

# WIGTON BURIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Email: wigtonburialclerk@gmail.com

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

Minutes of meeting held at 7 pm on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in The Vestry, Wigton Cemetery

Present – E. Lynch, P. Williams, G. Girvan, W. Marrs, M. Huntington, H. Robbins,  
T. Huntington, M. Clark

1. Apologies – J. Mattinson
2. Minutes of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. Three corrections were made, the minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
3. No declarations of interest etc.
4. Exclusion of press and public – two sections of item 9 and 12.
5. No press or public present. MC said a letter had been received to thank the Committee and Volunteers for all the work they were doing, particularly on the area around the cenotaph, it was a big improvement on the flower beds.
6. **Finance Matters**  
EL stated every three months Ruth Carr pays money in and lets Alison know what has come in. PW says it should be sent to everyone, including Clerk.  
EL to work with HR and Clerk to set budget for next year.  
MC not sure where she is with the plant budget and needs to buy seeds.  
MC reminded all that the next instalment from the three councils was due in November.
7. **Allerdale Borough Council**  
PW has spoken to Ruth Carr. The agreement is working well. Ruth Carr is getting her head around a few problems with grave spaces.  
Many thanks to GG and WM for doing it, they have been a big help.
8. **Ground Maintenance Contract**  
Ian Rumney has done a great job of the ground work, the Cenitaph being the icing on the cake.  
MC says we need a proper schedule for autumn/winter. Ian Rumney will charge the same for this year as last year. MC to go around cemetery with Ian Rumney to see what is required.  
MC questioned if we can sell the white stones in dumpy bags, possibly on Facebook?  
We need to look into removal of wreaths after the festive season. Contact Ruth Carr to see what happens elsewhere. Contact Tivoli to see if they would possibly do it and a quote for the work.  
MC to liaise with Ian Rumney to get a quote.  
PW extends thanks to John Hamblin for his work on the wild flower garden.

9. Item 9 moved to item 12.
10. **Friends of Wigton Cemetery**

PW very grateful to the Friends of Wigton Cemetery volunteers for all the work they do.

PW says Friends of Wigton Cemetery need a constitution. Need to insure the volunteers.

MC says a bank account is needed so that if people want to make donations to help with the garden can do that.

MC to speak to Julia and report at next meeting.
11. **Planning for the future of Memorial Garden**

There is a lack of space for the burying of ashes, Ashes cannot be put on top of others' ashes. Pots and flowers cannot be allowed in the area. Ruth Carr and Dan Studholme, the undertaker, say the area needs to be extended.

It is agreed to move the fence three metres, Committee agrees a hedge needs to be planted now as a new border for the Memorial Garden. MC to ask Ian Rumney for price to put down proper top soil and plant hedges to put it in budget.

It is agreed people will be charged for burying ashes at a cost of £80.
12. **Rented House**

TH had previously sent an update to all members. Some further issues have been dealt with in the rented house. TH purchased chain following tenant request for rear yard to be secured.

EL expresses thanks to TH, GG and WM for all their work on the rented house.
13. **New Bench**

Following request for placement of a memorial bench, it is agreed that it can be placed to the west of the Baby Garden against the rear wall of the cemetery. GG or WM must be present when bench is being positioned. WBJC will not insure the bench and it will be subject to standard indemnity. Clerk to send letter to confirm these points.
14. **Chair and Member Reports**

PW has given up on Bulb, no satisfactory conclusion and company has now gone bust.

GG reported on unsafe headstones. Three have been staked for eighteen months, two will be buried while the third will be repaired. Ruth Carr has found three more memorials which are unsafe. GG says we need to take the tops of the obelisk and bury them for safety. Everyone agrees with GG. Ruth Carr to look into Able Memorials for further inspections.

MC reported that there have been more people in the cemetery, some of them being disrespectful to the cemetery, with an increase in dog fouling.
15. **Date of Next Meeting**

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021.