

**Minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
in the Committee Room, Clayport Street Alnwick at 6.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs K Gray (Chairman), K Moore, S Allcroft, J Bell and D Farrar.

**In attendance:** W Batey, Chief Officer and Town Clerk.

**CEM12/13. Apologies:** None

**CEM 12/14. Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared.

**CEM 12/15. Current Budget position 2012/13**

The clerk circulated the current budget for the Committee as at 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and this was examined line by line. Expenditure was currently £39,947 and income was £29,174. Income from fees was well above budget as a result of increased burials over the last quarter. The predicted final end of year position was a net expenditure of £13,254.

**RESOLVED: To receive the update.**

**CEM 12/16. Future Tree Planting**

At the last meeting it had been agreed to consider future tree planting. Over the last 3 years some 15 trees had been felled following tree surveys. Councillors felt it important to have a tree planting plan, given that many more trees were coming to the end of their life and the trees in the cemetery added to its attractiveness. It was suggested that the central avenue, as well as the new area needed to be considered. Some advice may be needed on tree types and getting trees of the right size was important. It was agreed that the new committee should revisit this at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED: To revisit tree planting options at the next committee meeting.**

**CEM 12/17. Cemetery Extension Area**

The Chairman reported that he had contacted the Vicar of St Michael's regarding the procedures for having the extension area consecrated. This will need to be done by the Bishop of Newcastle. Further details were awaited. In addition the Clerk agreed to check out the planning position. It was also highlighted that the Woodland Trust had a scheme which could provide hedging for the Cawledge View boundary; this was to be looked into.

**RESOLVED: To continue to explore and finalise the procedures for the use of the extension area.**

**CEM 12/18. Potholes on the drive**

The Chairman raised the conditions of the central driveway and the number of potholes. The clerk explained that Northumberland County Council had agreed to deal with these in the new financial year. The potholes would be filled with chippings for the Alnwick in Bloom judges visit on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**RESOLVED: The position be noted.**

**CEM 12/19. Any Other Business**

Councillor Allcroft asked if some of the Alnwick in Bloom flower tubs could be placed at the Cemetery entrance, this was agreed  
Councillor Farrar suggested that the Council needed to look at having more public information available about the cemetery and its services. It was agreed to look at this

again. He also sought clarification about the use of weed killers around headstones, in the cemetery. The Chairman confirmed that this has always been done and was normal practice to keep the cemetery looking tidy.

The clerk raised an enquiry that he had received from a member of the public asking if the Town Council were willing to set up a volunteer scheme for the Cemetery. It was agreed to look at this again with more information available.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm