

Melbourne Parish Council

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



Committee Minutes Burial Grounds

Minutes of a meeting of the Burial Grounds Committee held at 2.00pm Wednesday 28th August 2013 at the Chapel, Packhorse Road, Melbourne

Present – Cllr Hicklin (Chairman), Carpenter, Sharp, Clerk and Sexton

Apologies: Cllrs Dunnicliff and Stockill

Minutes of the previous meeting approved by Council were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

165. Cllr Carpenter has started on and will continue documenting the procedures at the Burial Ground. **(Action: Cllr Carpenter, Cllr Hicklin and Sexton).**
166. Cedar tree – Preparations have been made ready for the removal of the tree.
167. Arrangements are now in place for payments to be made to the Parish Council via BACS
168. The concerns about drug use were conveyed to the police, who carried out an operation one evening during the middle of August. A group of young persons were stopped and searched and whilst no drugs were found, alcohol was found and confiscated. Concern was expressed that the drug problem persists and there appears to be a lack of desire by the police to deal with a very visible problem. Recently there have been groups of young persons loitering in the Cemetery and in some instances, riding bikes. Users of the Cemetery have expressed a feeling of intimidation, these groups have been asked to cease activities and to date they have complied.
169. The safe from the Assembly Rooms can be accommodated in the Chapel and can be used for the safe storage of burial records. Arrangements are to be made for it to be transported to the Chapel **(Action: Cllr Smith)**
170. A number of trees in the Cemetery have become affected by honey fungus and are dying back. A walk around the Cemetery confirmed the poor condition of the affected trees. In addition the Aspen tree is sprouting offshoots to a significant distance within the Cemetery, causing some damage to the path and graves. Quotes for the removal of the trees was received and discussed. RESOLVED that the quotes are accepted and the trees are removed.

It was noted that the removal of the trees could have a visual impact upon the Cemetery. A list of trees and shrubs resistant to honey fungus is available, but no immediate planting will take place, rather an assessment will be made of an impact that the removal of the trees will have.
171. A walk of the Cemetery took place and the Sexton was congratulated on the condition of the Cemetery

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172. The Sexton was given clarification as to the possible location of two half plots.
173. The new area available for burials was viewed. It will be proposed that this area is used for the practise burial at the course on 29th October.
174. Clarification was sought about timings of future funerals.
RESOLVED burials and cremations should take place only between Monday and Friday, during the hours of 10am and 4pm.
175. Cllr Carpenter suggested that a plot number could be engraved discreetly on the headstone, to aid cross referencing with the burial records. Enquiries will be made with the stonemason **(Action: Clerk)**
Post meeting note: Stonemason has agreed to place the plot number on the rear of the headstone at no extra cost.
176. Date of next meeting: to be advised

There being no further matters, the Chairman closed the meeting at 3.15pm.

Burial Committee -Cllr S Hicklin Chairman