

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cemetery Committee held by Zoom Video-Conferencing on Monday 9th March, 2021.

PRESENT: Councillors: Chris Bithell (Chair), Sarah Taylor (Deputy Mayor), Haydn Jones, Andrea Mearns and Anthony Parry.

Officers: Ian Jones, Town Clerk and Finance Officer

17. APOLOGIES

Councillors: and Cemetery Superintendent.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

19 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9th November 2020 be received and approved as a correct record.

20. CEMETERY POLICY ON RESERVING PLOTS

Both the Chair and Town Clerk had been approached regarding the relaxing of the policy of not allowing reservation of future burial plots at the cemetery. A copy of an email (with names removed) was reproduced for Members to consider requesting that this policy be reversed.

A full debate of the current policy ensued, Members also considered previous practice where purchasing graves in advance was allowed but which caused space to be taken up resulting in large gaps occurring in the cemetery and did not facilitate the efficient usage of the cemetery space available. Thus, many plots could be sold many years in advance of when they were actually needed for burials and accordingly applicants were being refused plots for those who actually needed to bury their lost ones at the point of death.

it was noted by Members of the Committee that at the site there was burial land available for about another fifteen years at the present rate of burials and that was after extending the cemetery only a seven years ago and within that period of time there had been one hundred and two new graves within the extension. Therefore, the Town Council should be practical and sensible now in how it was to develop and manage the site as a whole.

RESOLVED: That the current policy of not allowing plot reservations be confirmed and as the future policy also.

21. REPORT OF THE CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

In the absence of the Cemetery Superintendent, the Town Clerk advised the Committee of the number of burials and activities since the last meeting and also the total statistics for the calendar year 2020 viz:- New graves 17 Re-openings 30, new Cremations 8 and Cremations in existing graves 13. Total 68. It was noted that most maintenance was up to date and that grass cutting would soon commence.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

Councillor Sarah Taylor joined the meeting at 5.10pm.

22. PLANTING POLICY 2021/2022

The Committee considered a proposal to introduce a wild flower planting scheme as a pilot in the cemetery orchard meadow together with a more biodiversity approach to the grass growing outlook going forward. The changes would need the goodwill and agreement of the Cemeteries Superintendent and with help from Flintshire County Council’s Biodiversity Officer the area could become a haven for wildlife. It was recognised that the grass cutting regime as implemented by Flintshire County Council would need to change with no cuts taking place between March and September.

A Notice should be erected indicating to the general public what the biodiversity scheme was doing there and the aims of the scheme.

Councillor Bithell agreed to request a waste bin through Streetscene, Flintshire County Council - just outside the cemetery boundary on Gas Lane opposite Barry Wilkinson tyre depot.

RESOLVED: that the biodiversity pilot scheme be approved and that this be implemented in the forthcoming growing season.

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOLD TOWN COUNCIL’S
CODE OF CONDUCT**

CEMETERY COMMITTEE	DATE: 09/03/2021
---------------------------	-------------------------

MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS

WORD/MINUTES/CEMETERY/CEMETERY

Chairman’s signature: Date: