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Draft Minutes of a Cemetery Committee Meeting at the Community Centre on Thursday 14 March 2024 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Pudney (VP/ Chair), Cooper (WC) and Hollowday (SH). Also in attendance Phil Dyer (PD) (Cemetery Administrator), Jane McClintock (JMcC) and Caroline Emeny (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

- 1 **Cllr Cooper stood in as temporary Chair until Cllr Pudney arrived**, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2 **Apologies for Absence** – No apologies, all present.
- 3 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and no requests for dispensations. Councillors were reminded of their obligations under the new Code of Conduct.
- 4 **Minutes of the previous meeting**
The minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting of 9 November 2023 were approved and signed by the acting Chair.
- 5 **To note any matters arising** –no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda. Cllr Pudney arrived.
- 6 **To consider quote(s) for identified work:**
Trees: The two quotes for the tree / hedges were minuted in November. **Action:** PD to expedite additional quote from one contractor. It was unanimously agreed that if this comes in at less than the previous 2 quotes, the work can be awarded without having to meet again solely to approve this. Work is to remove the apple tree, prune the pear trees, raise the canopy and a general tidy up of the trees and hedges.
Water table: Work quoted in December at £720 but as work not planned until late March, the price may change due to the digger hire costs. Note water table very high at present due to the excessive rainfall. It was agreed post meeting that the work should be ordered to be done in early May, once water levels have settled down.
Action: Clerk to contact contractor to confirm work for May
- 7 **Compost Bin:** Some teething problems but all resolved and is being used. JMcC will make a sign for the bin.
8. **Memorials:** The rules regarding photographic reproductions and memorials were reviewed. It was unanimously agreed to leave them unaltered at present. A recent complaint about banners and balloons being removed was discussed. The rules do not permit items like these. **Action:** Clerk to send a suitable response
9. **Cemetery Administration:** Nothing to report.
10. **Cemetery Clean Up Day:** it was agreed that with a local gardener now on board to tidy up / cut the grass around the graves and GoR, and the tree work to be carried out soon, no additional day was now required to keep the cemetery neat and tidy. The only other work identified by the Clerk is cleaning the granite sign which is set into the grass as you enter on the right.
11. **Date of next meeting – Thursday 12 September 2024 at 7 pm, PDCC availability permitting.**

The meeting closed at 1930 hours.