

QUENIBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes and Cemetery Management Committee held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 7th June 2023. The meeting was at the Cemetery, South Croxton Road, Queniborough

PRESENT: Cllr R Green (in the Chair)
Cllr S McKenzie
Cllr C Payne
Cllr M Winterton

Mrs R Barlow-Skinner (Clerk)
Mrs S Farrell (Cemetery Clerk/Groundsman)

7974 Apologies received and accepted
Cllr S Wright, Teresa Willson, Deputy Clerk.

7975 Election of Chairman for the forthcoming year
Cllr Payne proposed and Cllr McKenzie seconded Cllr Green, who accepted.
RESOLVED: That Cllr Green be elected Chair of the Committee for 2023/24.

7976 Declaration of Councillor's interest and requests for dispensation
None.

7977 Matters arising from The General Purposes and Cemetery Management Committee meeting held on 1st February 2023.
None.

7978 Inspection of the Cemetery
Yew Trees – These were inspected and they now have re-growth despite signs that they were dying off through the warm weather last year.
Dead Tree near Memorial Bench – Not sure what type of tree this is, it will need to be removed.
RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange the tree survey for later this year for advice.

Watering Grass – The Groundsman reported that she has started to use the hose in some of the drier areas to help with the turfing. The retired Groundsman is helping her with this on a voluntary basis.

French Drain – This has now been extended but flooding still occurs following extreme weather.
RESOLVED: That the groundman will ensure that any weeds are removed around it and top up with gravel to aid drainage.

Bird Feeders – The Groundsman has been purchasing birdfeed and has also received several donations from residents since posting on QueniOnline. Feedback from visitors to the Cemetery has been extremely positive as it has encouraged more birds to the area. The Committee discussed the possibility of purchasing this going forward at approximately £32 per month.
RESOLVED: That the Clerk will add to the Agenda for the next full Council meeting as this expenditure was not included in the budget for 23/24.

Bird Boxes – Three purchased but not yet put up. Cllr Payne suggested buying a box which included a camera so any birds nesting could be filmed. The footage could then be shared with residents via the website and perhaps sent to the school.
RESOLVED: That the Clerk get some quotes for a new box with a camera for consideration. That the Groundsman put up all the bird boxes in Autumn.

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Enclosure/Compound – The fencing work has been completed since the last site meeting and the Committee agreed that it looked much better. The panel in the corner which had become loose due to tree roots has also been secured and has not moved again. There is still a great deal of wood still there left by the retired Groundsman.

RESOLVED: That the retired Groundsman will remove all the old wood. That the Groundsman will monitor the wood panel for movement.

Wildflower Meadow – This was mowed last year in August by Mr Emery, he was also able to dispose of the bales even though it contained Ragwort.

RESOLVED: That the Groundsman should instruct Mr Emery to carryout the mowing after July.

Cllr Payne asked if this ground had been consecrated, although it was assumed, no one in attendance was able to confirm this.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the retired Cemetery Clerk to confirm.

7979 Cemetery Management Report

The Cemetery Clerk reported that the new row markers_would be laid after the mowing contract has ended (October/November).

The Cemetery has received a donation of bulbs for planting. The Committee agreed that they would look good planted in the entrance to the Cemetery.

RESOLVED: That the above work identified be carried out by the Groundsman.

7980 Cemetery Audit and Scribe

The Clerk reported that the Audit was underway and she was hoping to complete next week with the help of the Cemetery and Deputy Clerks. Once the data has been recorded on to Excel she will then forward to Scribe for them to populate their software.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk action as above.

7981 WI Donation

The Clerk reported that she had tried to feedback Council's ideas to Wendy Taylor but had not been successful so far in speaking to her. The Committee reiterated it would be a nice idea for the money to go towards plants for the Garden of Remembrance and the WI could put up a plaque there.

RESOLVED: Clerk to continue to try and contact Wendy Taylor.

7982 Volunteers for Garden of Remembrance update

Two volunteers had come forward following the recent Gazette Article and had started work on the garden. The Committee agreed that it was looking extremely good.

RESOLVED: That the Groundsman purchase the replacement French Lavenders for the new volunteers to plant as soon as possible.

7983 Requests for Memorials

There has been a request to plant an Olive tree in the Garden of Remembrance, there were no objections to this though Cllr Winterton had reservations regarding whether the tree could survive in this location. The Committee identified an appropriate place opposite the Pyrus Salicifolia Pendula for planting.

RESOLVED: That the Cemetery Clerk inform the requestor where to plant the tree but let them know that there was no guarantee it would survive.

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7984 Planning Applications

P/23/0553/2 Construction of single storey side and rear extension to dwelling. (following demolition of existing conservatory). 18 The Ringway, Queniborough, Leicestershire, LE7 3DL. Amended plans received including additional side elevation.

RESOLVED: That the Council have no objections to these amendments.

The meeting finished at 8.00pm