

ST DENNIS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Cemetery Meeting held at ClayTAWC on Thursday the 25th January 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Edmunds (Chair), Cllr Burnett (Vice Chair) Cllr Clarke.

In Attendance: Lynn Clarke, Parish Clerk.

C22/22 – Apologies

None. Cllr Kelsey absent.

C23/22 – Declarations of Interest

None.

C24/22 – Public Participation

No members of the public present.

C25/22 – To adopt the minutes of the cemetery meeting held on the 27th July 2022.

Resolved – To accept the minutes. All Cllrs present in favour.

C26/22 – Matters arising from the last meeting.

Cemetery Charges have been updated and a copy is on the website.

Wall repairs are due to start next month ivy is currently being removed from the wall.

Moss removal – two new metal brushes have been ordered and two of our staff will be undertaking the removal.

The bulbs have been purchased and some have been planted.

One flower bed has been completed the second needs to be prepared by our staff.

WI tree has been planted.

Markers for the Garden of Rest are still being investigated as the gaps are not a standard size for off the shelf purchases.

Quotes to be obtained for the clearance at the entrance as there will be too much debris for our staff to dispose of.

Cllr Edmunds requested that the memorial surround by the new bench be fenced off.

C27/22 – To review the length of time that Memorial permits are issued.

The Committee were informed that current Permits are issued for 50 years. Cllr Edmunds advised that recent training had suggested that permits were issued for shorter lengths of time to aid with the safe management of memorials. The Clerk highlighted that the charges would need to be reviewed in line with any changes made.

It was **Resolved** to reduce the term of permits to 25 years. The charges to remain the same but permit extensions would be charged at £25 for an additional 25 years and issued on receipt of confirmation from a stonemason that the memorial is safe. All present in favour.

C28/22 – Update on the Cemetery Records review.

The records have been transferred to the computerised system. There are a few queries that have been raised which need further investigation. The new system is already making the job of looking up information easier.

C29/22 – To discuss the possibility of the Parish Council providing additional services at the Cemetery.

A report was provided by the Clerk regarding additional services that the Parish Council could offer to reduce reliance on precept demands. A copy of the report can be found [here](#).

Headstone Cleaning: It was **Resolved** to offer this service.

Ashes interment assistance / service: It was **Resolved** to trial this service and to review in 1 year. Service will be subject to availability.

Researching of Burial records: It was highlighted that families researching family trees can take up considerable time going through the records and acquiring information. It was **Resolved** to offer confirmation of names free of charge, further information will incur a fee. All Present in favour.

C30/22 – To agree the costs for additional services.

Headstone Cleaning: It was **Resolved** to charge £30 for each clean.

Ashes interment Assistance / Service: It was **Resolved** to charge £50 for this service.

Burial Record research: It was **Resolved** to charge £25 for each plot search. All present in favour

C31/22 – To agree the installation of bird and bat boxes in the area.

Cllr Burnett highlighted that following the recent necessary removal of trees, nesting habitat may have been lost and this would increase the biodiversity of the Cemetery providing habitation for nesting birds and bat roosts.

It was **Resolved** for the clerk to purchase 3 bird boxes, a budget of £15 per bird box was delegated to the Clerk. The Clerk will approach Brannel School regarding the possibility of the production of bat boxes. If materials are required, the cost of the purchase for said materials will be agreed via email.

C32/22 – To consider the installation of a directional sign for the Cemetery.

Resolved – To approach Cornwall Council regarding the installation of a Cemetery sign and any associated costs to be agreed via email. All present in favour.

C33/22 – Update on the Cemetery Extension.

The Clerk informed that several attempts have been made to arrange a meeting with the Community Liaison Officer regarding compulsory purchase of the land required, but to date no replies to this request have been received.

C34/22 – Any other matters.

The Clerk informed that the EROB's for plot purchases in 1924 are now up for renewal.

Contact will be made with family members where possible but there is a possibility that these will revert to the ownership of the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported on a news article where a post-box had been installed in Cemetery Grounds for people to write to loved ones who were no longer with us and how this has helped with grief. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Cemetery Meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a remembrance area that would allow the scattering of ashes within the Cemetery. Whilst this is not currently allowed it was agreed to investigate this option. To be placed on the agenda for the next Cemetery Meeting.

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

C21/22 – Confidential Items.

Removal of unauthorised kerb edgings – The clerk informed that two new installations have been undertaken without the proper procedures being followed. There are two historical installations that still have not been removed. It was **Resolved** to remove the two older installations, and to give notice of one month before removal of the newer installations. All present in favour.

Any other urgent and relevant confidential item, for information, that the Chairman considers appropriate.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.15 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairman of the Cemetery Committee