

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS, CEMETERY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 18th APRIL 2006 IN THE PARISH CENTRE, COMMENCING 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor J Blackburn, Councillors S Butler and I Skidmore

2006/26 **APOLOGIES:** Councillors M Benson (other commitments), J Roper (other commitments), Rebecca Findlay, Clerk (holiday) and John Wardley (Allotment Association)

2006/27 **IN ATTENDANCE:**
Lorraine Ellis (Asst Clerk) and Chris Wright (Allotment Association)

2006/28 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH 2006:**
The minutes of the meeting, having been reviewed at Full Council on 28th March 2006 were taken as read and duly signed.

2006/29 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**
Progress on planting at ‘pipe’ at the Allotments
The planting of the pyracantha and blackthorn at the riverside will be carried out on Wednesday 19th April 2006.

Banding exercise

Chris Wright reported that he had received information from the Clerk and will be meeting in early May with the Clerk to discuss the banding exercise.

Pet Cemetery

Further research needs to be undertaken. The Clerk to report back to the Committee at a later date.

Green burials

The Chairman will discuss this further with the Clerk.

St Mary’s Church

An invitation has been received from Mr Swift, the Church Warden to visit the site. The Chairman will contact the Clerk and Mr Swift to arrange a suitable date.

Churchyard wall

A further quotation for the clearance work at the churchyard wall is still awaited.

2006/30 **ALLOTMENT ITEMS RAISED BY THE ASSOCIATION:**
The Allotment Association reported that the proceeds received from Welwyn Festival Week will be donated to the Chrysalis Charity. This Charity helps in the education of autistic children.

2006/31 **OTHER ALLOTMENT ISSUES:**
An inspection of the allotments took place on 9th April. Following the inspection eight plot holders were sent letters regarding the current poor condition of their plots. It is believed that the banding exercise will help with the larger plots not being worked fully. Overall the allotments are in a very good condition.

2006/32 **CEMETERY ITEMS:**
The Chairman reported that there had recently been vandalism to the white hut at the Cemetery resulting in the door having to be replaced.

It was reported that the space for burials would on current usage last for approximately 10 – 15 years. There was concern about the lack of space in the Garden of Remembrance, the capacity is not sufficient due to the rising number of cremations. The Clerk to prepare a proposal and a design map for discussion at the next meeting.

The Clerk has contacted a tree surgeon to discuss the tree planting at the Cemetery. It has been suggested that similar trees to those currently in place should be planted. The Committee agreed that this would be a sensible approach. The Clerk to progress.

The Chairman will visit the new section at the Cemetery to review the hedging and will then discuss further with the Clerk.

2006/33 CHURCHYARD ITEMS:

It was reported that one of the stones had been broken during the current work being carried out in the Churchyard.

2006/34 ‘NAME’, SCOPE OF THE COMMITTEE:

Following the proposal to revise the Committee, it was agreed that this item should be discussed at the next Committee meeting when all members would be present.

Under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

2006/35 ALLOTMENT FENCING QUOTES:

It was **RESOLVED** that the lowest quote should be accepted. The Clerk to instruct the contractor to carry out the work.

2006/36 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MARCH MEETING:

The Clerk to arrange for a meeting to be held with the occupants to discuss removal of the play equipment.

The Chairman then thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Signed.....Chairman
(Allotments, Cemetery and General Purposes Committee)

Date:.....2006