. The company that has previously undertaken this de-silting and Typha removal (Tristan Akers) has estimated that to successfully address these two issues will take between 2 to 3 days and can be completed for a cost of £3,375 including VAT - see Appendix.

3. Options

- 3.1. To consider the work unnecessary
- 3.2. To agree that the work outlined in 2.2 and 2.3 above, at the costs quoted, are essential to keep the LNR in good condition and safe for all visitors.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. The council has a budget provision to cover the cost of 2.2 whilst 2.3 can be funded from Reserves/ CIL.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1. The council is recommended to support Option 3.2.

Cllr Roger Budgen
9th August 2025

Appendix

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Estimate-675 ▼ Done

Tristan Akers
Akers Barn, Washpool Lane
Washpool Lane
Kemble
Wiltshire, GL76FY
United Kingdom

VAT Number: 840637039
T: <http://www.akersconstruction.co.uk/>
E: tris@akersconstruction.co.uk

Anne Skinner
United Kingdom

Estimate
Estimate Number: **675**
Estimate Date: 17th Nov '24
Valid For: 15 Days
Account: ANNE01
Estimate Ref: Pond clean out

Qty	Description	Rate	Total
4	collection and delivery of excavator and dumper	50.00	200.00
3.5	Excavator hire including operator and fuel	400.00	1,400.00
1	Dumper Hire	250.00	250.00
3.5	Labour	275.00	962.50

Total Net Amount: £2,812.50
VAT @ 20%: £562.50
Estimate Total: £3,375.00

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