

Public Art in Stockham Farm, Grove ARTISTS' BRIEF

Vale of White Horse District Council adopted a percent for art policy in 1993 and encourages developers to utilise this opportunity to benefit the overall design of the buildings and public spaces created. The current policy for public art is set out in the Supplementary planning Guidelines for the 2006 local plan. Public art is always publicly visible, bespoke for the given location and made by a professional artist.

In the case of the development at Stockham Farm, Grove, the developers, Bovis Homes, have contributed funds to the district council public art policy and would like to work with local residents on the site of the new houses and the neighbouring school (Fitzwaryn School).

Aims of the commission

- To design and make a unique and interactive sculptural features which contributes to and enhances the play area and public open space within the development.

Objectives

- Create a unique and distinctive feature that is of high quality: work which is durable and easy to maintain and which integrates with the functional requirements of the immediate area.
- Explore artistic work that strengthens the personality and identity of the development, in an innovative and engaging way, drawing in local natural history, geology, and surrounding landscape for inspiration (such as the impressive and rare newt colony on the site, the Wilts and Berk canal, the historic air field and the Ridgeway).
- To use the process of design and creation to help residents for a residents group and find a voice to help shape their community through the arts and involve the neighbouring school

Location and scope for the work

- We are looking for an artist specialising in stone or wood to create distinctive features in 5 areas on and near to the development (proposals will be considered for either the whole of this commission or parts of the commission).
 - i. 2 areas of open space with informal recreational equipment within the development

- ii. 3 Informal green fingers and balancing pond areas on the boundary of the site and the canal side.
 - iii. the main entrance is on the main road, that could be enhanced by a welcome feature.
 - iv. work with the public facing areas of the neighbouring Fitzwaryn school (TBC)
- The work should be publicly visible and accessible and may even encourage interaction, seating or play or simply providing distinctive way finding landmarks
 - Artforms we are specifically (but not exclusively) looking for are stone and wood carving, but could also incorporate sculptural earthworks or landscaping features (this could include some, but not all, proposals of willow features)
 - Themes for the work will be identified through the research period of the artists, but we hope the chosen artist will create a unique feature/ s that celebrates the essence of Wantage, Grove and the surrounding area (this could be representational or abstract, but has to have local relevance).

The Role of the Artist

- Research the area and its residents to asses the scope of the commission with local residents and interest groups
- Run meetings, discussion and/ or workshops with local residents (where appropriate) and Housing Association community days
- Research ideas and themes for the main art works and record her/his proposals in a written and/or visual format
- When designs are approved the artist will be commissioned to create, transport and install the work
- Write an interpretation to assist with the post publicity of the work and be involved with the community unveiling event
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Process

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| 1. Brief advertised | Jan 16 |
| 2. Deadline for submissions from artists | 18 Feb 16 |
| 3. Shortlisting/ application Assessment | |
| 4. Artists Interviewed | march 16 |
| 5. Contract selected artist | |
| 6. Meeting with local residents | |
| 7. Community/ schools workshops (if appropriate) | March - May 2016 |

8. Final designs submitted	June/July 2016
9. Community approval sought	
10. Planning application submitted(if required)	
11. Fabrication/ fabrication	
12. Installation	Summer 2016+
13. Celebration / unveiling	TBC

Budget

The fee for the work is £35,000. This fee should cover all costs associated with the design process, local research and workshops, materials, fabrication, transport and installation. We would like to commission our chosen artist in 2 phases: the first phase is for research, community engagement and design (for up to £3000) and the second phase (pending fully costed design proposals) for the creations, delivery , installation and unveiling of the works of art (for upto £32,000).

Commissioner

The commission is being managed by Vale of White Horse District Council as part of our public art work with developers and local residents. The contract will be managed by the Vale of White Horse District Council, but with the guidance of the developer (who still owns the land and will transfer the eventual ownership of the work to a Management Company) and the residents, who we wish to involve closely in the running of the project and the decision making process.

Selection process

We are advertising this opportunity both locally and nationally. Artists will be selected on the quality of their work, their enthusiasm about this project and ability to meet the brief within budget. To be considered artist must have £5m of Public Liability Insurance, £1m of Professional Indemnity Insurance and hold a current DSB check.

**Expression of Interest should be submitted electronically to
Abigail.brown@southandvale.gov.uk by noon on Thursday 18th**

JANUARY 2016 and should include;

- Examples of at least 4 previous projects you have worked on
- An artistic statement in response to the brief and your interest in the project
- An indication of your approach and ideas to this opportunity
- Ability to deliver this project within the indicated budget and timescale.

And

- The name and contact details of a previous commissioner should also be supplied.