

Naseby Parish Council

Invitation to Tender to Carry Out Repairs to the Grade II Whipping Cross Plinth

Naseby Parish Council (NPC) is seeking tenders to carry out necessary repairs to the plinth of the Grade II Whipping Cross.

Introduction

The Whipping Cross is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

The Grade II listed Whipping Cross in Naseby is located at the junction of Church Street and Gynwell, outside the Methodist Chapel in Naseby (National Grid Reference: SP6878477959).

The Parish Council submitted a planning application to gain consent to carry out essential remedial works to secure the long-term future of this historic monument, and consent was subsequently given to repair the plinth using Clipsham Stone. The remedial works were carried out in June and July 2022 and the planning authority signed off the works upon successful completion.

Subsequently in February 2023 the Clipsham Stone in the plinth began to show signs of degradation and serious delamination, which became worse over the mild winter of 2023/24, and it became apparent the stone had failed.

Permission was sought from the conservation officer of West Northamptonshire Planning Authority to use a different stone from the Clipsham stone and approval was given to use a sandstone, namely Scotch Buff Sandstone. This is subject to a detailed method statement being submitted to the planning authority for approval, before the works can commence. Naseby parish Council will submit this method statement to the planning authority.

The original stonemason is unable to complete the remedial works due to personal circumstances so there is now a need to seek tenders from other reputable stonemasons, to carry out the repair works to plinth using Scotch Buff Sandstone

Also see **Appendix A: A brief history of the Whipping Cross at Naseby**, for further historical information and photographs.

Work Requirements and Schedule of Works

1. Replacing 16 stones in total to the plinth base of the Whipping Cross at Naseby, in Scotch Buff Sandstone as follows:
 - 8 Nos. 590mm length x 300mm wide x 150mm height
 - 8 Nos. 665mm length x 150mm x wide x 150mm height
2. Use of appropriate bedding and jointing method to ensure the integrity of the whipping cross is not compromised in any way.
3. **NOTE:** The Scotch Buff sandstone will be purchased by Naseby Parish Council and will need to be temporarily stored at the successful tenderer's premises prior to being laid.
4. Submission of a method statement that will be shared with the planning authority by the Naseby Parish Council, for approval prior to any repair works commencing.
5. Work to be carried out in Spring 2025, as soon as weather conditions are suitable.



Tender Process

Submit the tender documentation using the attached proforma by 9am **7th November 2024** in a sealed envelope to:

Mrs Josie Flavell

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (See tender form for address details)

Stone Supplier (Stone will be purchased by Naseby parish Council)

Cumbrian Sandstone, Montal Place, Gilwilly Industrial Estate, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9FE

Tel: 01768 867 867

Email: tony@cumbrianstone.co.uk Web: www.cumbrianstone.co.uk

Naseby Parish Council

Tender Form for work to carry out repairs to the Grade II Whipping Cross Plinth

Please complete in block capitals

Name of Contact:			
Company Name:			
Registered Address			
Telephone Nos:		Mobile Nos:	
Email address:			
Company Registration Nos:		VAT registered Nos:	

Tendering Notes

All tenders are to be marked in a plain envelope for the attention of the Parish Clerk and clearly marked **Whipping Cross Repairs Tender** in the top left-hand corner, so that the tendering process will not be prejudiced.

You should also enclose the following.

1. Copies of public and employers' liability insurance shall be submitted with the tender document.
2. References or contact names of contracts held for works of similar nature
3. Method statement (Description of equipment used, number of operatives carrying out the work, description of how you intend to fulfil the terms of the contract and complete the necessary works)

Please retain a copy of this tender for your own records as contractors and their staff will be expected to be fully conversant with the schedule and conditions throughout the period of the contract.

Return one copy to the parish clerk at the address below.

Mrs. Josie Flavell
Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
36 King Style Close
Crick
Northamptonshire
NN6 7ST
Tel 07471 134931
Email: parish.clerk@nasebyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Notes

- Tenderers should acquaint themselves with the conditions of work before tendering and ask all questions by email to the clerk before submitting their bids.
- Quotations are to be submitted exclusive of VAT.
- The Tenderer shall include in the tender price for all equipment, materials and manpower to complete the works to the specification required.
- The Tenderer shall comply with the Health and Safety at Work regulations and all other statutes and regulations. If working alone, he/she shall be expected to notify a supervisor or line manager of his/her whereabouts and the likely length of time. This can be a relative or a work colleague.

- Before the contract can commence, the successful Tenderer shall supply a copy to the Parish Clerk of their current public liability insurance policy, a risk assessment and the names or references of clients where similar work has been undertaken.
- The Parish Council reserves the right to clarify any statements on submitted tenders and specifications with contractors before making any decision.
- Closing date for receipt of returned bids is **12 Noon on 31st October 2024.**
- The winning bid/tender will be announced following the Parish Council meeting of 7th November 2024.
- The successful contractor will be expected to commence the work in early Spring 2025 subject to suitable prevailing weather conditions.

Appendix A: A brief history of the Whipping Cross at Naseby

The Grade II Listed Whipping Cross was constructed during the 15th century out of limestone and comprises a round shaft set into a square plinth. There is no evidence of securing points, so it is not clear if it was utilised as a whipping post. It is thought to have been from the old market cross (see Plate 1).



Plate 1: Naseby About 1790 is depicted in this engraving by Samuel Ireland. It shows the spring from which the River Avon rises (now in the garden of Manor Farm), the Parish Church and the medieval marketplace and market cross (whipping cross) in Newland.



In 1203 or 1204 Roger de Lacey secured for his newly acquired manor a charter granting Naseby a weekly market. It was around this time the street called Newland was laid out and a market cross opposite the north door of the church erected. Naseby remained a market town for around 150 – 200 years, and the shaft of the last market cross forms part of the whipping cross that stands in Naseby today.

The cross was moved from its historic position opposite the church, in c1820 to a new position at the junction of Newlands with Haslebech and Clipston roads (see Plate 2).

Plate 2: A view of the cross at the junction of Newlands with Haslebech and Clipston roads. Notice how worn the grooves at the base are from 100's of years of people kneeling in them to be whipped.

In 1993, the whipping cross was re-sited to its current position at the junction of Church Street and Gynwell, outside the Methodist Chapel (see Plate 3).



Plate 3: Photograph of the Whipping Cross taken in 2021.



Plate 4. A plaque nearby calls it the 'Market Cross,' and says that 'over time it was reduced to a stump.'

Original Proposed Works in June 2022

The plinth is probably circa 1993 and is in a limestone. A number of these stones have started to delaminate and are crumbling. The bedding mortar is a form of Engineered Cementitious Composite (ECC), and this is a contributory factor in causing the lower stones to fail.

The delaminated stones were removed from the top two courses of the Whipping Cross and replaced with an approved Clipsham Stone Top bed limestone. This involved fourteen new stones being provided and laid in 2022.

Photographs (overleaf), of Whipping Cross to show the failed Clipsham Stone (Circa May 2024)



Plate 5: Photographs showing the failed Clipsham stone (May 2024)