



DEEPING ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

The Institute, 38 Church Street, Deeping St James, Peterborough PE6 8HD

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Parish Clerk: Julie Fortnum

The minutes of the Cemetery committee meeting held on Thursday 22 June 2017 at 7.45pm at The Cemetery.

Present: Councillors Barber, Shinkins, J.Stevens and Thomas. The Parish Clerk took the minutes.

1.18 To elect a Chair

Councillor Barber was nominated by Councillor Shinkins and seconded by Councillor Thomas. **Resolved**

2.18 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Councillors Bowell Wallis and Ward

3.18 To receive declarations of interest, if any.

None received.

4.18 To adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2017

Agreed and signed.

5.18 To receive the Clerks report and matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda (enclosed)

A Gentleman tracing his ancestors contacted the office and met up with the Clerk in search of the grave of his late Great Uncle. Although the Parish Council records confirmed that he had been interred in what was referred to in the record book as the new churchyard (what is now referred to as section A) on visiting the site no headstone could be located and the records proved difficult to compare to the ground plan. Whilst there it became obvious to the Clerk and the visitor that due to the age of the headstones in this area some were in need of attention – this task has been added to the list of jobs for the community payback team. The visit to this section of the Cemetery also reinforced the fact that although both the office staff and Councillor Brian Barber had done a lot of work over a period of time to update the Parish Council's records further work would be beneficial before the headstones deteriorated any further and the information was lost.

The Clerk confirmed that the paper records were still intact and in good order although it was difficult to match the information with what was on the ground. All Councillors agreed that it was important that the information on the headstones in section A of the Cemetery should be retrieved before it was lost completely. Councillor J Stevens suggested that this could be a task for some DofE students to undertake and offered to investigate this.

6.18 To receive a report on the number of interments and reservations since the last committee meeting

Type	Number
Interments in graves spaces	3
Interments in cremated remains plots	1 (and 2 in graves)
Reservations of grave spaces	0
Reservations of cremated remains plots	1 (double depth)

The Clerk advised that a further burial would take place on Friday 23 June 2017.

7.18 To review the work undertaken by the grounds maintenance contractors and the Probation Service Community payback team.

The Clerk confirmed that Malc Firth Landscapes Ltd had been and would continue to cut the grass in both Cemeteries fortnightly.

Councillor Barber advised that the Community payback team had cleared all the weeds from the paths in the old Cemetery as well as clearing PROW 8 (Church Walk) and next week they would be cutting back the trees and hedges around the old Cemetery.

8.18 To consider how the piece of land behind the Priory Church could be developed as a remembrance garden.

After visiting the area of land the members felt that there was potential for it to be used as a garden of remembrance. The Clerk was asked to contact the Diocese to establish any limitations on use and then invite members of the Parochial Church Council to meet with members of the Parish Council to consider it further.

9.18 To agree the date of the next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be at 7.45pm on 14 September 2017.