

**ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
BURIAL GROUND COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Burial Ground Committee held on Tuesday
30 March 2021 commencing at 10.00am**

Due to the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions, the meeting of the Burial Ground Committee was held virtually via Zoom, in accordance with the Coronavirus Act 2020, clause 78(2).

Present: Cllr Mrs Brammer
Cllr Mrs Clucas
Cllr Mrs Connell
Cllr M Manley
Mr B Parlett
Rev H Reeves

In attendance: Mrs A de Jager – Parish Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr M Brown and Cllr J Scott. The apologies were accepted.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Mrs Connell declared an interest in item 6.1 tree work

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2021 were approved and will be signed at the next physical meeting of the Burial Ground Committee.

4. Memorial Garden

4.1 It was NOTED that the first two interments at the Memorial Garden have taken place and the groundsman is happy with the process. The plaques for these burials have been approved by the families but have not yet been installed.

5. Future Provision

5.1 It was NOTED that there are 5 burial spaces left in the burial ground. Rev H Reeves confirmed that the Church does not have a plan of the graves in the Churchyard and as many of the graves in the Churchyard are unmarked, a ground survey would have to be undertaken to establish if there were spaces available. The PCC felt that the cost of such a survey could not be justified for the possible identification of a few spaces, and therefore there is no burial availability in the Churchyard.
Behind the bench in the older part of the Burial Ground, there is a space that is marked as a pathway on the plans. This area is laid to lawn. The Clerk will ask the groundsman if this area is large enough

to accommodate another 3 graves and if so for him to probe the area.

6. Maintenance

6.1 Trees – *Having declared an interest in this item, Cllr Mrs Connell did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.*

Cllr Mrs Clucas PROPOSED that the quotation from NPC Trees in the amount of £1,950.00 plus VAT is accepted. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley and AGREED. Rev H Reeves will take this to the next PCC meeting for their consideration to share the cost as these trees are in the boundary between the Churchyard and Burial Ground. Work will commence once a decision has been received from the PCC.

6.2 Waste – it was NOTED that the Church have decided to place two bins in the car park near the Memorial Garden entrance to the Burial Ground as waste is being put on the Church's burn site. The Church will manage the removal of waste themselves.

6.3 It was NOTED that two granite vases have been stolen from a grave and this has been reported to the Police.

6.4 Photographs – members were taken through the photographs, noting the beautiful display of daffodils. Photographs of the Memorial Garden showed that there is some efflorescence on some of the bricks. The Clerk will contact the contractors to establish the cause and see what action should be taken. The maintenance contractor will be asked to mow over the daffodils in the lawned area in front of the Memorial Wall. Letter will be sent to relevant Grant of Right owners regarding maintenance of the graves. Christmas decorations should be removed after Easter. Cllr Mrs Clucas removed three Christmas wreaths that had been left on the memorial wall and noted that although there was no rubbish dumped where signs had been put, rubbish was accumulating in other areas. It was suggested that photographs of the rubbish are posted on facebook with a plea for visitors to take all their rubbish away with them. Rev H Reeves suggested having an annual spring clean, where notice can be given on the noticeboard that all unauthorised items such as vases, pots and ornaments will be removed by a certain date.

7. Date of next meeting

The date for the next meeting is set for Tuesday 22 June 2021 at Ash Village Hall, commencing at 10.00am.

The meeting closed at 10.58am

Signed: Date: