

## **BARROWCLIFF PARK ARTIST'S BRIEF – ENTRANCE FEATURES AND PLAYFUL SCULPTURES**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Groundwork intends to commission an artist or artists to design, fabricate and install several pieces of public art in a new park and children's play area at Briercliffe, Scarborough YO12 6NS. The commission includes public engagement and consultation as part of the design process.

This brief sets out the parameters of the project and what is required from artists wishing to submit a proposal to carry out this work.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

Barrowcliff Park is soon to be transformed from a run-down playground into a vibrant and high quality park and play area for all ages. The improvement is the flagship project of Barrowcliff Big Local and will invest around £300,000 in this vital local facility.

The project entails a complete overhaul and redesign of the park and includes a toddler play area, junior play area, multi-sports ball court, landscaping, fencing, seating and a playful design throughout. A central theme throughout the design is the Wizard of Oz. The attached plan and ideas boards give an outline of the proposals.

This artist commission will run alongside the construction contract for the new park and installation will be part of the construction process.

The purpose of the artist commission is to:

- Provide playful sculptures as an integral part of the new play area
- Provide attractive and inspiring entrance features
- Add value and character to the general environmental improvements
- Help engage the local community in the wider improvement process

Certain other elements of the construction contract, e.g. footpath pattern design and welcome signage, will be developed alongside and with influence from the art engagement.

### **3. SITE DETAILS**

Barrowcliff is a post war social housing estate and the park site is an area of 0.3 Ha nestled between housing and estate roads, fairly central to the whole neighbourhood. The intention of the improvement proposals is to provide a flagship play area, improve the pedestrian experience through the site and improve definition to the boundaries. The site is in a very prominent location alongside a major bus route so will be highly visible to a large number of people.

### **4. THE COMMISSION**

The artist will work in partnership with Groundwork staff and the Big Local Group throughout the project, including organising the engagement workshops, initial design proposals and final design. The theme for the work should take inspiration from The Wizard of Oz by L Frank Baum. The artist will be expected to interpret and bring this theme to life in the play area, adding significant play value and creating a 'wow factor'.

The commission comprises of an eye-catching sculptural feature at each of the two entrances to the site and two or more playful features set within the children's play areas to improve these spaces and enhance the play value.

Careful consideration must be given to health and safety in the development of any proposals and all work must be acceptable to the landowner, Scarborough Borough Council. Any proposals should not unduly affect the surrounding occupiers going about their day-to-day business.

Materials should be very durable (a lifetime of at least 10 years), robust, hardwearing and suitable for an external public space. Metal and stone are considered more appropriate in this setting than timber.

#### 5. ROLE OF THE ARTIST

The artist/s will carry out a weekend of design workshops across a Saturday and Sunday in November 2014 at the local Children's Centre opposite the site, including use of the park itself if appropriate. The aim of these workshops is to engage a broad cross section of the community, gather ideas and inspiration for the artwork, and increase the anticipation and excitement about the project and artwork.

Following these workshops the artist will develop initial design proposals, which will be discussed and agreed with the client and then worked up into a final design and details for submission as part of the planning permission requirements.

The artist will fabricate and install the artworks on site alongside the client's representative Tom Mutton, Landscape Architect Michelle Stevens, and main contractor for the park construction. If appropriate, involvement of the local community in finishing works, e.g. painting, would be welcomed.

#### 6. BUDGET

A total budget of £25,000 (excluding VAT if payable) is available for artist fees, design development, fabrication and installation.

#### 7. TIMESCALES

<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Expected date</u>
Return of submissions	10 Oct 2014
Award of commission	14 Oct 2014
Community workshop weekend	Nov 2014
Initial design development period/design options	up to 3 weeks
Agreement of the initial design including consultations	by early Dec 2014
Development of the final design including maquettes	up to 3 weeks
Agreement of the final design	by end of Dec 2014
Submission of final design details to Planning	by end of Dec 2014
Fabrication period	Jan/Feb 2015
Installation	by end of Mar 2015

The commission is being developed in parallel with the tender and construction contract of the overall project, due for completion by 2 April 2015, with opening celebrations planned for 4 April 2015.

#### 8. SUBMISSION

Artists wishing to submit a proposal to carry out this work are invited to submit the following:

- Examples of previous work relevant to this project
- Proposed approach to the consultation weekend
- Anticipated materials suitable for this project and details of the artist's experience working in these
- Fee proposal including anticipated output, i.e. approximate number and size of artworks

Submissions should be sent to:

Tom Mutton, Groundwork North Yorkshire, Town Hall, St Nicholas Street, Scarborough YO11 2HG / [tom.mutton@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:tom.mutton@groundwork.org.uk)

Submissions should be received before 1.00pm Friday 10 October 2014

#### 9. EVALUATION

Submissions will be evaluated by the Big Local Resident Steering Group on 13 October 2014 based on the suitability of previous work to this project, approach to the consultation weekend, value for money, and proposed materials and construction methods.

#### 10. CONTACTS DETAILS

The commission is being managed by:

Tom Mutton

Programme Manager - North Yorkshire Coast

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[www.groundwork.org.uk/nyorkshire](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/nyorkshire)

If any clarification on the brief is required or you have any further questions then please contact Tom Mutton or Michelle Stevens, Landscape Architect in his absence.





