

## Minutes of a Cemetery Committee Meeting at the Community Centre on Thursday 12 September 2024 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Cooper (WC) and Pudney (VP). Also in attendance Phil Dyer (PD) (Cemetery Administrator), Jane McClintock (JMcC) and Caroline Emeny (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

1. **Welcome:** Cllr Cooper welcomed all to the meeting, standing in as temporary Chair until Cllr Pudney arrived.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Fausset and Hollowday.
3. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and no requests for dispensations. Councillors were reminded of their obligations under the new Code of Conduct.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting of 14 March 2024 were approved and signed by the acting Chair.
5. **To note any matters arising:** no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda. Cllr Pudney arrived.
6. **Water Table update** – The extremely wet winter and spring produced about 2" of water in the trench dug nearest the ditch. It was initially dry but water seeped in overnight, thus limiting the number of plots that can be safely allocated further north. It was agreed another 10 plots could be allocated past the middle section. Only 7 of the current plots left. It was agreed to split the current unconsecrated area into 2, with some form of demarcation. This will give another 20 plots, leaving 12 for unconsecrated burials. Total consecrated plots available will then be 37 which will see us through for some years.  
*Actions: PD, JMcC and a Cllr to check that the extra plots are feasible in both areas and to review what form of delineation is needed to separate the unconsecrated area from the rest*  
*Clerk to contact JH re grass cutting on the new plots and to ask him to keep it cut short and continue to maintain both areas*  
*Clerk to contact the new vicar (Helen Grover) once she is in post on 19 September to consecrate the additional 20 plot area*  
*Clerk to ensure current grass contractor cuts all the grassed areas apart from around the graves themselves*
7. **Identified work re trees and hedges** – Previous quotes were £740 and £780 from Nov '23. New quote £850 plus vat. It was resolved to approve the work provided it does not exceed £850, AIF. **Action:** *Clerk to get updated quotes and contacts from previous chair and evaluate. Clerk to award the work provided it falls under the latest quote*
8. **Compost Bin update:** Very flimsy but JMcC is monitoring it. It is being used correctly by visitors.
9. **Grass cutting around graves update:** To monitor any further feedback from JH, grass cutter.
10. **Memorials:** Review of any further queries re memorials and any amendments as may be required. Nothing further to note.
11. **Cemetery Administration:** Nothing further to note. Clerk produced income vs expenditure re allocated monies for the additional grave grass cutting - £792.72 expenditure vs £845 income to mid August. Car park needs spraying – clerk to contact the contractor. Cemetery plan to be updated to include the 30 new plots.
12. **Cemetery Clean up Day** – incorporated into Village Clean Up Event on 12<sup>th</sup> October. Tasks include wire brush and oil to both benches, wash granite sign, gates need rubbing down and oiling, leaves need sweeping up.  
*Actions: JMcC, PD and Cllr Goodchild will head up the cemetery gang.*
13. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7pm in the PDCC lounge t.b.c.

The meeting closed at 1930 hours.