

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CEMETERY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.15PM IN THE GREENACRE CENTRE, STOTFOLD

Committee Members present:

Councillors T Bhasin, B Collier (Chairman), A Cooper, Mrs M Cooper, S Dhaliwal, Mrs J Hyde.

Also present:

Town Clerk – Mrs K Elliott-Turner, Councillors Mrs L Anderson, S Hayes and one member of the public

35/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence, as all committee members were present.

36/21 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no disclosures of interest or requests for dispensation. Members were reminded that if at any time during the meeting they feel they have an interest in an item being discussed, they should declare it at that point.

37/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Not at this time.

38/21 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

39/21 PEST CONTROL

Members considered a request from the owner of land adjacent to the cemetery for regarding pest control.

RESOLVED we already carry out pest control within the Cemetery, and that he is at liberty to install rabbit proof fencing on his side of the boundary fence.

40/21 WALLED GARDEN OF REST – RESIN SURFACING

Members considered colour samples for resin surfacing, as per previously accepted quote – for surfacing within the Walled Garden of Rest.

RESOLVED that the colour Apsley is chosen.

41/21 VEHICLE GATEWAY PILLAR DAMAGE

On Friday 8th October, significant damage to the vehicle gateway pillar at the cemetery was discovered by our Handyman Contractor – photos provided to members. It is believed that a vehicle used the drive to the gateway as a turning area, knocking the gate and damaging the pillar. The loose top section of the pillar had been repositioned to its correct siting as a temporary solution. However, it appears that this has either been hit again or has moved due to opening and closing of the gate, which is now also further broken. The top section will be re-sited again as a temporary measure, and quotes will be obtained to rebuild the pillar, perhaps with a steel bar through the middle for additional strength.

42/21 REQUEST FOR SINGLE FEES

Members considered a request from a family for single fees (as a non-Stotfold resident, where triple fees would normally be charged). Members discussed past exceptions where single fees have been granted, and the reasons for those exceptions.

RESOLVED that the reasons given cannot merit an exception in this case, and the request for single fees is turned down.

43/21 CEMETERY CHARGES FOR 2022/2023

Members considered the previously circulated copy of current charges and proposed charges for 2022/2023.

RESOLVED that the 2022/2023 charges for Stotfold Cemetery are not increased, and therefore remain at the 2021/2022 rates.

44/21 REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND EXPENDITURE PRIOR TO CONSIDERING ESTIMATES

No items of note.

45/21 COMMITTEE BUDGET SETTING 2022/2023

Members were previously provided with a copy of the figures for the first six months of the current financial year and undertook an appraisal before the estimates of the general running costs for the committee were considered.

Estimate figures for 2022/2023

Estimated running costs:	£49,900
Less estimated income:	£23,000
Total	£26,900

Earmarked Reserves

Cemetery Projects	£25,000
Total	£25,000

RECOMMENDED that:

- i) The sum of £26,900 is submitted as this committee's budget request for 2022/2023.
- ii) The sum of £25,000 is submitted as this committee's Earmarked Reserves request for 2022/2023.
- iii) These amounts are to be submitted to the Establishment Committee for collation with other committee requests, in order to produce a draft council budget and precept request for approval by full council.

46/21 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, RELEVANT TO THIS COMMITTEE ONLY

Nothing to report.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.42pm.

MINUTES APPROVED (date):

SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN: