

Specification and Guidance for Parish / Town Council and Contractor Undertaking Urban Highway Grass Mowing

1. Specification

Location		Frequency of cuts
Urban (speed limit 40mph and less)	Vision splays and other busy areas where visibility is required for safety	3 cuts/year
	All other grass areas adjoining carriageways, footways and cycleways	

2. Guidance

a. Metalled Link Footways and Rights of Way

The cutting of grass on metalled link footpaths and metalled rights of way in urban areas has been included where appropriate. The specification for this work requires grass and other vegetation to be cut to ensure paths are cleared up to 2 metres in width or to the boundaries of the adjacent land, whichever is the lesser. (Metalled is defined as bound or unbound hard surface i.e. any surface other than earth, gravel or grass)

b. Overhanging Vegetation

The Parish / Town Council are not required to cut back overhanging vegetation growing from outside the footway boundary; this is the responsibility of the landowner. If this is a problem we would ask the Parish Council to approach the landowner in the first instance. If this is not possible or no action is forthcoming the County Council (Highway Authority) may issue an enforcement notice if details of the landowner are known.

3. Grassed areas of highway verge in Urban locations as follows:-

a. It is recommended that the grass to be cut as minimum to the following requirements.

- All grass on fully developed frontages.
- The full area of roundabouts and splitter islands except where planted or maintained by others.
- A minimum 2.4 metre wide strip on undeveloped frontages, where possible, immediately adjacent to the carriageway, except where there is a road junction where the full width should be cut for 100 metres either side of the centre point of any road junction on the same side as the junction.
- Planted areas such as daffodils and other spring flowering bulbs shall not be mown on the first cycle unless located within a visibility splay.
- Where a visibility splay at a junction extends outside the urban area the full visibility splay shall be cut to the urban frequency.
- The Parish / Town Council should also include any sub-parishes, hamlets etc. which come under the jurisdiction of the Parish / Town Council.

An urban boundary is defined as the speed limit sign of 40mph or less. Area of grass to be mowed will be agreed prior to commencement of season. No further changes will be made during the year.

4. Cutting of Grass Verges

- a. The whole area shall be cut leaving no areas uncut between the highway boundary and carriageway edge. Where earthen grip drains cross the verge the grass mowing shall follow the profile of the drain.

- b. Grass adjacent to walls and around street furniture, safety fencing, statutory undertakers and other body apparatus (e.g. Markers, phone boxes, grit bins etc.) shall be cut using hand trimmers or similar.
- c. Cuttings shall be removed from metalled surfaces such as footways and carriageways. The removal of cuttings from metalled surfaces shall be done immediately following the mowing of a particular area.

Requirements for Parish / Town Council and Contractor Undertaking Urban Highway Grass Mowing

1. Insurance

A public liability insurance of **£5 million pounds** for any one incident has to be taken out by those undertaking the mowing.

2. Traffic Management

Should not normally be needed but should comply with Chapter 8 of the Department of Transport's Traffic Manual, i.e., any mowing outside a 30mph limit is signed. Ride on mowers/vehicles must be fitted with rotating amber beacons and must be switched on when the vehicle is in use. Operatives will wear high visibility clothing. Mowers will travel with the flow of traffic when cutting from the road. Operators should be aware of pedestrians and not impinge progress.

3. Health and Safety

Personal protective clothing must be worn, i.e., steel toe cap and mid sole safety boots, safety goggles, gloves and overalls. All mowers must comply with safety standards.

4. Noise at Work

Ear protection to be worn.

5. First Aid

First Aid kits to be available on site.

6. Duty of Care

Parish Councils' should be aware that, as the 'employer', the Parish Council has a 'duty of care', as defined under the Health and Safety at Work Act and must ensure this is complied with.

1. Chacombe Road: North village entrance / splays, verges, entrance to alley connecting to Stanwell estate.
2. Michaelmas Close: Footpath to Kings Style / Tanners Lane
3. Stanwell Park: Play area and grounds
4. Glovers Lane: Island
Archery Road: Splay, verges, footpath to Midway
5. Rectory Lane: North side of Church - prevent growth into road (preserve planting next to "lay-by" when flowering)
6. Church Lane: Island joining Queen Street, Island joining High Street.
7. High Street: verges, surrounds of the Forge, Bull Baulk splays
8. Swan Close: verges, splays
9. Bowmans Close: splays
10. Bull Ring: verges, NOT the green
11. Midway: verges, footpath to Arrow Close
12. Arrow Close: Cemetery, verges and area by allotments
13. Bull Baulk: Chenderit School alley, alley East of allotments
14. Peacocks Close: entrance / splays
15. Yew Tree Close: small green, shrubs
16. Centenary way: Front of splay (not including splay)
17. Waters Lane: LHS, splays
18. Lexton Gardens: splays
19. Main Road: verges, New Inn verge, verges to new builds, Lower Green, entrance to footpath by office/flats, large bank South East of village at A422
20. Manor Close: entrance, alleyway
The Washle: green patch, Longburges alleyway, Longburges loop
21. Home Close: entrance, verges
22. Rose Hall Lane: alleyway, verge
23. Horton Drive: verges, Horton Road to Main Road alleyway
24. Kingston Close
25. Horton estate: bottom of estate, "triangle" verges, entrance
26. Upper Green and bus stop verge.
27. Dands drive: verge at main road, garages by bins/allotments
28. Middleway Alleyway, connecting to and including Library Alleyway
29. The Avenue: splays
30. Main road: verges, entrance to playing field to dog waste bin, front of Bungalows to Mansion Hill
31. High Street: edge at Primary School, area between Pharmacy and Astrop Road
32. Astrop road: verges, Play Area (NOT playing field), up to bypass
33. Moors Drive / Barnett Close: verges, grass but not trees at bungalows
34. Village entrance sign (Mansion Hill)
35. Tenlands: splay shrubbery



