

APPENDIX THREE – 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026

GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

Perry Parish Council's Financial Regulations item 5.8 states "For contracts greater than £3,000 excluding VAT the Clerk shall seek at least 3 fixed-price quotes".

A three-year grass cutting contract will exceed this amount (dependent on the weather it may be between approximately £5,000 and £9,000).

Proposal

To waive the above requirement in accordance with Financial Regulations item 5.13 and negotiate directly with Four Seasons.

Reasoning

Four Seasons have cut the village's public grass (excluding areas cut by Huntingdonshire District Council and the Ministry of Justice) since at least 2022 (when I began my employment). They have consistently proved to be reliable and efficient, with the benefits that living in the village bring.

The last time I invited other companies to provide quotes (2023) they were unable to take on more work or didn't reply (see appendix two 8th February 2023 for full details).

The current grass cutting budget for 2026 – 2027 is £3,000.

Please note that this is only for grass cutting, the village maintenance contract is separate, and due for review in March 2027.

It therefore seems clear to me that continuing to use Four Seasons for grass cutting is sensible, practical and beneficial to the village.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration

Eugene Smith,

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, Perry Parish Council