

**PERSHORE TOWN COUNCIL
CEMETERY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 28th March 2019**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cemetery Committee** held on Thursday 28th March 2019, at Town Hall, 34 High Street, Pershore commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:- Cllr P Brookbank (Chairman)
Cllr D Annis
Cllr J Hemming
Cllr J Palfrey
Cllr C Parsons MBE

Items referred by members of the public

There were none

289. Apologies

Cllr Gillmor's apologies were accepted as he had a prior engagement and Cllr Smith's as she was unwell.

290. Declarations of Interest

There were none

291. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Annis seconded by Cllr Hemming and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 24th January 2019 be signed as a true record of the proceedings.

282. Matters of report from the minutes

There were none

293. Finance

The Clerk presented a draft budget comparison to the end of the financial year. Draft accounts had also been included in the Council agenda for the following week and transfers to reserves would be considered by the Finance and Property Committee the following week. The Clerk advised that she would be recommending a transfer of £2,960 to reserves towards the wall repairs.

294. Cemetery Chapel

a. The Clerk advised that the sum £15,865 still needed to be raised for the Stained Glass Window Members agreed to continue to raise funds to cover this shortfall and considered various fund raising activities as follows:-

The Clerk advised that the history of the ships represented by the crests was nearly

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complete but that before they could be offered for sale they needed to be put into alphabetical order. Members of the committee agreed to meet at the Town Hall in the next couple of weeks to help to do this so that an advertisement could go in the Navy News. It was noted that if all could be sold as a job lot at a special price this would ease administration and Cllr Brookbank suggested possibly using Gumtree and Preloved.

Cllr Hemming suggested that the Navy Pensions office may be prepared to put something in a letter to go to all pensioners.

The Clerk had contacted Henry Sandon and the valuation afternoon and talk would now take place in the Library on June 1st at 2.00pm with a cream tea. The Clerk had arranged for Mr Sandon to be collected and returned to Worcester on the day and it was agreed this event be publicized after 13th May which was the last Mayor's charity event before the end of May.

Cllr Hemming suggested some dates for the skittles evening and she and Cllr Palfrey agreed to liaise regarding this event.

Cllr Palfrey reminded members of the talk to be given by Mr Roy Albutt on the light and colour in stained glass on 4th July. He suggested some cards be available for sale and some donation envelopes also be available. The Clerk will arrange this.

b. Cllr Annis asked that a summer service be considered and it was agreed this be a matter for a future agenda.

Cllr Brookbank suggested a talk about the history of the cemetery and Cllr Parsons suggested having some cultural and music events at the chapel. The Clerk will investigate these options and bring a report to the next meeting.

295. Cemetery

a. The Clerk advised that the bricks for the wall repairs had been received and work would start in the next few weeks on the wall repairs.

b. The Clerk advised that replacement whips recently planted along the footpath from the car park would appear to have taken.

c. It was agreed that the Clerk first advertise the old shoring for sale to another cemetery prior to selling it for scrap

d. Members considered the request for a bench to replace one that had recently had to be removed due to its dangerous condition. It was agreed the Clerk contact the resident and offer to fix a bench should they wish to provide one.

e. The issue of the condition of the compound was discussed and the Clerk agreed to look into this matter and report back to the next meeting.

296. Family History

It was agreed the University student present her finding of the life of Thomas Dolphin

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to members on Wednesday 10th April 2019 at 2.00pm in the meeting room at the chapel. This is the same day as a local W I group were coming to view the stained glass window and hear more about the chapel and the window.

297. Cemetery Field

The Clerk advised that the field would either be mowed by the same contractor or she was in discussion with a local farmer to see whether it was feasible for some sheep to be grazed there.

298. Items for Information

There were none

299. Items for future agenda

- a. Cllr Hemming suggested a chapel service for those who had lost children under 18 and who were buried in the cemetery. It was agreed the Clerk ascertain possible numbers and this be considered at the next meeting.
- b. School visits

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS:

At this point in the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr Parsons, seconded by Cllr Hemming and RESOLVED: "that in accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, as amended by the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted" agenda item 12, Cemetery Toilet

300. Cemetery Toilet

Members considered the budget cost for this building and the various options suggested by Cllr Brookbank and the Town Clerk. It was agreed this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

301. Staffing

The Clerk outlined a recent incident at the cemetery which had resulted in a complaint. Members took note of the circumstances and it was agreed a letter be sent to the complainant as appropriate.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.00 following which Cllr Brookbank thanked all members for their hard work over the past year.

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman