

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 8.32 PM**

Present: Councillors S Laycock (Chair), B Thomas, A Vale, G Gardner, J Paxton (ex-officio)
N Day (ex-officio)

Attending: S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes Taken by: S Cowie

23/162 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors W Rudd and N Day

23/163 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None declared.

23/164 MATTERS ARISING

The village tree survey which was organised by the Highways & Environment Committee highlighted a number of trees in the Burial Ground which require work. The Highways and Environment Committee will discuss the way forward for all Parish Council owned trees at their next meeting.

Councillor Paxton joined the meeting at 8.34pm

23/165 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 27th FEBRUARY 2023

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Laycock **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Burial Ground Committee meeting held on 27th February 2023 **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The minutes were approved.

23/166 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST FOR THE TREE SURVEY OF ST NICHOLAS CHURCHYARD AND GARDEN

Councillor Laycock **PROPOSED** approval of the quotation of £475 + VAT from RGS Arboricultural to carry out the tree survey. Councillor Vale **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The survey cost will be split with St Nicholas Church.

23/167 TO RECEIVE AND UPDATE ON THE WAR MEMORIAL AREA

An update on the plans to refurbish the area and the maintenance of the shrubs was provided. Central Bedfordshire Council are the landowner and discussions are continuing with them over the committees plans. The Assistant Clerk will update members as the project progresses.

23/168 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST FOR NEW BENCH AND PLANTER TO BE SITED IN THE WAR MEMORIAL AREA

Following review of the bench options and costs Councillor Laycock **PROPOSED** approval of the Lest We Forget Metal Bench from Roll and Scroll at a cost of £1,450.00 + VAT. Councillor Vale **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. It is hoped that the bench can be installed before Remembrance Day.

Following discussion, it was agreed to hold off purchasing a planter until the new bench is installed.

23/169 TO REVIEW THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ORDER OF SERVICE AND AGREE ANY AMENDMENTS

The order of service was reviewed, and amendments agreed. Councillor Paxton confirmed that he would read the poem chosen, 'In Flanders' Field' and the reading at the Church Service, if required.

23/170 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST TO HIRE A PA SYSTEM FOR THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

The quotation was unavailable at the time of the meeting. A budget up to a maximum of £250 was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Paxton, **SECONDED** by Councillor Vale and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. **ACTION: Assistant Clerk to chase contractor for firm costings.**

23/171 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST OF GIFT VOUCHER FOR THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The bugler has confirmed their availability again this year. Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the purchase of a gift voucher, to the value of £50 for the performer, **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

23/172 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST OF EQUIPMENT FOR USE AT THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ROAD CLOSURES

Members considered the equipment needed for the road closures and the ease of use and transportation to the various road closure points. Following discussion Councillor Laycock **PROPOSED** approval of the purchase of 25 2-piece traffic cones and 4 blank Q signs from Street Solutions at a cost of £235.16 + VAT. Councillor Vale **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

23/173 TO CONSIDER THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

An update on the progress so far was provided by the Assistant Clerk. It is unlikely that the Police will be able to assist with the road closure this year however Barton Street Watch have been asked if they can assist. An appeal for marshals will be announced to the village shortly.

23/174 TO CONSIDER THE 2024 BEACON LIGHTING TO COMMEMORATE THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

The Parish has signed up to take part in the D-Day 80th anniversary beacon lighting on 6th June 2024. A budget, to cover all costs involved for the event will be agreed at the meeting in November. It was suggested that Barton Players should be asked if they have a suitable member to read the nations tribute at the service. As there was insufficient time to discuss the event in detail it was agreed that members should come forward with their ideas for discussion at a later meeting.

23/175 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

The meeting closed at 9.52 pm