

WIGTON BURIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Email: wigtoncemetery@gmail.com

Address: Wigton Cemetery, Station Hill, Wigton, Cumbria, CA7 9BN

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00pm on 2nd February 2022 in The Vestry, Wigton Cemetery

Present: H Robbins, G Girvan, W Marrs, M Huntington, M Clark, T Huntington, J Hamblin, A Jackson

1. Apologies – John Mattinson
2. No declarations of interest, etc.
3. Exclusion of press and public – none present.
4. No press or public present. We received a letter of complaint from a Mrs Clay regarding “inappropriate” mementos left on graves. A reply was sent explaining the need to give people time to grieve and remove those items themselves.
5. **Finance Matters**
No queries, all accounts and payments agreed on.
6. **Allerdale Borough Council**
Do we need to update the agreement with ABC every year?
MC explained the agreement needs to be reviewed every twelve months.
WM queried what would happen when changed to two Cumbrias.
HR to speak to Ruth Carr.
MC stated we need to contact Allerdale Borough Council for terms of reference.
7. **The Plant and Bulb Budget**
Alison Dodd to be informed that hedging costs to be transferred to ground maintenance budget.
All agreed.
8. **Rented House**
TH confirmed there was nothing to report. All members had been forwarded appropriate statements. No feedback from the tenants.
9. **Dog Fouling in the Cemetery**
Dog fouling continues to be a problem. Complaints have been received. Agreed that increased vigilance necessary – not possible to ban dogs from cemetery.
10. **Wigton Town Council Grant**
Wigton Town Council have reduced their grant by £1,000. It was queried whether their plan would be to continue to reduce it year on year. HR had consulted with CALC regarding Wigton Town Council’s responsibility to stop us from having financial issues. MC commented we need to amend our budget and find an extra £1,000. GG stated that he was very unhappy with Wigton Town Council and wanted them to know that and that we need to know in advance if our precepts are going to reduce the money. All members were in agreement.
11. **Digital Training Budget**
WM and GG discussed digital fees for training going forward. TH questioned if a digital training budget was required. WM responded there may be grants to cover this.
12. **Signage**
Notice board removed to vestry wall. New sign relating to wreath removal – TH to organise.

13. **Grave Digging**
HR spoke about the price rise from Tivoli. Committee members met with Ian Davidson, who is quoted £380 inc VAT, compared to £530 plus VAT with Tivoli. GG suggested getting an official quote from Tivoli. Ruth Carr will be consulted. Tivoli to be kept on until a decision is made. All members agreed.
14. **Headstone Check**
GG informed that a few sections of the cemetery had already been checked and Ruth Carr will continue with check and keep GG informed.
15. **Clerk's Report**
Clerk reported there was a notification of a price increase in trade waste services from the 1st of April 2022. As stated previous in the meeting, there had been a few complaints about the cemetery, but these had already been dealt with. The Clerk also reported that enquiries were ongoing with regard to the reduction in business rates.
16. **Chair and Member Reports**
A discussion ensued about budgets and Terms of Reference – these should be checked to clarify how precept from councils is set.
GG expressed that he was not happy that WBJC members never see actual invoices relating to WBJC, only the totals. It was suggested WTC send all invoices to Clerk who will forward them to committee members.
HR commented that comments were being made about Wigton Burial Joint Committee at Town Council/Committee meetings and that should not be happening. TH asked that GG get constitution to see what it says. GG confirmed it says just admin and control of bank account.
17. **Date of Next Meeting**
It was agreed that a special meeting be held to discuss the budget, Terms of Reference and the Constitution on the 2nd of March.

Adendum: The minutes of the last meeting had one amendment and were approved.