

TOWN HALL AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of Market Deeping Town Council's Town Hall and Cemetery committee held on Wednesday 16th January 2019 in the Town Hall, Market Deeping. Cllr Stephenson presided over Cllr Miss Collins, Cllr Miss Moran, Cllr Mrs Sked, Cllr Shelton and Cllr Broughton. The park keeper, deputy park keeper, the Clerk and deputy clerk were also in attendance.

59. Chairman's Welcome

Cllr Stephenson welcomed the members to the meeting.

60. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

61. To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were no declarations of interest made.

62. Minutes from meeting held on Wednesday 21st November 2018

It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Shelton and **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record and they were duly signed by Cllr Stephenson.

63. For members to consider the merits of including the Paddock within the TH&C committee remit and to discuss the possibility of putting this before the council

Cllr Broughton requested that agenda item 16 be considered at this point and the chairman agreed. He reminded members that there was a sign in the Rectory Paddock stating that the land would be free and open in perpetuity. He also reminded members of the work completed by himself and others in the area. Cllr Stephenson acknowledged all the previous work and advised members of work that he had completed with young volunteers and existing adult volunteers in the paddock and pond area. Cllr Stephenson stated his wish to ensure that in future years the hard work done in planting and maintaining the rectory paddock would not be wasted, and requested that if current councillors are not serving members of the council in future then the volunteer group that currently work on the paddock planting will be consulted before decisions regarding planting are taken. Cllrs discussed whether, as the land was an open space, it should be kept under the remit of Amenities and Open Spaces, or transferred to the Cemetery committee as it tends to be reported under that committee. Cllr Stephenson read statements from the Lincolnshire Wildlife group regarding maintaining a wildlife area. He reiterated three points:

- a) He would like the planting regime to be protected so as not to disturb the wildlife balance
- b) He would like the volunteer team to be consulted regarding planting due to their experience and expertise
- c) He would like the rectory paddock work to be reported back to the Cemetery committee as it is now.

Members agreed that the Paddock was not an extension of the cemetery and must not be used for burials at any time. It was then proposed by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Miss Moran and **RESOLVED** with two against to move the rectory paddock to the remit of the Town Hall and Cemetery Committee and to put this proposal before Full Council for ratification.

64. For members to consider the introduction of a Paddock Management Policy and to discuss its possible content

Following the discussion on item 63 above it was proposed by Cllr Miss Moran, seconded by Cllr Mrs Sked and **RESOLVED** to implement a Rectory Paddock working group.

8.45 Cllr Broughton and Cllr Miss Collins left the meeting.

65. Clerks report on matters arising

The chairman confirmed that the meeting would revert to the original agenda. The clerk reported that the resident making the cemetery complaint had asked for further information and this had been provided. The laptop for the Town Hall had been purchased, and the supplier of the metal cage had given a revised price for the installation. Members **RESOLVED** that the additional cost of approximately £50 was in order and the clerk was asked to proceed with the purchase.

66. Update on work activity taking place in the cemeteries (Old & New), and to review progress to date of works planner (via a verbal update from the park keeper)

The park keeper informed the members that the old rose hedge had been taken out as it had become unsightly. It had also died at the point where it reached the Spinney hedge and so this had been taken out also. A digger had been hired for the work. 50 metres of replacement hedging would be required to reinstate a suitable hedge. The cemetery drive had been re-gravelled. All jobs on the work planner were up to date.

Number	Location	Activity	Priority 1. H & S 2. Assist Productivity (Staff) 3. Part of project work (Where Consultation / Engagement has taken place)
			Cemetery
1	Spinney	Repaint fencing	1&2
2	New Cemetery	Repaint benches and gates	1&2
3	New/Old Cemetery	Gravel drive and pathways	1&2
4	Old Cemetery	Topiary	1&2
5	Cemetery Driveway	Rake over as required	1&2
6	New Cemetery	Repair laid down memorial	1&2
7	New Cemetery	Maintain flowerboxes	1&2

67. Correspondence

Correspondence – Town Hall & Cemetery – January 2019				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1	Resident	20/12/2018	Further queries on burial options	As the clerk had answered the queries a further response from the resident is

				awaited
2	Cllr Mrs Redshaw	09/01/2019	Cabinet for the chambers	Cllr Mrs Redshaw had requested an amount of approximately £75 for a cabinet she had sourced. It was RESOLVED unanimously to allow £100 for this purchase. The clerk will inform Cllr Mrs Redshaw
3	Resident	16/01/2019	Letter regarding bench in cemetery	A resident had requested a memorial bench for her late husband to be sited against the park keeper's shed and for an arbour to be erected over it to allow sheltered seating. It was RESOLVED unanimously to allow this.

68. Omega reports: Review of budget/expenditure/income

The Clerk had provided members with a copy of the omega report prior to the meeting. Members were asked if they had any questions. There were none.

8.55pm Cllr Mrs Sked left the meeting.

Town Hall

69. Update on the lease

Cllr Shelton advised members that we are awaiting the 'Heads of agreement' from SKDC which will provide further details of the transfer. Councillors discussed the benefits of obtaining a full survey on the premises after the transfer is completed but no resolution was made.

70. For members to discuss the possibility of Christmas Lighting on the Town Hall

Cllr Stephenson advised members that there used to be lighting on the front of the Town Hall. Members agreed that an external power socket would be required to support this. It was **RESOLVED** to approach LITE, the current Christmas Light provider, to enquire about some discreet lighting for the front of the Town Hall.

Cemetery

71. Chairman's Cemetery Report

Cllr Stephenson informed the members that his comments were included within agenda items already discussed.

72. For members to consider membership of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium management

Following advice from LALC, the clerk had enquired as to the cost of joining the ICCM and she advised members that there would be a cost of approximately £90pa. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to join the ICCM.

73. For members to consider the scope and extent of cemetery land

As there was no current update available Cllr Stephenson suggested that this item be added to the agenda for the March meeting. It was also agreed to review cemetery costs for the financial year 2019/20 at the March meeting.

74. For members to consider the purchase of hedging for the cemetery

Cllr Stephenson advised members that the new hedge would be planted in front of the posts that had been uncovered on the removal of the old hedge and this should help to prevent the hedge spreading the wrong way. The clerk had obtained details of the Woodland Trust's free planting offers but nothing was available until November. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to purchase sufficient mixed farmers' hedging for the required area of 53 metres at a cost of approximately £250. The park keepers confirmed that no extra stakes or cages would be required.

There being no other business Cllr Stephenson thanked all for attending and the meeting was closed at 9.07pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 20th March at 8.00pm at the Town Hall, Market Deeping.

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....