



Budleigh Salterton Town Council

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Meeting of the Foreshore & Footpaths Committee 11 March 2024 Agenda Item 6: Quotations to refurbish the 'Budleigh Welcomes You' Signage

Two companies were approached to provide a quotation to refurbish the signs which are located at Pretty Corner and East Budleigh Road (Granary Lane).

Miller Signs	£1800.00
Devon Signs	£530.00

Jo Vanstone

From: Besil Miller <millersigns@btconnect.com>
Sent: 01 November 2023 18:30
To: Jo Vanstone
Subject: Re: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Hello Jo

We have had a look at the two signs and the following is a Quotation for the work required.

Quotation

To remove 2 no. metal signs from site.

Remove fixings that are rusted out and renew with sign fix channel for fixing.

Remove all old paintwork on faces and backs and clean metal and prepare for new paint.

Re-coat with aluminium etch primer and white finish on face and grey on backs.

Re-letter in black and full colour on crest as previous design.

Re-fix on site to existing post.

Price is £ 1,800.00 gross price for the two signs

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help.

Many Thanks

Basil Miller - Miller Signs

From: Jo Vanstone <jo.vanstone@budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 October 2023 17:32
To: Besil Miller <millersigns@btconnect.com>
Subject: FW: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Hello there

Just a quick reminder about this job – I did say there was no rush, but...!

I am away from the office for a few days, but if you could give me a call next week (from Tuesday onwards) or better still, send over the quotation.

Thanks

Jo

From: Jo Vanstone
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 5:02 PM
To: Besil Miller <millersigns@btconnect.com>
Subject: RE: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Thanks Duncan

Definitely no rush – one of those jobs that's been on my to do list for a while!

Enjoy the rest of your holiday

Jo

From: Besil Miller <millersigns@btconnect.com>
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 4:50 PM
To: Jo Vanstone <jo.vanstone@budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Jo Vanstone

From: Devon Signs <mail@devonsigns.co.uk>
Sent: 07 February 2024 14:43
To: Jo Vanstone
Subject: RE: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Hi Jo

We have been and looked at the signs and the cost to refurbish the 2 off existing signs would be £265.00each (£530.00 + vat) and you would be without the signs for about three weeks..

If we were to make new flat aluminium signs the same shape with a printed shield etc this would come out at £315.00 each (£630.00 + vat) but this would be a straight swap using the existing posts.

Hope this gives you enough to go on, please feel free to contact me should you require any further information.

Regards
Trevor



E: mail@devonsigns.co.uk T: 01395 276618 W: www.devonsigns.co.uk

From: Jo Vanstone <jo.vanstone@budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 2:04 PM
To: Devon Signs <mail@devonsigns.co.uk>
Subject: RE: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Thanks James
Hear from you at your earliest!
Jo

From: Devon Signs <mail@devonsigns.co.uk>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 2:04 PM
To: Jo Vanstone <jo.vanstone@budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Signs: Budleigh Salterton Welcomes You

Hi Jo

Many thanks for your email, by the looks of it the cost to refurbish the existing would out way the cost to supply new ones on aluminium. I will have a look at the costs and come back to you if that's ok.

Kind Regards

James Stewart



Devon Loves Dogs – a paper to explore how responsible dog ownership in Budleigh Salterton is to the benefit of all including the natural environment

Councillor Richard Doorbar

The purpose of this paper is to begin a conversation about the importance and value of dog ownership and to consider practical steps to ensure that dog ownership adheres to certain principles. The paper is also designed to propose actions that should be taken for the benefit of dog owners and the natural environment.

1.1 There can be little doubt that dog ownership can benefit the well-being of owners. Dogs provide unconditional love to their owners and thereby provide companionship and support especially to those who are isolated and may live alone. However, owning a dog also encourages activity and the exercise benefits of walking the dog can not be underestimated. There are, therefore, extraordinary benefits in terms of physical and mental health to be gained from dog ownership.

1.2 It is widely recognised that during Covid dog ownership rose and it is estimated that 25% of households in the South West have at least one dog. It is noticeable that with the development of the Otter Valley Nature Reserve people are visiting the area to enjoy the natural beauty and bring along with them their dogs. The question that needs to be raised is : does the footpath network provide enough support for the owners of dogs? In particular, are there sufficient bins so that dog poo can be picked up and placed in bins? It can not be underestimated how dangerous dog faeces can be particularly to young children. The parasites and bacteria in dog waste can spread disease to humans and other dogs if not properly picked up. E. coli and salmonella are some of the bacteria which are carried in dog waste.

1.3 Kim Strawbridge from Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust (PHCT), states:

“Nature reserves and heathlands are special and many of the rare birds that breed in East Devon lay their eggs, and raise their chicks, in nests on the ground..... Their nests and eggs are well-camouflaged which makes them very hard to see and avoid.

“Small actions from people out enjoying walks really can make a huge difference to our wildlife. By keeping our dogs' paws on paths, and out of the vegetation, it means that that we can give our wonderful birds the best possible chance to raise their young, safeguarding their populations.

“Birds see dogs as predators so dogs running around can stop them from nesting or even cause them to abandon nests.”

It is therefore clear that dogs should be well-controlled and on a lead that stops the dog from rampaging through the undergrowth.

1.4 Julie Owen from Devon Loves Dogs states:

‘It’s important and easy to follow our Four Paws Code at devonlovesdogs.co.uk/four-paws-code. Following these simple steps can protect wildlife and make sure dogs have a happy walk.’

Four Paws Code

1. Protect nesting and feeding birds on heaths, dunes and *wetlands*
2. Keep your dog in sight and think of other visitors
3. Prevent your dog from chasing wildlife or grazing animals
4. Bag it and bin it – wherever you are
5. Read and follow signs and notice boards
6. Limit the number of dogs that you walk.

1.5 Signage

It is important that signs are clear and give helpful instructions to dog owners.

Vague requests will not be followed but of course signs need to be courteous and respectful. At the moment signs are weak. A sign along the path from the car park to White Bridge states : Thank you for keeping your dogs with you on the path. The image alongside shows the dog owner with the dog on a lead. If the expectation is that the dog is on a lead then this should be clearly stated in written form.

Overall, signs are too small such as those on the edge of the beach. It is not clear at all where dogs are allowed and when since the signs are so small. Finally, whilst it is commendable that dogs are on leads along the promenade some of the leads used are the extendable ones and for vulnerable, elderly walkers such extended leads can present a serious trip/fall hazard. Therefore, signs should indicate that dogs are kept on a short lead.

1.6 The purpose of any Dog Policy should be that dogs are responsibly managed and that humans, dogs and the natural environment can co-exist in a happy, purposeful manner. The nature in the Otter Valley needs to be safe and secure and at the same time dog walkers need to enjoy the natural environment with their canine friends.

1.7 A series of key questions :

- a) Can the signs relating to dogs be made clearer and in many cases bigger?
- b) Are instructions and requests to dog owners sufficiently clear?
- c) Can more bins be supplied as a matter of urgency?
- d) Could a talk be given to the Council by the Devon Loves Dogs Co-ordinator?
- e) Are there sufficient water bowls for dogs made available throughout the town?
- f) How can dogs and the wildlife of the Otter Valley amicably co-exist?
- g) What additional support can be given to dog owners?
- h) Consider the National Trust Guidelines on Dog Ownership and walking.