

Cemetery Newsletter

March 2021

We are pleased to give an update on what is happening regarding the cemetery and hope everyone finds this useful.

Agreement with Allerdale Borough Council:

We have entered into a formal Agreement with Allerdale Borough Council Bereavement Services with effect from 1 April 2021 to provide full curating services for the Cemetery which includes liaising with funeral directors, the purchase of grave spaces and transfer of deeds, booking the Chapel, erecting memorial headstones, arranging purchase & erection of plaques in the Memorial Garden and maintaining cemetery records & deeds.

Please contact Bereavement Services, Allerdale Borough Council, Allerdale House, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 3YJ Tel: 01900 702620

Email : bereavement.services@allerdale.gov.uk

Website: www.allerdale.gov.uk

Please note Wigton Town Council are unable to handle calls regarding any curating matters.

Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance:

Despite the challenges of new working practices, drought, flooding, and COVID-19 we strive to maintain the high standards expected of us.

We have re-appointed our grounds maintenance contractor Ian Rumney of Solway Garden & Landscapes who, together with his team, work hard to keep the grass under control, cut the hedges, prune bushes, trim trees, edge the paths, and restore old grave levels etc with the first grass cut of the new season due to take place soon.

We are pleased to see photos feature frequently on social media posts which reflect well on the Cemetery.

Tivoli are contracted to provide gravedigging services and problems can sometimes arise with new graves sinking because of differing soil conditions and the weather. We do appreciate, at times, this can result in an unsightly initial finish to grave spaces but Tivoli re-attend on request to make good.

If you have any questions regarding grounds or building maintenance please contact the Burial Committee by via e-mail wigtonburialclerk@gmail.com or by letter addressed to Wigton Burial Joint Committee, Wigton Cemetery, Station Hill, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9BN.

Letters can also be posted through the newly installed letterbox in the Vestry door, which is to the right of the main entrance, to report any grounds maintenance or grave space issues.

Please note Wigton Town Council are unable to handle calls regarding any cemetery maintenance matters.

The Memorial Garden:

The Memorial Garden is a lovely addition to our Cemetery where people can erect a plaque in memory of loved ones and have a quiet place to sit & reflect.

The Memorial Garden continues to be maintained by volunteers who are also preparing a Wildflower Garden along the wall as well as clearing the beds behind the shed.

Rowan Tree:

We have recently planted a Rowan/Mountain Ash tree, which was donated to us, which we are dedicating in Remembrance of all those in Wigton and the Surrounding Parishes who lost their lives in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Friends of Wigton Cemetery:

The Friends of Wigton Cemetery continue to maintain the chapel, clear dead flowers & wreaths, prune bushes, open/close the toilet block each day etc. We are grateful to the team of volunteers who maintain the toilets and the area behind the sheds.

Meetings:

For the majority of last year we have had to conduct our meetings using Zoom.

For our next meeting June (provisional date Wednesday 23 June @ 7 p.m.), we hope to be able to return to holding our quarterly meetings, which are open to the public, in the Vestry at the Cemetery. Notice of meetings are published in the noticeboards outside the Cemetery and the Market Hall, on the Wigton Town Council website and through social media..

If you are unable to attend in person, and have any questions or suggestions for the committee, you can submit them in writing ahead of the meeting.

Please write to us via email to wigtonburialclerk@gmail.com or by post to Wigton Burial Joint Committee, Wigton Cemetery, Station Hill, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9BN or through the newly installed letterbox in the Vestry door.

Wigton Cemetery continues to be the only cemetery in Allerdale to be independently operated.

Our key aim continues to be to keep the management of the cemetery within the control of the 3 local councils and we are working tirelessly to this end.

Wigton Burial Joint Committee