

Melbourne Parish Council



Mrs J Storer - Parish Clerk, 2 Mansfields Croft, Etwall, Derbyshire DE65 6NJ

Burial Committee Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Burial Committee held at 7:00pm on Monday 19th November 2015 at the Melbourne Assembly Rooms, Melbourne

Present – Cllr Hicklin (Chairman), Carpenter, Dunicliff, Stockill (from 7:12pm), Sharp,
In attendance – Mrs J Storer (Clerk), Cllr Carroll (to 7:20pm)

292. Apologies: none were received.
293. Minutes of the previous meeting held 14th September 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
294. The procedures booklet will be produced but it was agreed that its production should be deferred until the Clerk has completed the ICCM course and gained all the necessary information. This matter will remain ongoing.
295. Photographic evidence is now available to show the location of the Cemetery Lodge which provides support for the Parish Council's assertion as to the location of the sister's grave. The Clerk will contact the lady and advise her of the further evidence produced. **(Action: Clerk)**
296. Since the last Burial Committee meeting, information has been provided by SDDC that talks are being held with potential developers of the Jawbone Lane area about providing some land for an extension of the Cemetery. The Clerk was requested to seek a progress report from the planning dept at SDDC. **(Action: Clerk).**
297. A request to erect a bench in the cemetery was granted at the September Committee meeting; the bench has not yet been installed.

7:12pm Cllr Stockill arrived.

298. To consider the repairs and refurbishment programme of the Chapels
The Clerk reported that the architect and contractors had, on 13th November 2015, carried out a condition survey and had undertaken some remedial works to make the roof water tight. The survey has not yet been received.
299. To consider the future interment arrangements and fees levied in the Cemetery
Cllr Hicklin had carried out some research on fees levied by other burial authorities and provided this information for consideration.

7:20pm Cllr Carroll left the meeting.

The Committee discussed at length the fees currently charged by Melbourne Parish Council, the implications of any increase and the need to cover the costs of running the cemetery. Also considered was the availability of plots and how the current space can best be managed to ensure plots, both for burial and ashes, were available for the residents of Melbourne.

RESOLVED to make the following recommendations for consideration at a Parish Council meeting:-

- a) **To put in place a moratorium on the interment of non Melbourne residents until a future burial ground is ready to be used. Non Melbourne residents are those not on the electoral register for Melbourne and Kings Newton; the only exception is if a resident has moved away for nursing care. On these occasions, any former resident receiving nursing care, will remain as a resident of Melbourne.**

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- b) To levy a £50 fee and then £25 for each subsequent hour, to inspect the Registers at the Cemetery.
 - c) There will be no pre purchasing of plots, and plots will be assigned by the Sexton. The Sexton will work with residents as to whether they would like to be interred in the consecrated or non consecrated sections of the Cemetery.
 - d) Anyone wishing to have double plots, or to be interred with a partner, can do so but this will be in a double depth grave in the bottom section of the Cemetery
 - e) There will be an increase in fees for the purchase of plots and for interment, which will bring the fees more in line with other Burial Authorities and will cover the costs of running the cemetery.
 - f) The proposed fees are
 - Burial Plot = £1,000
 - Ashes plot = £500
 - Burial interment = £500
 - Ashes interment = £200
300. A petition was received from some residents neighbouring the Cemetery to request that some trees are reduced in height. The trees have been inspected by a tree surgeon and confirmation has been received that the trees are safe.
RESOLVED in consideration of the tree surgeon's report and the Parish Council's tree policy, no actions will be taken on the trees.
301. A resident has expressed an interest in becoming a Friend of Melbourne Cemetery. This is the only expression of interest that has been received.
RESOLVED due to lack of interest, the offer will not be accepted. The Clerk will contact the resident to explain the decision. (Action: Clerk)
302. To consider the budget for 2016/17
The Clerk had circulated the draft budget for 2016/17, which was accepted. The budget will be considered by the Finance Committee.
303. Consideration was given as to how the public could be informed that the Chapel is open, not only for the Remembrance Tree but to be used as a place of reflection.
RESOLVED to place a notice on the website, the noticeboard and to request if the Village Voice could carry an article about the chapel. (Action: Clerk).

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:30pm.

Burial Committee -Cllr S Hicklin Chairman