

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE BURIAL GROUND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
CRAFT CENTRE MEETING ROOM, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON
TUESDAY 3rd. DECEMBER 2024.**

ATTENDANCE

Chairman - Mrs. V.B. Cornes.

Councillors - M. Ahmad and Councillor M.F. Cunningham.

Clerk - Mrs. L. J. Green.

32. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Mrs. C.A. Lovatt, Miss V.L. Salt & M.P. Worthington and it was resolved to accept these.
33. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15th. OCTOBER 2024** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
34. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No matters arising.
35. **CORRESPONDENCE:** - No Correspondence.
36. **REVIEW OF BURIAL GROUND REGULATIONS/ PURCHASE OF PLOTS** - The Clerk provided a new version of the Regulations which have now been combined to include both cemeteries and for burials and interments in the Garden of Remembrance. Councillor Mrs. Cornes has kindly helped to produce the new management policy, and these are now included in that. This version is signed by the plot owner on purchase of the plot and a copy retained by them to ensure that they know exactly what is and is not allowed. The funeral directors always get confused with the separate versions so combining them to cover everything should be easier to administer. The Clerk has had several enquiries with regards to the installation of CCTV because of the numerous items that are going missing. Unfortunately, they are ornaments, toys and planters which should not be on the plots and in consulting with other cemetery managers that they would not look to install any form of cameras as it would be intrusive to visitors wishing to visit their relatives' graves to mourn. This would need to be monitored and with both entrances it would be very difficult to do this and any items that have been removed have now been reported to the PCSO to make the Police aware. There is also an issue with data protection and policies would need to be made to cover everything but doing a risk assessment based on the rules we could not safely install any cameras or for plot holders to install them either. Members agreed we would not install CCTV or allow any cameras. The Clerk reported that for now no pre-purchasing of plots until there is a planned area set aside which a scale drawing of the whole cemetery will be drawn up to look at a forward program of works. Including paths to allow better access.
37. **BURIAL GROUND CHARGES 2025/2026** - The Clerk had circulated the charges which were discussed and proposed to increase at the last meeting with effect from 1.4.2025 from £230 to £300 for Burial Plot and £145 to £190 for interment. Garden of remembrance plot from £230 to £260 and £145 to £160 for interment. The same charge for Memorials increases from £75 to £85 & for vases £35 to £40. Based on these increases this would have generated a further £1660 on the fees taken so far this year. The fees are still lower than a lot of the compared burial grounds.

38. **BURIAL GROUND MANAGEMENT POLICY** - The Clerk thanked Councillor Mrs. Cornes for typing up the Policy and we have covered all aspects including formalizing the criteria for fees charged and when double fees will be charged. All Members & Councillor Mrs. Cornes agreed to read the final draft before circulating to everyone for implementation.
39. **UPDATE FROM RISK ASSESSMENTS - WORKS CARRIED OUT** - The Clerk reported that all items have been carried out as reported in the risk assessment.
40. **UPDATE ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY AGREED WORKS** - The Clerk reported that the handyman has almost completed the works by installing the border and level off the soil. We can look at planting it up once work has been completed. We then need a plan to deal with soil which accumulates. The Clerk reported that the new gatepost has been installed and a sign straightened up which was leaning.
41. **UPDATE MEMORIAL SAFETY CHECKS - ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - The Clerk reported that the signs requested be displayed for 28 days by the Diocese will have been up for the required time on 6/12/2024 we can then inform them, and they should provide us with the faculty to get the testing done on the memorial stones. AES will then perform the testing.
42. **WORKS REQUIRED FOR ACCESSIBILITY - ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - The Clerk reported that after the visit on site that when a plan to scale has been produced we can look at implementing this.
43. **LEGACY EAR-MARKED RESERVE VERA HEATH - £500 - ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - This funding could be used for planting the border and marking the funds provided by her legacy.
44. **ANY WORKS REQUIRED - ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - The Clerk had nothing else to report.
45. **ANY WORKS REQUIRED - ASYLUM BURIAL GROUND** - The Clerk reported that the hedge has been cut and looks great.
46. **ANY WORKS REQUIRED - CHEDDLETON LAWN CEMETERY** - The Clerk will have a look at the entrance stones to check these have been levelled.
47. **FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS**
Contact Mr. Carr once the work has been completed.
48. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2025/26** - The Clerk reported that the Burial Grounds are self-funding from charges so there is no requirement to raise a precept.

Chairman
11th. February 2025.