

Weaverham, Cuddington and Acton Bridge Cemetery Committee

Special Meeting

Date & time 15th November 2022 at 19.30 **Location** Weaverham Community centre

Attendees Cllr T Brocklebank (ABPC) (Chairperson), Cllr J Freeman (WPC), Cllr P Chrimes (CPC), Cllr C Fifield (ABPC), Cllr A Crist (CPC), Cllr M Gerrard (WPC), Cllr S Brookes (CPC), Cllr G Edwards (WPC)(arrived 20:20), Mr K Byrne, Mr G Robinson (Cemetery Maintenance Manager), Mrs C Robinson (Clerk to the Committee)

Apologies Cllr E Bland (WPC)

Absent

Minutes written by Mrs C Robinson (Clerk)

The meeting commenced at 19:39

Agenda item	Notes & actions
66. Apologies	<p>Apologies for Absence – as noted above.</p> <p>The sad news of Cllr Julian Bland (WPC) passing was shared with the Committee along with details of his funeral. The Committee sends its condolences to Cllr Bland for her loss.</p>
67. Declarations of interest	<p>There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared.</p> <p>Cllr Brocklebank disclosed he had passed the details of one Contractor (Cliff Anderson) to the Maintenance Manager.</p>
68. Minutes of Committee meeting held on 18th October 2022	<p>Cllr Fifield proposed and Cllr Freeman seconded and it was RESOLVED that, the minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on 16st August 2022 are accepted as a true and correct record.</p>
69. Review and decision of any amendments to the Cemetery Rules	<p>Gorstage Cemetery Rule 19 2nd Paragraph, the current approved wording is: <i>'Headstones should be solid and regular shapes with smooth edges and uniform size of inscription. The Committee reserve the right to refuse any application for a headstone if they do not think it fits in with the uniformity required at a grass cemetery.'</i></p> <p>Following a request from a family to change the rules, the JCC reviewed the Clerks report that had been circulated prior to the meeting, which included pictures of the 8 headstones out of a total of approx. 911 in the cemetery, with rustic/pitched edges (placed before the rule change in January 2020 to include only allowing smooth edges). The Committee had a long discussion on the desire to allow families to be able to choose various types of memorials, along with the Committee's need to be clear and transparent to families and stone masons over what would be suitable at a lawned cemetery (which requires uniformity), without long delays awaiting decisions.</p> <p>69.1 Cllr Fifield proposed and Cllr Gerrard seconded and the Committee unanimously REFUSED to change the rule to what the family had requested: <i>'Headstones should be solid shapes with uniform size of inscription. The Committee reserve the right to refuse any application for a headstone where it does not fit in with the uniformity required at a grass cemetery.'</i></p> <p>69.2 Cllr Chrimes proposed and Cllr Fifield seconded and the Committee by a majority of 7 to 1, with 1 abstention, RESOLVED to change the rule to <i>'Headstones should be solid and regular shapes, made from stone with smooth or rustic/pitched edges (sides and top) and uniform size of inscription. The Committee reserve the right to refuse any application for a headstone if they do not think it fits in with the uniformity required at a grass cemetery.'</i></p> <p>The Clerk will change the rule, include it in appropriate paperwork and circulate to Stone Masons. She will also confirm in writing to the family. Action Mrs Robinson</p>

<p>70. AOB</p>	<p>70.1 Following a request for clarity from the Clerk, the Committee confirmed that the fee for a <u>resident</u> interment should be applied if there are 2 interments at the same time in the same plot (ashes), and the interment is of one resident and one non-resident, as only 1 fee is applied. Action Mrs Robinson</p> <p>70.2 The Maintenance contractor, UKL, have realised they cannot do everything agreed for the price agreed and point out there is no formal contract. The Committee will need to go out to tender again and agreed they did not want to remove anything from the current specification. Action Mr Robinson</p> <p>70.3 The Clerk circulated quotes from 2 contractors for tree and shrub maintenance, and hedge cutting as UKL cannot do as they do not have the right H&S requirements for using ladders. Following a discussion on the suitability of the Contractors and the amount of the quotes, Cllr Freeman proposed and Cllr Fifield seconded and it was RESOLVED to appoint Cliff Anderson who had quoted £1,875 for the hedge cutting and £675 for the tree and shrub maintenance. Access will need to be arranged onto the Cemex side of the hedge, and the Maintenance Manager will ask for copies of insurance etc. Action Mr Robinson</p> <p>70.4 Pear Technology have revised the amount they want to charge for providing Edge with the information they need from the digital map from £200 - £575; the key excerpts from the email received from Chris Makin to the Clerk was circulated in the Clerks report prior to the meeting. The Committee asked the Clerk to respond to Pear with the comment that ‘the Committee has approved £200 and there is no further budget available.’ Action Mrs Robinson</p> <p>70.5 Wild meadow update -The Maintenance Manager has removed a substantial amount of weeds (around 8 ton) by hand to ensure the roots were removed, UKL then cut the grass, and CWAC turned the soil (at no cost). The seed has been purchased, and a request has been put to the Neighbourhood Pride scheme for the cost of the seed. There is still has some prep work to do on the soil and sowing the seed will be left to Spring to give it the best chance. There is an issue with disposing of the 8 tons of waste that has caused a problem with Suez, the Clerk and Maintenance Manager are looking at the best way to get the waste removed (it will be under £500). Action Mr & Mrs Robinson</p>
<p>71 Date of next meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting is planned for Tuesday 20th December 2022 at 19:30, venue already arranged for Weaverham Community Centre. The agenda will have a budget review including reviewing the re-instatement of the precept from the Parish Councils as the 5-year holiday will expire at the end of this financial year.</p>

The meeting closed at 20:55

Signed..... (Chairperson)

Date.....