

ELLESMERE TOWN COUNCIL CEMETERY WORKING GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3rd October 2019
AT ELLESMERE TOWN HALL

Members Present:

Chair :

Vice Chair : **Graham Dyke**

Councillors : **John Baker, Pat Clubbe, Kay Egerton, John Frost & Anne Wignall**

As Councillor Paul Goulbourne was absent this evening Councillor Graham Dyke chaired the meeting.

Public Participation Session

No members of the public were present this evening.

Apologies Received

Apologies had been received from Councillor Paul Goulbourne who was on holiday.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

No disclosures were made.

Public Participation Session

Nothing further was discussed.

36/19 Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2019 are confirmed, approved and signed.

37/19 Matters Arising :

New grave space

The CC advised Councillors that Chris Egerton had now completed the removal of the tarmac path and reinstated the area with topsoil and turf. He had also carried out other ancillary work as requested including removal of a conifer tree and bush close to the old cemetery wall. He had also topped up some graves which had shown signs of subsidence with topsoil and in one case with turf.

Cemetery Lodge guttering and rainwater downpipes

The CC advised that Carl Dulson had been in contact and was now hoping to start the replacement guttering and pipes with cast iron look-a-like plastic from 5th October.

Memorials Testing

The CC advised that he had been in contact with various firms of stonemasons regarding the matter. Two of them advised outright that they did not wish to undertake this work and he was still awaiting a response from two other firms. Only one firm had responded with a quote of £5 per headstone / memorial. After consultation with Jo Butterworth it was agreed that the CC would contact Steve Jones (of Jones and Hughes stonemasons) and arrange to meet with him at the cemetery in order that he can report on what needs doing to progress the matter forward. Mention was made of possibly incorporating into the Cemetery Regulations a minimum period of time from interment before a headstone may be placed on a new grave. The CC will get advice from Steve Jones regarding this and the matter will be discussed again.



Trimming back of the yew trees

This work had now also been completed on all the yew trees in the cemetery by Chris Egerton including the removal of extraneous growth from within the yew trees.

Chapel water leak

The roof of the Chapel had been examined by Carl Dulson and it was found that various roof slates had slipped in the gully area between the two halves of the Chapel. Carl was asked to carry out the necessary remedial work and this has now been done which should render the Chapel waterproof again.

Digitalised Burial Registers

The latest position on this is that, following communications with Shropshire Archives, Chris Jobson and other interested parties, it has been agreed by ETC to allow interested members of the public to view the digitalised burial records from August 1865 to December 1991 by appointment at the Town Hall on a Tuesday or Thursday morning. In respect of the Cemetery plan on view at the Town Hall the CC had drawn up a disclaimer notice which is now on display advising that the plan of the graves on display is neither geographically accurate nor does it include all existing graves.

38/19 Proposed contemplative area / arbour in the Cemetery

Councillors had looked at this proposal, originally made by Councillor Wignall, during their annual visit to the cemetery in July and it was agreed at that stage to possibly have an arbour sited close to the top gate of the Cemetery adjacent to the road hedge. Councillor Baker had brought some possible ideas for the arbour to the meeting this evening. Councillors were of the opinion it should be constructed of oak with a slate roof and have a slab base. At this stage of the meeting the CC had popped out to see Jo Butterworth who was in the Town Hall to briefly advise her of the situation. She advised the CC that he would need to e-mail her regarding the proposal which might then be discussed at the ETC meeting next Monday. It was agreed that Councillors Frost and Wignall would expand on the matter at this ETC meeting on behalf of the CWG and hopefully obtain consent from ETC to erecting an arbour. The matter would be placed on the Agenda for our next due meeting.

39/19 Financial Information received from ETC

The CC had sent the latest financial information from Jo Butterworth by e-mail to Councillors and provided them with hard copies for tonight's meeting. Nothing further was discussed regarding this information.

40/19 Cemetery Co-ordinator's Report

The CC advised Councillors that, since the last meeting on 25th July, there had been five interments. Three were coffin interments (one a re-opening in the F Section, one a new double into the last plot in the N Section and one a new double in the P Section) and there were two cremated remains interments (one a re-opening of a grave in the F Section and one the first interment into a new double grave in the P Section).

Following a request from Gary Jones (Groundforce) stickers had been acquired and have now been placed on the various wheelie bins in the cemetery to distinguish green waste bins from ordinary waste bins.

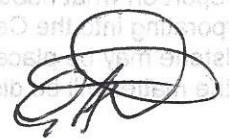
Income received by the CC for the year to date is :

Interments	£2,015.00
Headstones / MV	£1,360.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>£3,375.00</u>

Date of next scheduled meeting

Thursday 28th November 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in Ellesmere Town Hall.

End of meeting.



5-12-19.