

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET, CHASETOWN  
ON THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Humphreys [in the Chair]  
Councillors Ms Brettell, Birch, Miss Fisher [from 6:07 pm] and Mrs Stokes

**In attendance**

Ms J Minor, Senior Administration Officer  
Councillor Mrs Tranter

**12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Drinkwater and Mrs Rigby.

**13. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

None declared.

**14. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Burial Grounds Committee held on 14 June 2018 [Minute Nos. 1-11] be approved and adopted.

**15. MEMORIAL PLAQUE COSTS**

Members made reference to Minute No. 10 - 14 June 2018 [Memorial Plaque Costs] and even though it was resolved that all plaques be of brass with black script/lettering Members now felt that there may be a problem with brass tarnishing and the plaques being stolen due to their potential scrap value.

A local stone mason had provided, at the meeting, a sample plaque [12" x 6"] in polished black granite. Members were informed that the price per plaque including fixing would be £200 plus VAT. Councillor Birch felt that as a Town Council we have a duty to provide affordable plaques.

Councillor Mrs Stokes stated that she had visited Chase Engraving Centre [High Street, Chasetown] and explained that they could provide acrylics, traffolite and brass plaques and a cheaper cost.

Councillor Humphreys stated that as the plaques on the designated memorial wall were going to be there in perpetuity further investigation needed to be undertaken.

**RESOLVED** That this item be deferred.

**16. BURNTWOOD CEMETERY - REQUEST FROM HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL**

Members were requested to consider a request from Hammerwich Parish Council to allow residents of that Parish to be buried in the Burntwood Cemetery. Councillor Humphreys gave background information and stated that Members would recall that when the cemetery was set up the opportunity had been given to Hammerwich Parish Council to be involved and they had been approached on three occasions but had declined. The Parish Council were approached in the first place as the Triangle Ward in the Parish of Hammerwich abuts the Town Council's boundary and residents living in Lawnswood Avenue, The Ridgeway etc still believe they live in the Parish of Burntwood.

Councillor Mrs Stokes felt that Hammerwich Parish Council had been asked on three occasions and should have come on board at that stage.

Councillor Birch felt that careful consideration needed to be given as the population of Burntwood was increasing in number [an aging population].

**RECOMMENDATION** to Full Council

That in principle the request from Hammerwich Parish Council be refused and that the Rules and Regulations [with effect from 25 August 2017] namely:

“Definition of a resident means a person who was at the time of his or her decease a permanent resident within the Burntwood Civil Parish boundaries or whose last normal place of residence before confinement elsewhere in a hospital, hospice, a residential care home or assisted living in a retirement home or village due to ill health or age was within Burntwood Civil Parish boundaries. In the case of a deceased child the residential qualifications of the parents will be the deciding factor.”

remain as they are.

**17. BURNTWOOD CEMETERY - CONSIDERATION OF INSTALLATION OF PATHWAYS**

Members were informed that a request had been received from a lady whose father had been buried in Burntwood Cemetery. She had asked for the Committee to consider the installation of pathways in the cemetery. Councillor Humphreys informed Members that the cemetery had been designed as a lawned cemetery and since its construction some 11 years ago there had not been a problem with “bog type” conditions as the cemetery is well drained.

Members made reference to the cost of installing and future maintenance of the pathways, implications regarding grass cutting of the burial areas and that a consultation exercise would need to be undertaken of existing owners of the plots.

**RECOMMENDATION** to Full Council

That Burntwood Cemetery continues to be a Lawned Cemetery.

[The Meeting closed at 6:19 pm]

Signed .....

Date .....