

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of
The Cemetery Committee
held on Thursday 19 April 2018 at 7pm
In the Town Council Office, Castle Park, Frodsham



Present: Cllrs J Critchley (Chair), C Ashton, L Brown, Lord F Pennington and P Williamson.
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk)
Mr J Neild

In Attendance: Two members of the public

Meeting 4

No	Item
40	Apologies None.
41	Minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2018 The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and L Brown.
42	Right for the public to speak <u>Road Around the Cemetery</u> - The residents had heard that a road was to be built around the cemetery as part of the development plans and they were unhappy about this. They had family members in graves that would be affected by this. The Chair explained that this had been considered but dismissed. The current plans included an extension to the existing road in a circular path up to the back of the upper tier. This will allow for the pathways between the graves to be as level as possible. <u>Bench</u> - The residents were also interested in having a bench on the cemetery. The Chair explained that no further benches would be considered until the design for the upper extension has been agreed. The Chair also stated that there would be public consultation on any plans before any final decisions are made.
43	Actual spend against budget 2017/18 The final year-end figures were noted. The slight overspend was due to repairs to the tap, installing the RADAR lock and repairs to the ride-on mower. Cllr Lord Pennington asked that the upper tap be changed as it was often difficult for older visitors to use. TC will investigate this.
44	Ear-marked Reserves It was agreed to recommend to Council that the surplus identified at the end of the Financial year of £11,615.46 should be added to the Ear-marked Reserve for the future development and maintenance of the Cemetery (R1.) – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and J Critchley.
45	Cemetery Design Support There is £766.05 left on the current contract which would have been used to draw up the specification if we had agreed on the design. There is the potential to use this instead for further design work and another attendance at one of our meetings. The designer suggests we should be clear about the final design brief before contacting her again. It was agreed to hold a site visit on Thursday 17 May. Everyone will meet at Castle Park House to discuss design ideas first.

Committee Members: Cllrs C Ashton, L Brown, J Critchley, Lord F Pennington and P Williamson.
Town Clerk: Mrs H Catt

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No	Item
46	<p>Removal of Trees</p> <p>It had been agreed at FTC meeting on 26.01.15 that the decision to remove the trees should be revisited at a meeting in January 2018. The initial decision to plant trees in the hedge and then after 5 years remove the trees along the sides of the cemetery was agreed by council on 19 December 2011. TC will find the relevant minutes for the next meeting. Cllr C Ashton felt that the whole quiet and thoughtful atmosphere of the cemetery would be changed if the trees were removed. This can also be looked at during the site visit.</p> <p>The Chair reminded the meeting that the decision had been taken already not to carry out any works on the existing part of the cemetery until the designs for the upper part were decided.</p>
47	<p>Northwich Cemetery Visit</p> <p>Cllrs J Critchley and T Reynolds had visited Northwich Cemetery with TC. The main area where there was a shortfall in our regulations was around transfer of ownership and the use of Indemnity Forms, which would not provide protection against family disputes legally. Suggested amendments to the Regulations to require a Statutory Declaration would resolve the matter.</p> <p>Sanctum 2000 – a repository for cremated remains. Cllr J Critchley felt this would make a good addition to our offer. Northwich order them in bulk but only pay for them as they are purchased.</p> <p>Benches – Northwich have granite benches which are maintenance free and have plaque spaces for inscriptions.</p> <p>These can be considered in the new design plans.</p>
48	<p>Cemetery Regulations</p> <p>Consideration of the amendments to the regulations was deferred to allow Cllr Lord F Pennington to raise a private issue with TC.</p>
49	<p>Cemetery Fees 2018-19</p> <p>It was agreed to maintain the current cemetery fees structure for 2018-19 – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and J Critchley. Cllr P Williamson asked about there being different fees for non-residents. Most cemeteries operate the same system. Where someone has spent 90% of their life here or left less than 5 years ago they can still be classed as resident. This is to allow for people who moved into residential care outside the area.</p>
50	<p>Access Improvements</p> <p>There has been no progress due to staff changes but it is programmed for the next period.</p>
51	<p>Agenda items for the next meeting</p> <p>Cemetery Design, Cemetery Regulations and Access Improvements.</p> <p>Woodland Burials – Mr J Neild asked if this could be discussed. TC will research the matter and bring it to a future meeting.</p>
52	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>28 June 2018 (7pm).</p>

Meeting ended at 7.55pm.

- R1.** To agree that the surplus identified at the end of the Financial year of £11,615.46 should be added to the Ear-marked Reserve for the future development and maintenance of the Cemetery.

Committee Members: Cllrs C Ashton, L Brown, J Critchley, Lord F Pennington and P Williamson.

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