



**Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting** held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 commencing at 2.00pm, in the Town Council Office, Lady Street, Dulverton.

**Present:** Chairman: Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery. Cllrs: Mr Alan Ottey and Mrs Louise Parrish.

**Deferment of Business for comment by the public.** None

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mr John Preston

**Declarations of Interests:** None

**Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:** None

**Matters Arising:**

**All Saints Church School House Boundary Wall:**

Part of the new wall has fallen following the severe wet weather. DTC has been advised by Chris Ware that gabions are necessary and will sit on top of the ground and replace the wall that is there now. There would be a fee for the visit and calculations from the engineer, further details of which are to be obtained. E.N.P.A. will need to be informed

**RESOLVED:** That in principle it is agreed that an updated survey is carried following the recent damage. Proposed by Mr Ottey, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

**Cemetery:**

a) Rules & Regulations:

- Positioning of memorials: Members were asked to consider allowing a memorial to be positioned centrally between two grave plots in which relatives are interred. Members commented that bearing in mind the very few plots remaining, the proposal will affect the aesthetics of the cemetery and interfere with the maintenance of the area concerned.
- Use of grave plots: Members were asked to consider as to whether full grave plots can be used for ashes only. It was subsequently:

**RESOLVED:** That due to the lack of space, ashes are permitted in the area specified for ashes only. Proposed by Mrs Parrish, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

b) Burial & Memorial Fees:

RESOLVED: To increase the burial fees as from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 as follows:

<u>INTERMENT FEES PAYABLE</u>	<u>CHARGES</u>
Burial of a child (under one year)	No Charge
Child (between one and twelve years)	£100.00
Person over 12 years	£400.00
Burial of ashes	£150.00
Digging fee for ashes	£50.00
 <u>MONUMENT FEES PAYABLE:</u>	
To place a Memorial	£100.00
Added inscriptions after the first	£ 30.00

The fees to be reviewed on an annual basis in January. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

**Machinery Requirements:** Replacement of strimmer:

RESOLVED: To purchase a FS70R strimmer as proposed by the Grounds Man. The best price possible to be obtained. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Takel and carried.

**Renewal of Groundsman Contracts – April 2023:**

Members looked at all three work specifications and determined that with the introduction of the LCN Highways Steward the individual specifications will require amending and the work redistributed between two rather than three grounds men.

**Annual Play Equipment Inspection Reports:**

Members had a cursory overview of the reports. Mr Ottey agreed to do site visits with Mr Takel to ascertain what needs to be done in the immediate future.

**Reports from Members as follows:**

Cemetery: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parish

Christmas Wreaths – To be removed once they appear neglected.

Church Yard: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish / Parish Lengthsman: Mr John Preston  
Concern was raised regarding a tree overhanging Church Walk. The issue is to be monitored.

Sports Field: Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery

Clubs are struggling recruiting players. If they fold as a result it will affect the Sports Field Management's ability to be financially sustainable.

Barnsclose: Cllr. Mr Alan Ottey

Work progressing well concerning the access requirements of South West Water.

Kings Corner: Cllr. Mr John Preston

Reports have been received concerning littering, particularly by youngsters using the shelter. Members commented that unfortunately the situation cannot be monitored, the Grounds Man does his best to keep it tidy. There are plenty of bins on the site.

Exmoor Lawns: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish  
Moles are present. The Clerk was requested to contact Green Valley Pest Control.

Abbots Way/ Abbots Way Pond: Cllr. Allan Ottey  
There are still two lights not working.  
It was comment upon that the pond looks lovely and is being well maintained.

Pound Walk: Cllr. Mr John Preston  
Requires cleaning. Clerk to contact Sam Murrell (SWT)

Lorna Doone Roundabout & Grass Cutting: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish  
There exist stinging nettles at the rear of the statue that need removal.  
Clerk to contact Sam Murrell (SWT)

**Urgent maintenance issues with regards all other grounds with permission of the Chairman:**

None

**Chairman.....**

