

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Cemetery Committee held at the Town Hall on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Robin Guest (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Bob Gaffey, Brian Lloyd, Geoff Matthias, Geoff Collett, Carol Heycocks, Andrea Mearns, the Clerk and Finance Officer and the Cemetery Superintendent.

## **23. APOLOGIES**

None

## **24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **25. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013 be received and approved as a correct record.

## **26. MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk advised that following the last meeting the work to the footpaths had been completed, and a revised quote for the work to the Corsican Pines had been received. However, the quote had included low priority works which did not need doing immediately as advised by Stuart Body, so the Clerk had requested a second quote for just the medium priority works which would be received the following day. Once this was received the Clerk would instruct the contractors to carry out the work.

As the motion to close the Cemetery Car Park had not been supported at full Council it had been agreed to erect a sign. It was agreed to obtain prices for an alluminium sign to be placed at the entrance to the car park.

## **27. BUDGET 2014/15**

The Clerk highlighted the probable spend for 2013/14 which was shown on the spreadsheet, and advised of areas of budget pressures likely for 2014/15 including the outcome of the Health & Safety inspection, associated costs to the cemetery extension and loan, extensive tree maintenance, the lodge roof and salaries. It was agreed to consider each budget heading individually and make recommendations for 2014/15.

During consideration of each of the budget headings it was agreed to review the storage facilities, and look at alternative provision. However, it was agreed to set the budget for the coming year equal to that of 2013/14. The budget for skip hire was also discussed and the added issue for the disposal of the soil. It was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries with Harrison Design Development on options for disposing of the soil on the cemetery land, or if not possible advice on how the soil

should be disposed. The Cemetery Superintendent advised that the ground within the extension is very difficult to dig by hand, so it is likely that machinery will have to be hired in each time to dig a grave. Councillor Carol Heycocks advised that in some parts of the country consideration is now being given to alternative methods and not burial or cremation. The option of acid use is currently being considered.

The Committee considered requirement for future investment into the cemetery extension, phase two. The Clerk advised that following expenditure this year on the extension and the work required to trees following the extreme weather there will be a remaining reserve of approximately £6,000 for future investment on the extension. Following a debate it was agreed that a total budget for the cemetery extension should be £12,000. This would include £6,635 for loan repayments, £645 for water testing and the remainder to build up the reserves for future investment.

The Cemetery Superintendent advised that once the Contractors were off site next June he will require suitable equipment to cut the cemetery extension as the existing mowers were not suitable. Following a debate it was agreed that an additional £2,250 should be added to the budget for machinery/parts/materials bringing the total to £6,250.

Following consideration of all the budget headings a total of approximately £75,000 was agreed for the budget for 2014/15. However, this did not include any costs related to work required on the Lodge roof. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a survey on required works and report back recommendations.

The Committee considered the cemetery fees for 2014/15, and given the additional expenditure identified, and comparing existing fees with Flintshire and Wrexham, it was agreed that the charging structure would change and come in line with Flintshire and Wrexham. In addition it was agreed that the Town Council should increase fees equivalent to the mid way point between Flintshire and Wrexham.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to recommend to the Budget Committee;

- a) The proposed budget of £75,000 for the cemetery, plus additional costs identified for the Lodge roof repairs.
- b) Change the current charging structure for Cemetery Fees to come in line with Flintshire and Wrexham.
- c) Increase fees equivalent to the mid-point between Flintshire and Wrexham fees.

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

<b>CEMETERY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DATE: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013</b>
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
None		

WORD/MINUTES/CEMETERY/CEMETERY131104