Statement regarding Boddington Grass Cutting

In January 2022 an email was received by the Clerk from The Ground Care Company advising that they had been absorbed into a larger company and would have to retender for the grass cutting contract for Boddington. At that time, although there had been huge increases to fuel prices and the minimum wage they were hoping to submit a competitive bid. In the meantime, they had sub-contracted the grass cutting for Boddington to Countrywide Grounds Maintenance.

The Clerk corresponded with local parish councils to ask for contractor recommendations and the grass cutting tender was reviewed by councillors. Invitations to tender for the Boddington Grass Cutting Contract 2022 were sent to contractors via email on 1 April 2022 including to the 2 businesses mentioned above, the date for receipt of tenders was 22 April 2022.

Subsequently, the Clerk received emails from contractors who were already fully committed and declined the offer to tender, only one contractor accepted the offer, Countrywide Grounds Maintenance. The tender quotation was considered and accepted at the next BPC meeting on 4 May 2022. The new contractor commenced the contract with Boddington Parish Council on 1 June 2022.

The Clerk and councillors have been in constant contact with the new contractor to overcome the difficulties that arose when the contractor did not adequately cut the areas that they were contracted to do so.

Last week many members of the village worked hard at cutting, raking and stacking the grass in the churchyard and Stuart Nichols kindly took away two trailer loads of cut grass.

On Thursday Countrywide arrived for their scheduled mow with extra helpers and the job was finally completed as expected. The grass cutting schedule should now be back on track.

Many, many thanks to those who have had to give hours of their time helping to return the grass cutting back to how it should have been maintained earlier in the season.

Clerk
On behalf of Boddington Parish Council

19th July 2022