



BROMYARD AND WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

BURIAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held remotely on Wednesday 7th April 2021
At 2:45pm via Zoom video conferencing and audio platform.

Local Authorities (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings)(England) Regulations 2020)

MINUTES
B21/01 – B21/07

Present: Cllrs Dunne-Thomas, Churchill, Davies, and Franklin

Officers Present: Karen Mitchell, Town Clerk

Members of the Public: None

B21/01 To appoint a Chairman for the meeting

It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Dunne-Thomas as Chairman of the meeting.

B21/02 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Clark (personal).

LGA 1972 S85 (1)

B21/03 Declaration of interests and written requests for dispensation

None received.

Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 SI No. 1159

B21/04 To receive, approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th November, 2020.

41(1)

The Minutes were received, approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

LGA 1972 Sch 12 para

B21/05 Town Clerk's Report

To receive a verbal report from the Town Clerk.

Cremation plot groundworks

The development of three new cremation interment areas are nearing completion. The grounds maintenance contractor will rotovate the banked soil and beds when ground conditions improve. Each area provides 42 double interment spaces. The first area is almost full.

Health & Safety

The grounds maintenance contractor has installed rubber matting on part of the slope down to the last row of new burials following concerns raised by bereaved relatives. This matting is designed to reinforce the ground and enable the grass to grow through it. The performance of the matting will be monitored before it is considered for installation in other areas of the cemetery.

Chairman initials

Date

B21/06 Plot Provision

1. Burial plot availability and consider future provision.

Following the completion of a ground penetration radar survey several test digs were undertaken on the upper bank, near the new cremation area, to investigate if the land there is suitable for new burial plots.

The results of the test digs indicate that there is space to create several new rows of graves on either side of the new cremation area. These will most likely have to be single plots due to depths of between 4ft and 5ft before hitting the bedrock below. Members noted that with the new single plots the cemetery could provide burials for approximately 2-years.

Members discussed the difficulties in finding suitable land for provision of a new burial site in Bromyard.

Following discussion, **it was RESOLVED** to recommend that The Council undertakes a call for sites to identify any potential land for a burial ground within Bromyard.

2. Comments from local funeral directors.

The Chairman reported on comments raised by a local funeral director.

- One local company queried the possibility of the Town Council directly employing a Grave Digger for the Cemetery rather than individual funeral directors having to appoint their own. Members saw no reason to change this practice, which is not unusual and is the case in some other local authorities.
- Funeral procedures before burial – checking burial depth / coffin plaque etc - These procedures will be undertaken by a new staff member responsible for burials / interments.

B21/07 Unmarked Graves

To discuss the site where people from the Workhouse are buried.

Members considered ways in which the unmarked graves in the area containing burials of people from the Workhouse could be better defined, e.g. fencing, wildflowers, memorial stone. Consideration was given to whether local schools could be incorporated in a memorial project here.

It was RESOLVED that quotations for a memorial stone and an explanation plaque be obtained, based on ideas to be provided by Burial Committee members.

The meeting closed at 3:41pm

Chairman Date