

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 24th OCTOBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Councillors Mrs A Vale (Vice-Chair) Mrs G Gardner, Mr J Paxton, Mrs B Thomas (ex-officio), Ms G Widdowfield (ex-officio)

Attending: Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes Taken by: Mrs S Cowie

22/207 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Laycock and Rudd.

22/208 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the procedures regarding declarations. None declared.

22/209 MATTERS ARISING

Minute point 199.4 Jempsons Tree Services have completed work to raise the crown of a cherry tree in the Burial Ground.

St Nicholas Church Warden advised that the Peace Clock is still stopping, they have asked the contractor to come back and review.

22/210 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 7th MARCH 2022

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Burial Ground Committee meeting held on 7th March **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas with **3 in favour and 2 abstentions**. The minutes were approved.

22/211 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BURIAL GROUND, CHURCHYARD AND WAR MEMORIAL INSPECTIONS

The inspections undertaken on 18th October were acknowledged. Everything was in order.

22/212 TO CONSIDER THE MEMORIAL ROSE BEDS IN THE GARDEN OF REST

Members considered the suggestion to plant spring bulbs in the rose beds and the merits of topping up the rose beds with mulch to retain moisture and cut down ongoing maintenance.

Following discussion Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** approval of the cost to purchase one bag of mulch from Jewson's at a cost of £101.38 + VAT. He then proposed approval of a maximum cost of up to £50.00 to purchase dwarf spring bulbs, to be planted in the rose beds. Councillor Widdowfield **SECONDED** The proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

22/213 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST FOR CAR PARK RESURFACING

The cost of materials to top up the car park surfacing was not available at the time of the meeting. This item will be added to the November Full Council agenda once the costs are known.

22/214 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST FOR HEDGE WORKS IN THE BURIAL GROUND

Members considered the quotation to cut the external hedgerow from the Burial Ground entrance gate to the top of the car park. The inside and top of the hedge are cut as part of the annual contract, the external side has traditionally been cut by a local group who have now disbanded.

Following discussion Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the quotation of £200 + VAT from Reynolds Landscaping to cut the external side of the hedgerow from the Burial Ground entrance gate to the top of the car park. Councillor Gardner **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

The ownership of hedgerow beyond the car park area is unclear, however the overgrowth is impacting the Burial Ground side and needs cutting back as soon as possible. Members agreed that clarification over who owns the land should be sought however if the landowner cannot be established, the Parish Council should go ahead with the work. On this basis, Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** that the quotation of £850 + VAT from Reynolds Landscaping to cut the external hedgerow be accepted, **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. **ACTION: Assistant Clerk to establish who owns the land.**

22/215 UPDATE ON THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE AND TO AGREE ANY ACTIONS

An update on arrangements for the service was provided. Everything is on schedule however at the time of the meeting there are not enough volunteers to man the road closure points. Councillor Paxton and the Assistant Clerk are speaking to local Groups to seek help.

A newsletter, detailing of the Act of Remembrance and road closures which will be in force during the service will be delivered to households. Road signs advising of the temporary road closure will be displayed 10 days prior to the event. Assistant Clerk to Action.

22/216 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

The November meeting will include consideration of the draft Bench Policy and Bench Package, review of Burial Ground Regulations relating to grave surrounds and the committee budgets for 2023/2024 precept.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm