

CREWKERNE AND WEST CREWKERNE
JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Joint Burial Committee held on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 18.45 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Crewkerne.

PRESENT:

Cllrs. J. Borland (Chair), S. Ashton, M. Best C. Broom and A. Stuart.

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

63 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

23/24

Apologies were received from Cllr. N. Draycott (work commitments) and Cllr. A. Samuel (personal).

64 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2024

23/24

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2024 were APPROVED.

65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

23/24

in items on the agenda

No declarations of interest were made at this point.

66 OPEN FORUM

23/24

No members of the public were in attendance.

67 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

23/24

The Clerk reported that the spitfire memorial sign had arrived and the Shed was making a frame and stand for it. The Shed was also making a wooden map of the war graves.

Some discussion took place about anticipated works to the Chapel and Lodge later in the year. Councillors felt that with this in mind it would be better to delay the Open Day to 2025 to avoid issues with access/scaffolding etc.

68 FINANCIAL MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

23/24

a. To receive the financial update report

The financial update report was noted. The Chair noted that receipts were down.

b. To consider end of year reserves and resolve that each Council will hold their own reserves going forward

A report on end of year reserves levels was noted. It was AGREED that West Crewkerne Parish Council would manage their own cemetery reserves with effect from 1st April 2024, and the Finance Officer would liaise with the WCPC Clerk to effect this.

69 150th ANNIVERSARY AND D-DAY 80

23/24

To consider how to mark these events

Councillors noted that the request to the War Graves Commission to have the war graves cleaned had been agreed. The Clerk was asked to contact the RBL to enquire if this could be carried out before 6th June.

Councillors agreed that they would like to leave a lamp of peace in the chapel doorway to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. It was hoped that an official unveiling of the spitfire plaque could be arranged for Sunday 9th June, with representatives of the pilot's family to be invited to attend.

70 CEMETERY PATH WALLS

23/24 To consider quotes for repairs to the footpath wall

It was AGREED to award the contract to Luke Grafton Stonemason Ltd for the total of £2,482 and to delegate all arrangements for the works to the Operations Manager.

71 INSPECTIONS

23/24 a. To receive feedback from recent cemetery inspections

Councillors Broom and Best had visited the cemetery and reported that it was looking nice. The Town Clerk was asked to follow up with the Operations Manager about the following outstanding actions:

- Reinforcing the wooden gazebo
- Moving the pots away from the memorial wall to enable more plaques to be installed
- Removing the dead shrubs in the memorial garden.

b. To make arrangements for cemetery inspections until June 2024

Councillors Ashton, Borland and Broom agreed to conduct interim inspections ahead of the next meeting of the Joint Burial Committee in June.

72 TO APPROVE THE APPLICATIONS, MEMORIALS AND TRANSFERS RECEIVED

23/24

The applications, memorials and transfers received were APPROVED.

73 MATTERS OF REPORT

23/24

None.

74 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

23/24

Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 18.45 in the Chapel, Townsend Cemetery, Mount Pleasant.

The meeting closed at 19.12.

Signed.....

Dated.....

JBC09042024