

CREWKERNE AND WEST CREWKERNE
JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of a meeting of the Joint Burial Committee held on Tuesday 1 October 2024 at 19.15 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne.

PRESENT:

Cllrs. M. Best (Chair), N. Draycott, J. Holt, C. Rawe, A. Samuel and A. Stuart.

Absent: Cllr. C. Broom.

Also in attendance: K. Sheehan (Town Clerk), P. Hewitt (Finance Officer).

018 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

24/25

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Borland (personal).

019 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

24/25 in items on the agenda

No declarations of interest were made at this point.

020 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2024

24/25

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 JUNE 2024 were APPROVED.

021 OPEN FORUM

24/25

No members of the public were in attendance.

022 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

24/25

The Clerk reported that, with the Finance Officer, she had visited the Shed to view the War Graves plaque. She also noted that she would be contacting the Commonwealth War Graves Commission again to establish when the planned whitening would be carried out.

023 FINANCIAL MATTERS

24/25 a. To receive the financial update report

The financial update report was noted, the Town Clerk confirmed that the expenditure for training was a course for memorial safety inspections.

024 CEMETERY PATH UPGRADES

24/25 To consider quotations for path improvements

It was AGREED to permit a dispensation to proceed on the basis of one quotation, given the ongoing difficulties in finding contractors willing to quote for the works.

It was AGREED to proceed with the upgrades to all three outstanding paths in the new section of the cemetery and award the contract to D.W. Hyett & Sons for a total cost of £11,350 (no VAT). The works would be fully covered by the earmarked reserve for cemetery paths.

025 SPITFIRE MEMORIAL PLAQUE

24/25 To receive an update and determine arrangements for unveiling

The Town Clerk reported that an outline guest list of approximately 30-35 people had been compiled, and 'save the date' emails would be sent out shortly. There would be a short, daytime ceremony followed by refreshments held in March to coincide with the anticipated visit of F. D. Schofield's son to the UK.

026 CEMETERY MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2025

24/25 To consider quotations for recommendation to Crewkerne Town Council for inclusion in the 2025/26 budget

Some discussions took place around the quotations. It was noted that the flexible nature of the current contract had continued to be beneficial.

It was AGREED to award the maintenance contract to Fern Garden and Tree Services.

027 INSPECTIONS

24/25 To make arrangements for cemetery inspections until the next meeting

Cllr. Best reported from a recent walkaround, noting that the cemetery was looking good. It was noted that one of the driveway trees appeared to be stressed and the Town Clerk was asked to seek professional advice on this. It was noted that there was a high number of benches in the new section, and that a policy on memorial benches and trees would be drafted in due course.

Cllrs. Holt, Rawe and Samuel agreed to meet before the December meeting to carry out a further inspection.

028 TO APPROVE THE APPLICATIONS, MEMORIALS AND TRANSFERS RECEIVED

24/25

The applications, memorials and transfers received were APPROVED.

029 MATTERS OF REPORT

24/25

The Town Clerk reported that quotes for the toilet had arrived and would hopefully be ready for consideration at the next meeting. In response to a query about the Lodge garden/A30 boundary, Cllr. Best confirmed that rose bushes had been planted in this location.

030 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

24/25

Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 18.45 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 19.44.

Signed.....

Dated.....

JBC01October2024