

BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Alan Mellor



Minutes of the Meeting of the Churchyard & Cemetery Committee
held on **Wednesday 17th April at 14:00**
in the Churchyard, **St Mary Magdalene Church, Church Road, Brampton,**

Present: Margaret Footner (MF), Mike Bainbridge (MB), Liz Ruston (LR),

In Attendance: Paula Moore Assistant Clerk (PM)

1. Receive Apologies

1.1 Nigel Maggs (NM) sent his apologies.

2. Chairperson's Opening Remark

2.1 MF thanked everyone for attending.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations received.

4. To Receive and Approve Minutes of Meeting held 30th October 2023

4.1 The minutes were proposed by MB, seconded by LR. MF duly signed the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

5. Action List from the Above

5.1 There was no action list prepared from the previous meeting, but it was discussed and noted by all at the meeting that NM had met with the ground staff and discussed the trees that need attention (trimming). A quote is to be obtained for work to be carried out on the large fir trees at the entrance and to the side of the church entrance.

6. Price increase for Obelisk Memorials

6.1 LR suggested that an article is placed in The Brampton Magazine to make parishioners aware that we offer this facility.

6.2 It was suggested that the plaque should be on the obelisk indefinitely, and this is to be added into the Rules and Regulations.

6.3 The recent price increase as notified by Columbaria was approved by the committee but there is to be no increase charged by the Parish Council upon purchase of the plaques from the Council.

7. War Graves Sign

7.1 It was agreed to proceed with obtaining the War Graves sign, the paperwork once completed will be sent to the War Graves Commission for processing.

8. Colour of Memorial Stones for Rules and Regulations

8.1 The wording within the Rules and Regulations regarding the colour of memorial headstones should read 'to be approved by the Parish Council'

9. Discuss whether to allow/disallow pre-purchase of burial and cremation plots

9.1 Pre-purchase of plots is to be allowed, this is to be either one single or one double depth plot **and not** two single side by side plots.

9.2 The rules are to be checked to ensure that this is reflected.

10. Discuss wording of Rules and Regulations relating to the number of graves that can be purchased (section 33 Under Fees)

10.1 This was discussed along with the previous point, and it was confirmed the Rules and Regulations are worded correctly.

11. Allowing artificial flowers to be laid on graves etc.

11.1 Any artificial flowers must be placed in a vase and placed on the grave or tablet in such a way that it does not hinder the ground staff when maintaining the grounds.

12. Inspection of large fir tree right hand side of main entrance, covering gravestones and the tree to the left of the entrance.

12.1 MF/MB/LR requested that at least two quotes are obtained for the required work to be carried out, TPO's will also be required.

13. Future Burial Ground – the management of and any immediate work required

13.1 Planning permission is to be requested for change of use.

13.2 LR requested that the grass is cut to a manageable level so that a better perspective of the land lay out can be seen.

13.3 MB suggested that once the grass is cut then a plan of the site should begin to be mapped out.

13.4 MF/MB/LR agreed that a fence would be required at the far end of the new Ground, along with a tarmac path. Both items to be included in next years budget.

14. To discuss request for works on RBL Memorial, beside church door.

14.1 The area surrounding the memorial was discussed and LR suggested that a Red Robin hedge be put in around the edge along the wall line, leaving enough space for proper maintenance

14.2 MB proposed that the inside area (triangle) is paved with slabs.

15. Applying for change of use for the new burial ground

This was discussed under agenda point 13.1 where it was agreed that change of use would be applied for.

16. Discuss the way forward on the Tomb that was dismantled to ground level

- 16.1 MB/LR confirmed that the parish council had been asked to make the tomb and surrounding ground safe. The tomb was unidentifiable, and records don't show who was buried there, so no living relatives could be contacted. The parish council therefore took the decision to dismantle the tomb to ground level for 'Health and Safety reasons, without the requirement for a faculty.

17. The condition of the pathway at the water tap area – uneven

- 17.1 Inspection of the area was carried out and the ground staff will put down gravel to level the pathway, this will be monitored.

18. To survey the church wall bordering 23 Church Road.

- 18.1 MF asked that Derek Dorks be contacted and asked to quote for re-pointing the wall (Possibly using Lime Mortar) and for advice should other work be required. PM will liaise with Derek and meet him to discuss.
PM is to reply to the householder and confirm that the situation is being looked into.

19. General

- 19.1 There was nothing at this time.

20. Inspection:

- 20.1 MF noticed the increased growth of Ivy and greenery on gravestones and the walls and has requested that the ground staff clear this and remove the box tree as it is now dead due to disease.
- 20.2 Extra water butts stored in the storage shed are to be used to catch more rainwater.
- 20.3 LR noted that there were a number of unstable stakes in the rose garden, these will be looked at and either repaired or replaced.
- 20.4 The dead tree at the end of the rose garden is to be removed.
- 20.5 Evergreen trees on the southside need to be trimmed.
- 20.6 Derek Dorks will be asked to look at the fire area at the back of the cemetery to advise how to progress with repairing the brickwork.
- 20.7 The tree near the tap needs trimming. This will be added to the list for quoting.??
- 20.8 During the inspection the committee met two people seeking the grave of a relative, PM took details and will look at the parish council records. MF also offered to check any information that she has. The parish records did not go back as far as 1880, however, MF was able to help as she has paper records from when the Historical Society were asked to undertake inscriptions on the graves in the Old Churchyard.
- 20.9 The footpath and surrounding area near the store shed are to have the excess soil removed and made tidy.

21. Next agenda items

- 21.1 To discuss the layout of the new cemetery.

The next meeting is confirmed.as Saturday 13th July 2024 at 9 .30am

Signed:
Chair

Date: