

ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Burial Board Working Group Meeting held remotely

Via the 'Zoom' Platform (Meeting ID: 913 7578 9696 Passcode: 670034)

Monday 09 November 2020

Meeting at 7.00pm

PRESENT - Councillors W Armitage, S Dronfield, C Miller

S. Atkinson (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public – 0

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BB01/20 Election of a Chairman of the Burial Board for 2020/21

Resolved: That Cllr C Miller is elected Chairman of the Burial Board Working Group for 2020/2021.

BB02/20 Apologies – There were no apologies for absence.

BB03/20 Memorial Safety Inspections

All identified memorials had been repaired or stabilised by metal bars. A further cross had been identified for repair, but this was not unsafe and required further action by the contractor. Two kerb sets required repair.

Recommendation:

- (i) That a contractor is appointed to repair kerb sets for ExtA144 and ExtA239 subject to satisfactory quotations.**
- (ii) That a contractor is appointed to repair the cross for ExtB173 subject to a satisfactory quotation.**
- (iii) That future memorial repairs are approved subject to satisfactory quotations and budget allowance.**
- (iv) That the next Memorial Safety Inspection is undertaken in summer 2021.**

BB04/20 Revision of Memorial sizes

Memorial sizes were considered in line with BRAMM recommendations.

Recommendation:

- (i) That Memorial sizes are revised as follows:-
Above Ground no more than one metre high and 76cms wide**
- (ii) That the new measurements are implemented with immediate effect and for the whole of the cemetery.**

BB05/20 Fencing around Beech tree adjacent rebuilt stone boundary wall (section BB)

Securing of the boundary was considered and additional stone walling work was not feasible. A quotation had been sought for installation of a metal rail.

Recommendation: That a quotation is sought for a timber post and rail fence.

BB06/20 Revision of Burial Regulations

Consideration was given to general grave maintenance and the current Burial Regulations.

Recommendation: That the current Burial Regulations are confirmed.

BB07/20 Marking out of Extension E.

The new section would be marked out and paths laid week commencing 15/02/2021.

Recommendation: That clarification is sought on any planning permissions that may be required for the laying out of Extension E.

BB08/20 Climate Change Actions

The Board had been requested by the Parish Council to consider Climate Change Actions and make recommendations on how a contribution to delivering the adopted Climate Change Action Plan can be achieved. Suggested items put forward were considered as follows:-

- a) Composting or recycling waste in the cemetery – green and stone waste already segregated on site and recycled off-site by skip waste contractor. Manual composting would be too labour intensive to maintain and may be subject to vermin etc.
- b) The use of water tubs to collect water to avoid the use of mains water – considered to be cost negative due to limited roof space allowing collection.
- c) Create wildflower meadows and patches instead of mown grass – deemed counter-productive to the policy of maintaining the tidy appearance of the cemetery.
- d) Bat boxes on trees in the cemetery – agreed that bat boxes and hedgehog houses should be sited on the area of land behind the skip area and that this area is designated and maintained as a wildlife habitat.
- e) Adopt a carbon offset strategy for the cemetery such that if a tree is removed at least another one (or more) are planted in their place – replacement of fallen, felled trees is currently undertaken, providing this does not compromise burial areas.

Recommendation: That 2 bat boxes (£17.49 each) and 2 hedgehog houses (£19.75 each) are purchased for placement in the wildlife habitat area of the cemetery.

BB09/20 General Maintenance

A large amount of brash had been collected in the cemetery by the Lengthman.

Recommendation: That a contractor is engaged to remove brash etc. from the cemetery.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm