

A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE HELD
ONLINE ON THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER 2020, STARTING AT 10.00 A.M.

Present:

Councillors D M Crawford (V Chair), C Harvey, D J Hodgkinson (Chair).

Officers:

R Barnett Deputy Town Clerk, Chris Crimmen Committee Secretary,

K Leeder Civic Officer, N Thompson Cemetery Officer.

Minutes

392/20	<u>DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY</u> None.
393/20	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> None,
394/20	<u>MINUTES</u> RESOLVED: The minutes of the Committee's meeting held 16th July 2020, received by the Council on 28th July 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Committee Chairman.
395/20	<u>CEMETERY OFFICERS & BURIAL ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE</u> The Cemetery Officer reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Health and safety have been all updated with the Cemetery Chapel having a Fire Risk Assessment carried out and passed all areas. • The main points raised was advice and recommendations which have all been completed except Emergency lighting which is only required if the building is to be used during the evenings • All the Heaters and gas has been inspected and has all passed with no problems. • Staked Memorials have been continued to be monitored and stakes inspected. • Lawn Cemetery plots have been inspected on a regular basis and letters have been sent to those not conforming to the rules and regulations of the plots. • All complaints have been responded to and the site is continuing to be maintained. • The only area of concern is if we may require one or two more cuts as the grass is still growing, and the grass cutting has ended earlier than normal. • The Cemetery Bier has been restored.
396/20	<u>BUDGET UPDATE</u> The Civic Officer reported that there has been less burials than usual and there was a slight excess over income.
397/20	<u>PRIORITIES FOR 2021 - 22</u> The committee reviewed the priorities for 2020/21: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Ashes Wall – Will be completed over the winter. B. Anglia in Bloom – To include the Cemetery in the 2021 competition. C. Works area – To be completed over the winter.

	<p>D. Chapel repairs – Finish the lower part of the Bellcote and replace the cement with lime mortar</p> <p>E. Friends of Thetford Cemetery – the Cemetery officer to work on recruiting volunteers over the Winter.</p> <p>F. To find an additional burial site, possible a green site in conjunction with the GTP Manager.</p>
398/20	<p><u>HEALTH & SAFETY</u></p> <p>There were no issues of concern from the water testing. The works yard base needs to have a proper surface laid and quotes has been requested.</p>
399/20	<p><u>PEACE COMES TO THETFORD</u></p> <p>The Cemetery Officer reported that together with the Chair met with Corrine Fulford and reported that all the drain work has been completed and the garden area marked out. See is still working on her plans and is happy with the cooperation she is getting from the Works Staff. It is hoped to have the peace garden completed for Remembrance Day in November.</p>
400/20	<p><u>CEMETERY ASHES AREA, WILDLIFE GARDEN AND YARD EXTENSION</u></p> <p>A specialist company for the Ashes Wall is to visit the site to give a price for design and install. This will be given priority as it will increase the Cemetery income as soon as it is finished. The Wildlife garden is not a priority at this time. The Cemetery Officer reported he will start work soon to make a spoils area by the gate in the corner of the cemetery and will have the area screened and gated so it will not be seen from the cemetery.</p>
401/20	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE & COMPLAINTS</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported he was stopped in the Cemtery by two visitors from Bury St Edmunds who complimented him on the way the cemetery was looked after which they said was very respectfully kept.</p>
402/20	<p><u>COMMITTEE OFFICERS UPDATE</u></p> <p>None.</p>
403/20	<p><u>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</u></p> <p>To consider resolving that, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for any remaining items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.</p>
404/20	<p><u>CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS</u></p> <p>This will be discussed at a special cemetery meeting.</p>

Chairman.

