

Report of Cemetery Working Party held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 5.00pm at Ledbury Cemetery.

Present: Cllrs Bob Barnes, Martin Eager, Keith Francis. Mark Bateman (Grounds Officer).

1. Apologies: Cllr Andy Manns

2. Report of Meeting of Cemetery Working Party of 10<sup>th</sup> August was accepted as correct record.

3. Tree quotations. Whilst it was recognised that different tree surgeons have different views it was recommended that: T 117 be taken down at cost of £350 as it is causing damage to path, and that T 46 (Thuja) at cost of £920 (+VAT) and T 47 (Lawson Cypress) at cost of £500 (+VAT) be taken down as possible threat to Chapel.

4. One quotation for repairing wall had been received: 2 quotes awaited and Clerk, Grounds Officer, Cllr Francis to meet at 9.00am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September and at 9.00am on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September to receive quotes.

5. Repair to roof to chapel. As this was a very urgent matter which had been identified as needing immediate attention by insurers, it was recommended that the quotation from Dave Eggerton be accepted. Confirmation to be agreed at next E & L Committee Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

6. Trees on graves. A plan for dealing with trees on graves to be made. In the meantime owners of graves to be contacted that work needs to be done asap.

7. Headstones. Headstones on graves need to be retested. Await decision on Operational Review before setting this in motion.

8. Siting of a new bench. Council had received a request from Mr Thorpe for a memorial bench for Michael 'Spike' Beale to be sited under sycamore tree nearest to 'bin shed'. It was recommended (by 2 to 1) that bench without 'liver' bird symbol be sited there. Cost of bench, installation etc will be paid by Mr Thorpe. It was agreed that he be responsible for future maintenance of bench. It was agreed that a policy on benches needs to be adopted.

Bin Shed. Grounds Officer said that he was planning to tidy up area by bin shed. Remove yew tree and resite bins.

Concern was expressed that some of existing benches are in poor repair, particularly bench with wording 'Sosia', is in very poor condition.

9. Plaques in cremation area. A plaque, 12inches square, is allowed in memorial area. Concern was expressed over multiple plaque and vase holders/baskets. Recommended that plaque and one vase holder be allowed: no extras. Recommend that letter be sent to grave holders in cremation memorial area that Council is concerned about multiple memorials.

Recommended that rules and regulations for the memorial cremation area should have standard size of vase and no other memorials. It was agreed that there is need to set rules for memorial cremations in the new part of the cemetery.

Meeting closed at 6.15pm.

Cllr K.W.Francis