

ELLESMERE TOWN COUNCIL CEMETERY WORKING GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29th January 2026
at Ellesmere Town Hall.

Members Present:

Chair: P. Goulbourne

V. Chair: K. Egerton

Councillors: A. Wignall, S.Jackson, J.Howard, G.Elner G.Hitchinson, A Richardson.

Officers: Andy Chatting, (CCO).

CWG 01/26/01 To receive apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Egerton (for personal reasons)

Cllr Proffitt (sickness)

Cllr Gargiulo (sickness)

Proposed for acceptance by Cllr Goulbourne and seconded by Cllr Elner.

Accepted unanimously by the other members of the CWG.

CWG 01/26/02 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests. To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

Members are reminded that they are required to **leave** the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

No disclosures were made.

CWG 01/26/03 Grant Dispensations. In pursuance of the Localism Act 2011, s31 (4) to report on any dispensations requested/granted.

None requested.

CWG 01/26/04 Minutes. To read and confirm the minutes of the Cemetery Working Group Meeting held on 26th November 2025.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2025 be signed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr Hutchinson and seconded by Cllr. Richardson. Accepted unanimously by the other members of the CWG.

CWG 01/26/05 **Finance.**

(a) CWG Payments. To note payments made during November and December 2025.

(b) Final budget 12/1/26. To note.

(c) Budget Notes 2025/26. To note.

(d) 2nd Quarter report. To note.

(e) To note that the TC increased the rent rate for The Lodge from £600.00 to £625.00.

These items were noted.

CWG/01/26/06 **Cemetery Report.**

The contents were noted.

CWG 01/26/07 **Cemetery Fees.**

The CWG decided that the fees should remain as they are and should be reviewed in 12 months' time at the January 2027 meeting. Proposed by Cllr Goulbourne and seconded by Cllr Wignall. All agreed.

CWG /01/26/08 **Ratify the decision about the up-coming MORRIS interment** (See CCO report).

The decision to allow the MORRIS interment was proposed by Cllr Hutchinson and seconded by Cllr Howard. The members of the CWG voted unanimously to ratify this decision which had been made before the interment needed to be authorised and before this meeting.

The members of the CWG agreed that internments of this nature, which amount to exceptional circumstances, should not set a precedent but where they occurred should be considered on a case-by-case basis with the CWG being provided with information on which to base their decisions.

CWG 01/26/09 **The Excell + Woosnam quotes so far.**

These were noted especially in relation to the CCO having been provided with 2 of the 3 quotes that he had been anticipating but that a third would be required.

CWG 01/26/10 **To set a date for a wreath 'tidy up'.**

The CWG set the tidy-up day for the afternoon of Saturday 31st January 2026.

CWG 01/26/11 **Masons displaying their business name on memorials.** (See CCO report)

This was noted.

CWG 01/26/12 **Consider amending the ban on burying people from outside the parish in NEW Plots.**

This issue was discussed and the CWG members decided to keep the ‘ban’ in place but that where there were exceptional grounds for allowing and interment (as per MORRIS -above) then each should be considered on a case-by-case basis with the CWG being provided with information on which to base their decisions.

Proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Jackson. Agreed unanimously by the remainder of the CWG.

CWG -01/26/13 CWG members to visit other nearby cemeteries to look at Memorial Garden options.

This matter was discussed with the following members agreeing to look at how other, nearby cemeteries set out their cremated remains internments.

Cllr Jackson – Criftins/Duddleston Heath + Oswestry.

Cllr Richarson – St Martins.

Cllr Wignall – Welshampton.

The CCO was asked to explore Welsh Frankton and Wem.

CWG 01/26/14 Standing item on the agenda relating to the acquisition of new land.

Noted with no further progress.

CWG 01/26/15 Future Agenda Items.

No items were brought forward.

CWG 01/26/16 Next Meeting. Thursday 26th March 2026, at 7:00 pm at Ellesmere Town Hall.

This was noted with Cllr Elner giving advanced notice of his absence de to be on holiday.

The meeting closed at 19:30hours.

Chair.....

Date.....