

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BURIAL GROUND AND GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 2nd MAY 2006 AT 6.00 p.m. AT THE PAVILION, MANOR FIELD.**

Present : Cllr Mr A Barnett
Cllr Mrs J Burns
Cllr Mrs A Oxtoby (Chairman)

In attendance : Mrs J Hoad (Clerk)

Members of the Committee carried out a visual inspection of the Burial Ground, Gardens of Remembrance and Closed Churchyard before the start of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mr J Gaywood.

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Burial Ground and Garden of Remembrance Committee held on 21st March 2006 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Financial Report

The Committee examined a financial report indicating the current net position of the Burial Ground and Garden of Remembrance Committee as at 25th April 2006.

RESOLVED: That, the financial report, attached as appendix 1 to these minutes, be noted

5. Burial Ground

(a) The Committee considered matters arising from the visual inspection undertaken by Members of the Committee before the meeting.

RESOLVED: That,

(1) arrangements be made for the deadwood to be removed from the Cherry Tree located inside the entrance gate to the Burial Ground and,

(2) arrangements be made for the grave of the late Sheryn Catherine Beecroft to be turfed.

(b) It was reported that the quotation invited in respect of the removal of the dead bush at the entrance to the Burial Ground had not yet been received.

The Committee considered a new planting scheme for this bed, which included 1 no Osmanthus delavayii, 1 no Physocarpus Diablo, 1 no Escallonia – Beach Blossom and 1 no Ceanothus – Autumnal Blue. It was suggested the planting should be delayed to the autumn, but that works could still proceed to clear the bed in readiness for the replanting later in the year.

RESOLVED: That, that the contractor who had been invited to submit a quotation for the clearing the bed and replanting, be asked to ensure his quotation be made available in advance of the next meeting.

(c) It was reported that the quotation invited in respect of the replanting to the bed behind the grave of the late J Elvin had not yet been received. The Committee considered a new planting scheme for the bed, which included 4 no Viburnum Tinus.

RESOLVED: That, the contractor who had been invited to submit a quotation for the work be asked to ensure his quotation be made available in advance of the next meeting.

(d) It was reported that the quotation invited in respect of repairs to the kerbstone on the grave of the late John Francis White had not yet been received. It was also reported that no response had been received to a notice placed on the grave immediately after the last meeting asking for members of his family to contact the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That, the contractor who had been invited to submit a quotation for the repair work be asked to ensure his quotation be made available in advance of the next meeting.

(e) The Chairman of the Committee reported briefly on a meeting with T D Munday and Mr Harrington, the Council's gravedigger, to discuss the screening of the existing spoil heap and the re siting of the bonfire. The Committee considered quotations from Mr Harrington (1) to hire a grab lorry to remove the spoil and (2) to provide labour and equipment to assist with the removal of the spoil and to clear and level the area surrounding the spoil heap. The Committee considered a quotation from T D Munday to provide all the necessary materials and to erect a fence to provide a visual screen for the spoil heap and bonfire site. It was confirmed that in future Mr Munday would dispose of all materials not suitable for burning on the bonfire, such as flower oasis', in the blue trade sacks.

RESOLVED: That,

(1) the quotation for the sum of £285 plus VAT from MDH Contractors to hire a grab lorry to remove the waste from the spoil heap be accepted,

(2) the quotation for the sum of £180 plus VAT from MDH Contractors to provide labour and a mini digger to assist with the removal of the waste from the spoil heap and to clear and level the area surrounding the spoil heap be accepted,

(3) the quotation for the sum of £140 from T D Munday to provide a screen for the spoil heap constructed of 5 foot high willow screen (dark), 8 metres long, including posts be accepted.

6. Garden of Remembrance

(a) The Committee considered matters arising from the visual inspection undertaken by Members of the Committee before the meeting. Whilst the Committee was pleased with the condition of the surface of paving slabs since they had been cleaned with a jet wash, it was concerned that the jet washing had exposed the poor quality of the mortar between the paving slabs, which were cracked in many places causing a number of the slabs to become loose.

It was reported that the order to replant the Garden of Remembrance had been placed with the contractor, but there appeared to be some confusion over which shrubs were to be removed. A meeting with the contractor has been arranged so shrubs scheduled for removal may be identified before the start of the works. It was suggested that the

contractor should be asked to insert a watering tube next to the new plants to ensure they were given the best possible chance of survival.

RESOLVED: That, the report be noted.

(b) It was reported that since the last meeting it had been necessary for the Clerk to make arrangements for the paving slabs in the Garden of Remembrance to be cleaned by means of jet washing as a matter of some urgency due to an accident which had occurred in the Garden.

RESOLVED: That, the Clerk's actions to make arrangements for the paving slabs in the Garden of Remembrance to be cleaned by means of jet washing be confirmed.

(c) It was reported that the quotation invited in respect of the re pointing of the paving slabs in the Garden of Remembrance had not yet been received. The Committee expressed some concern over the condition of the pointing and noted that a number of the paving slabs were loose.

RESOLVED: That, the contractor who had been invited to submit a quotation for the repair works be asked to ensure his quotation be made available in advance of the next meeting.

7. New Garden of Remembrance

(a) There were no matters arising from the site inspection undertaken before the meeting.

(b) The Committee considered whether it would be acceptable for two interments of ashes to take place in one plot in the new Garden of Remembrance.

RESOLVED: That, the rules relating to the interment of ashes in the new Garden of Remembrance be altered to allow two interments of ashes in one single plot.

8. Closed church yard

The Committee expressed some concern over the height and the spread of the ornamental hedge which was now obstructing the Council's notice board.

It was reported that the excavated spoil from the archaeological dig next to the west wall of the Church had increased in size due to the fact that those involved in the excavations wished to examine the undisturbed soil between the graves.

RESOLVED: That, a quotation be sought to reduce the height and spread of the ornamental hedge located immediately in front of the Council's notice board.

9. New Burial Ground

The Chairman of the Committee reported that the drawings for the submission of a planning application in respect of the new Burial Ground were currently being prepared.

RESOLVED: That, the report be noted.

10. Burial Law and Policy in the 21st Century – the need for a sensitive and sustainable approach.

The Committee was informed that a response to the consultation exercise undertaken in 2004 by the Department of Constitutional Affairs had been published.

RESOLVED: That, the response to the consultation document on Burial Law and Policy in the 21st Century – the need for a sensitive and sustainable approach be noted.

11. Date of the next meeting

Tuesday 27th June 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

A visual site inspection will take place on 27th June 2006 at 5.30p.m. in the Hartley Burial Ground.

The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date:.....

Hartley Parish Council
Summary of Receipts and Payment
Burial Ground

Cost Centre	Receipts		Payments		Net Position Underspend (+)/Overspend (-)
	Estimated	Actual	Estimated	Actual	
4 Burial Grounds	2,500.00	140.00	6,375.00	212.00	3,803.00
NET TOTAL	2,500.00	140.00	6,375.00	212.00	3,803.00
Total for all Cost Centres		410.50		14,142.31	
V.A.T		0.00		1,427.72	
GROSS TOTAL		410.50		15,570.03	