

Notes & recommendations from General Purposes Site Meeting 30 March 2019.

Present: Cllrs Baird (Chair) (GB), Wollacott (SW), Fowler (MF), Challiss (SC), Allen (RA), & Butland (DB). In attendance for item 2: Gavin Wellbourne of grounds maintenance contractors.

1 Apologies: Cllrs Larkin and the Clerk was unable to attend & SC took these notes.

2 Parish Meadow grass cutting regime 2019.

After discussion it was **recommended** that the contractor will cut the grass around the picnic tables & beyond as far as about half way down the Meadow (3 small trees), leaving the rest long with path(s). This grass will be cut & raked at the end of the season. No change to price. There was some concern about ticks, but GB said that the Playgroup who use the area is not worried & the children have tick tweezers.

Gavin confirmed that the laurel debris beneath the cemetery hedge adjacent to the play park will be removed. DB thanked Gavin for his & Mike's work, which has brought about a huge improvement in the Grounds.

3 Future use of area just inside side gate to New Cemetery.

This area is too stony to be dug for graves. It was **recommended** that it is used for an interment of ashes / memorial garden and that professional advice be sought for landscaping, with a low maintenance regime.

4 Upper Cemetery – consecration issues raised by Archdeacon.

It was **recommended** that all the area on the rhs of the main gate be the half of the cemetery to be consecrated and that the 'dogleg' area be included and used for child burials as originally planned. This deals with the Archdeacon's concerns.

It was noted that the slate row markers are not parallel with the rhs hedge and that this could result in sloping rows. Having reviewed the plans, the row markers are as planned in the cemetery layout produced by Tom Rogers, which allows for the bend in the road.

It was agreed that it would be desirable for the stone wall adjacent Cross Park to be repaired. This would be extremely expensive but it was thought that grants might be available. **RA** & **SW** will make preliminary enquiries & it was **recommended** that after that a small working party be formed.

5 Tap Housing.

S C had already reported that the man who made the others was not willing to make another, so someone else needs to be found.

6 Spoil.

The area where spoil is currently tipped is unsightly. It was suggested that the spoil could be pushed back to the bank (by machine) & that, subject to grant funding, a stone wall to match those in the vicinity, could be constructed to hide the spoil. **RA** to investigate funding.

There is no easy answer for the future disposal of spoil from the upper cemetery. It was **recommended** that taking it, via the public right of way, to the end of the Meadow (which is very wet & not used), could be investigated with the grave diggers. A small section of fence would need to be removed. It will depend on whether their machinery could take it there by this route.

7 Signage to upper cemetery gate.

This was discussed but the matter of a sign for the regulations to be displayed was omitted. To be on a future agenda.

8 New Gates for upper cemetery.

Designs for new gates to be brought to a future meeting by **SW** & **LL**. **SW** will treat the gate to the new cemetery with Danish Oil.

The quotes for a new side gate to the new cemetery & rear gate to the Churchyard were discussed. It was **recommended** that, for the new cemetery, the gate 3035 be chosen for a price of £351.60 incl posts, installation & VAT, subject to **SW** confirming that it also includes removal of existing gate. None of the designs was felt to suit the closed Churchyard & **SW** will seek a quote for a design similar to that of the existing gate.

9 Rentokill ant contract.

Councillors were dissatisfied with progress and ask the **Clerk** to require that a representative of Rentokill come to a meeting on site to discuss it as soon as possible. At least 2 representatives of the Council to be present. **MF** dealt with them before & wishes to be there – he can usually be available the next day if contacted in the evening on landline telephone.

10 Play park.

Climbing frame & multiplay- **RA** will source some wood chippings & **MF** will spread them.

Jungle Gym – **MF** will source some more caps & fit them to try to stop water getting in & rusting the fixings.

Flat disk springer safety surface – **MF** will rectify.

Cllrs also looked at the activity trail & decided it is still serviceable. The children like playing on it. **MF** will repair one loose support. **GB** will bring a catalogue to a future meeting so that a future replacement can be designed & funds sought. **GB** will e-mail RC & LL to ask them not to remove the trail!

Sign on gate – has incorrect phone no. It is recommended that a future sign does not have a phone no. only e-mail.

MF will stain the bench.

> Other Matters.

The memorial repairs have not yet been carried out. The **Clerk** is asked to remind Pascoes.

It was noted that the wooden crosses, used to mark grave spaces before a headstone can be erected, remain in the cemetery & look untidy. Could they be removed, or perhaps offered to the family of the deceased?

(Old) graves with a stone border and topped with gravel – where these have sunk & the gravel looks unsightly, can anything be done & who is responsible?

It was noted that parts of the leylandii hedge are in a poor state & will need to be replaced in the future.