

**PERSHORE TOWN COUNCIL
CEMETERY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 26th January 2017**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cemetery Committee** held on Thursday 23rd March 2017, at the Town Hall, 34 High Street, Pershore commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:- Cllr C Parsons MBE (Chairman)
Cllr D Annis
Cllr P Brookbank
Cllr R Gillmor
Cllr V Smith

Items referred by members of the public

There were none

143. Apologies

Cllr Palfrey's apologies were accepted as he had a prior engagement

144. Declarations of Interest

There were none

145. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Annis seconded by Cllr Brookbank and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 26th January 2017 be signed as a true record of the proceedings.

146. Matters of report from the minutes

- a. The Clerk advised that the repair to the lightning conductor had been completed.
- b. The Clerk advised that the yew saplings had been replaced and security measures installed.
- c. The Clerk advised that the grit bin had arrived and would be installed shortly.

147. Finance

Members noted the draft budget comparison to end of the year and the Clerk advised that it was anticipated the Cemetery would break even by the end of the year with £500 put to reserves for the pointing to the chapel which had not yet been undertaken.

148. Cemetery Chapel

- a. Cllr Parsons outlined his concerns at the way in which funds for the memorial window were coming in. He had hoped many thousands of pounds would have been raised by now

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and with only 18 months to go until the window was installed he wondered what more could be done.

Cllr Smith said that she felt donating should be made easier for residents who were used to donating at the press of a button. She accepted that funds were slow coming in but felt it was too soon to decide whether the project would need to be abandoned.

Cllr Parsons said that he was not sure whether publicity to date has been specific enough and some residents believed the window had already been installed. He also felt that rather than "Stained Glass" the window should be known as the "Memorial" window which explained its purpose better.

Cllr Smith felt that more could be raised over the summer and there was the coffee morning the following weekend. It was agreed the group meet again in early April to discuss the window and to finalise various fund raising ideas. Cllr Parsons agreed to speak to Pershore Camera Club about the possibility of a photographic competition and all agreed to be available to man publicity stalls at the various events, starting with Carnival. A tombola was suggested and Cllr Annis offered to provide various prizes, samples of which he would bring to the next meeting.

The Clerk will book stalls at all the events and liaise with Steve Knight regarding a gazebo.

The Clerk also advised that letters had gone out to various local organisations to see whether they may feel able to donate.

Other suggestions included an Auction and a valuation day.

Cllr Parsons agreed to contact a local print company to see whether they would donate a banner publicising the fund raising.

c. The Clerk was asked to talk to a local print company about the possibility of a thermometer style display for use at the Town Hall and Cemetery indicating the target and progress with fund raising.

d. The Clerk advised that the agreed pointing had not yet been undertaken in view of the cold weather.

e. It was agreed that Open Days be the subject of discussion at the next meeting.

149. Cemetery

a. The Clerk advised that the Conservation Officer had discussed the new toilet block at the cemetery and expressed her wish for it to be either brick or timber rather than render. Cllr Gillmor offered to draw up some plans that could be used to obtain further quotations and in the meantime the Clerk would advise those who had already quoted accordingly.

The possibility of power was considered and the option of solar panels was debated. This will be considered further in due course.

b. The Clerk advised that Severn Trent would be completed the connection to the water main on 4th May. Following this a new water pipe would be run to connect to the pipe to the chapel and the necessary connection to the sewer would also be made.

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c. The Clerk asked for members opinion of a proposed memorial which was unusual and, the Clerk advised, different to any others at the cemetery. Following debate it was agreed that the proposed additional picture be put onto a vase in front on the headstone rather than on the headstone itself and the Clerk will advise the stonemason and the family accordingly.

d. The Clerk was hoping to acquire a spare notice board from the Town Manager and would update members in due course.

150. Family History Centre

a. The Clerk advised that whilst she had not yet purchased the cameras, now that the good weather was on its way she would be doing so shortly.

b. Members considered the date for the presentation from the University student and it was agreed this be set at the next meeting but that it would be after 8th May.

c. The Clerk advised that she hoped to be in a position to bring a report on the location of the Family History Centre to Council at their April meeting.

151. Cemetery Lodge

The Clerk advised that she was hoping contracts would be exchanged for the sale of the lodge shortly.

152. Cemetery Field

a. Members considered the alteration to the central kerbing at the cemetery carpark to better facilitate large coaches using the car park. The Clerk advised that the Town Manager had agreed to pay for these works and it was agreed the Clerk proceed on that basis.

b. The Clerk advised that the meeting with a local company concerning the field had not yet taken place but that she would contact them again to see whether such a meeting was still required.

c. Cllr Parsons asked that consideration be given to reducing the grass on the site, scuffing it and putting grass seed down. The Clerk will speak to a local farmer to ascertain the feasibility and cost of this.

153. Items for Information

There were none

154 Items for future agenda

Garden of Remembrance

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155. Cemetery Field

As there was nothing further to discuss under this item the meeting did not go into confidential session.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.10

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

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