

BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: John Michael Bainbridge



Minutes of the Meeting of the Churchyard & Cemetery Committee
held on **Friday 21st April 2023 at 14:30 in the Churchyard,
St Mary Magdalene Church, Church Road, Brampton.**

Present: Margaret Footner, Chairman (MF), Mike Bainbridge (MB), Maxwell Roberts (MR),
Liz Ruston (LR)

In Attendance: Kathryn Hornett, Assistant Clerk (KH), Keith Wood, Churchwarden (KW),
Rev. Duncan Goldthorpe (DG)

1. Receive Apologies

Nigel Maggs, work.
Simon Jordan, previous engagement.

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

2.1 MF welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 LR has a memorial rose tree in the Garden of Remembrance.

4. To Receive and Approve Minutes of Meeting held 12th November 2022

The minutes had been approved by the full Parish council at its' meeting held
on 23rd November 2022 therefore the minutes were taken as read.

5. Action List from the Above.

10.1.2 To complete topple test of Churchyard & Cemetery.

Action: GT

10.6 Grounds men to maintain all laurels, to be continued.

10.1.1 To get quotes from Richardsons for works to be completed on tree encroaching
on Church Cottage

8.1 Grounds men to remove any glass and other disallowed items from Garden of
Remembrance. Completed.

8.2 Grounds men to remove temporary plaques from Garden of Remembrance,
unless plot is otherwise unmarked. Completed.

8.3 To contact several grave owners in Churchyard to ask for removal of
ornaments etc due to the rules of the lawn cemetery. Completed.

8.4 To contact funeral directors to ask that grave diggers ensure all stones are
cleared away into the grave from which they came. Completed.

8.5 Grounds men to clear leaves throughout Churchyard & Cemetery – Councillors
asked if the leaf blower/h Hoover purchased a few years ago is used? Grounds
men to be asked to use the leaf blower/h Hoover in the Autumn.

8.6 Grounds men to put something in the drain leading to the water butt to stop
leaves building up. Completed.

8.8 Grounds men to cut down the height and to continue cutting back &
maintaining the laurels in the Old Churchyard. Completed.

- 8.9 Remove from the horse chestnut tree, the dead branch overhanging the footpath beside the vicarage, this is near the grave of Martha Shepperd

6. General

- 6.1 KH explained that the committee had received a request from Royal British Legion Chairman, Mick Forsdick, to make some changes to the war memorial to the left of the church door. The committee would put this request on the next agenda and in the meantime, KH would ask for a plan of what the RBL wish to do to the memorial, so it can be discussed at the July meeting.
- 6.2 The office had been contacted by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) regarding the retrospective planning permission required for the lying flat of the tomb in the Churchyard, completed in 2021. After speaking with DG, he liaised with the DAC and the Parochial Church Council (PCC), and organised this decision to be agreed & confirmed.

7. To discuss the future Burial Ground – Update

- 7.1 It was explained that KH had contacted planning development asking for advice on whether planning permission would be required for the change of use for this land, and which surveys would be required. The response from planning was that we would need to apply for 'full planning permission'. KH had looked at the application and it seemed very difficult to complete, as it was geared towards applications including buildings, dwellings etc. It is also a requirement to be the landowner before completing the application so this would be looked at again once the Parish Council have taken ownership of the land.
- 7.1.1 MR said that planning applications are complex to complete so it may be worth the Council looking at paying for someone to complete this for us, as part of the HDC service offered. This would be looked into when the application was picked up again.
- 7.1.2 MF suggested a letter be sent to the solicitor due to the length of time this was taking, giving a reasonable timeframe for its completion. Councillors agreed with this. Clarification will be sought from the solicitors as to how long the remainder of the process would take.
- Action: Clerk
- 7.1.3 Both KW and MR commented that they knew the current landowner, and one would contact them to enquire if they were aware of the situation.

8. To discuss the replacement of rose trees in the Garden of Remembrance

- 8.1 A short discussion was had and due to the shaded areas of the Garden of Remembrance, it was decided that when a rose tree comes to the end of its life the sponsor will be asked if they wish to replace the tree but if not, the tree will be removed, and the space will not be offered out. It will be discussed at the July meeting whether the gaps are to be grassed as they open up.

9. To discuss trees along the boundary of New Cemetery III

- 9.1 The trees along New Cem III have required significant works over the last year, with a large branch breaking at the beginning of the year however, when the committee looked during the meeting the trees remaining looked fairly healthy, apart from one branch which would be removed, otherwise the committee deemed no further works were required.

10. To discuss increase in price of obelisk prices

- 10.1 KH informed the committee that the prices for the obelisk plaques had been increased by the manufacturer, however the committee were all in favour of keeping our prices the same.

11. To discuss the proposed Register of Graves, to be kept at the Churchyard

- 11.1 A discussion was had, and the committee came to the agreement that the public could contact the parish council office during working hours for any information about graves in the churchyard. JMB proposed notices be put on the noticeboards in the churchyard with details of how to contact the parish council, and all agreed.

Action: KH

12. Inspection

- 12.1 It was noted that during early Spring, when grass cutting a lot of flowers were cut when first shooting – it was asked that grounds men be mindful of this next Spring, in order to allow flowers to come through.
- 12.2 Contact Richardsons regarding the removal of low hanging branches of two horse chestnut trees, beside grave space 695 in the Old Cemetery.
- 12.3 Remove suckers on horse chestnut trees, as above.
- 12.4 Remove dead branch from tree alongside New Cemetery III.
- 12.5 Contact several grave owners to request that they remove the ornaments and plants on the graves of their loved ones as these are contravening the rules and regulations of the cemetery and churchyard.
- 12.6 Grave space 1370 to be levelled, when an excess of old soil is available.
- 12.7 The grounds men are to be thanked for their continued work in keeping the grounds to a high standard of tidiness.

13. Next agenda items

- 13.1 To discuss the amendments requested by the RBL for the war memorial, to the left of the church door.
- 13.2 To discuss if the empty spaces in the Garden of Remembrance rose trees are to be grassed over.

Next meeting to be held is Wednesday 12th July at 14:30.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: