

**Minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on
Thursday 15th December 2011
in the Committee Room, Clayport Street Alnwick at 6.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs K Gray (Chairman), K Moore, S Allcroft, E Blakey and S Walton,
In attendance: W Batey, Chief Officer and Town Clerk.

CEM 11/15. Apologies: Cllrs J Bell and B Thompson.

CEM 11/16. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

CEM 11/17. To agree the Fees and Charges for 2012/13

The clerk circulated details of the current burial fees together with details of the current fees charged by Amble Town Council and Northumberland County Council. The County Council fees were the ones used across all their cemeteries. Following discussions on the comparisons the following fees were recommended for 2012/13:

	Proposed Fee 2012/13
BURIALS	
Burial Rights for up to 100 years together with the right to erect a headstone	£390
Right to erect a headstone (for plots purchased prior to 1 st April 2012)	£90
Burial of person over 12 years old	
- Depth 4ft	£210
- Depth 5ft	£330
Burial of child (1 month old up to 12 years old)	
- Depth 4ft	£155
	£95 for 1 month - 5 years old
- Depth 5ft	£160
	£100 for 1 month – 5yrs)
Burial of child (stillborn or child up to 1 month old)	£65
CREMATED REMAINS	
Burial Rights for up to 100 years together with the right to erect a headstone	£200
Right to erect a headstone (for plots purchased prior to 1 st April 2012)	£90
Burial Charge	£100
Scattering of Ashes	£80
MEMORIALS ETC	
Right to place vase/shield/cross etc.	£50
Extra Inscriptions	£30
Headstone foundation	£60
Search of Cemetery records (by post)	£30
Search of records with superintendent in attendance	£30
Use of Chapel	£100
Non residents	+100%
Saturday/public hols increase	+100%

RESOLVED: that the above fees and charges be included in the 2012/13 budget

CEM 11/18. Current Budget Position 2011/12

The clerk circulated a copy of the expenditure and estimates for 2011/12 as at 8th December 2011. Expenditure for the year was projected to be £55,804; this is £14,000 over budget and is as a result of the purchase of a new tractor which is being funded out of reserves. Income for the year stood at £18,000 and is projected to be £23,000 which is £2,000 less than projected. Councillors were informed that the water metering arrangements for the Cemetery Lodge and other cemetery buildings was being investigated by Northumbrian Water and savings would be made on the Chapel cleaning from January. Discussions took place on the works required to upgrade the public toilet facility at the cemetery. The facility is rarely used and is in a very poor condition and requires expenditure of at least £7,000, it was therefore agreed that the toilet should be taken out of operation.

RESOLVED: to receive the budget update.

CEM 11/19. 2012/13 Budget and Proposed Precept

Cemetery budget proposals for 2012/13 split against the main budget headings were circulated by the clerk. This showed the total expenditure to be £43,850. Income was anticipated to be £23,000, having regard to the proposed fees and charges. Each budget line was discussed and savings were anticipated on trade waste through a reduced contract. Given the reduction in reserves in 2011/12 to purchase a tractor, it was agreed that the reserves needed to be added to in 2012/13. It was therefore proposed that the Cemetery Committee precept for 2012/13 be £24,000, an increase of £1,000.

RESOLVED: The 2012/13 estimates and the precept requirement of £24,000 go forward to council for the 2012/13 budget setting process.

CEM 11/20. Any Other Business

Councillor Blakey raised the need for consideration to be given to the reduction in use of cellophane on flowers at the cemetery. This will be considered further. Councillor Gray reminded the committee that consultation was still to take place with local undertakers to get their views on green burials.

The meeting closed at 7.12pm