

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

BURIAL COMMITTEE MEETING – 2015/07/27 – 04

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BURIAL COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 27 July 2015 at 6.33 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs C Harris (Chairman), H Ives, C Legg, B Pearman, D Pugh and S Rudge

Mr Kennerely – Gordon Blake Funeral Directors (Co-optee)
Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Miss K Hammond – Admin Assistant (AA)

Cllr Harris informed all present that no practice fire evacuation had been scheduled for the duration of the meeting. All attendees were then informed of the locations of the nearest fire exits.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr Berryman.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approval of the minutes of the Burial Committee meeting held on 26 May 2015 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed by Cllr Ives, seconded by Cllr Rudge.** Unanimous.

4. **OPEN FORUM**

None.

5. **ST MARY'S CLOSED CHURCH YARD**

Members were asked to note that the churchyard wall repair work at St Mary's had since been completed. Noted.

6. **LYDNEY CEMETERY**

Members were asked to note the letters which had been issued advising relatives that they were required to adhere to the Town Council's Cemetery Rules and that personal adornments/vases currently placed on graves would be removed from site without further notice. Noted.

The CEO also advised that pictures had been taken of graves that did not adhere to the aforementioned rules, such as unkempt graves and graves with bushes, and the relatives for such graves had also been written to.

7. **ADDITIONAL BURIAL PROVISION**

Unfortunately due to Cllr Berryman's absence it was not possible to report further on additional burial provision.

Members agreed that the matter would be deferred until the next meeting.



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8. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Cllr Harris felt that there were some areas of the Cemetery requiring attention. The CEO advised that the Town Council Groundstaff had been made aware and such issues were being dealt with. The CEO further advised that in order to assist Groundstaff with undertaking the issues which had been identified that she had arranged for Richard Cole Contractors to undertake grass cutting in the Closed Churchyard during W/C 10 August 2015 and 24 August 2015.

Following a question in regard to the previous controversial issue concerning the removal of items from graves in the Cemetery in May 2015, the CEO advised that she had not been contacted further by any member of the families affected neither had any family member taken up the offer of an informal site meeting. It was therefore agreed that the situation had been resolved.

9. **MEETING DATES**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Burial Committee would take place on Monday 28 September 2015 at 6.30 pm

The meeting closed at 6.43 pm.

Chairman*Harris*.....

Date*28.9.15*.....