

Friends of Freshford Proposal

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to present the results of the questionnaire on the Friends of Freshford Proposal as regards The Cemetery and the War Memorial.

2. Overview

2.1. Report Structure

This report has the following structure:

- Overview
 - Approach
 - High-Level Summary
 - Overview of the responses from Freshford residents
- Chart of responses from Freshford residents with overall count totals for each question, with all comments received for that question.
- Detail of the overall responses to the questionnaire

2.2. Approach

The questionnaire asked each respondent to grade their answer between 1 to 5, 'Definitely' to 'Not at All'. These are represented as:

- Definitely
- Possibly
- Neutral
- Possibly Not
- Not at All

There were no duplicate entries for the Cemetery Questionnaire.

A high-level summary is given below, and then there is a page per question providing more detailed information on the responses received followed with the comments received.

2.3. High-Level Summary

- Number of Responses Received = 50
- Number of People stating that they are residents of Freshford = 48

Below are summary tables, and there are detail sections following for each of the questions asked.

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

2.4. Freshford Residents Responses

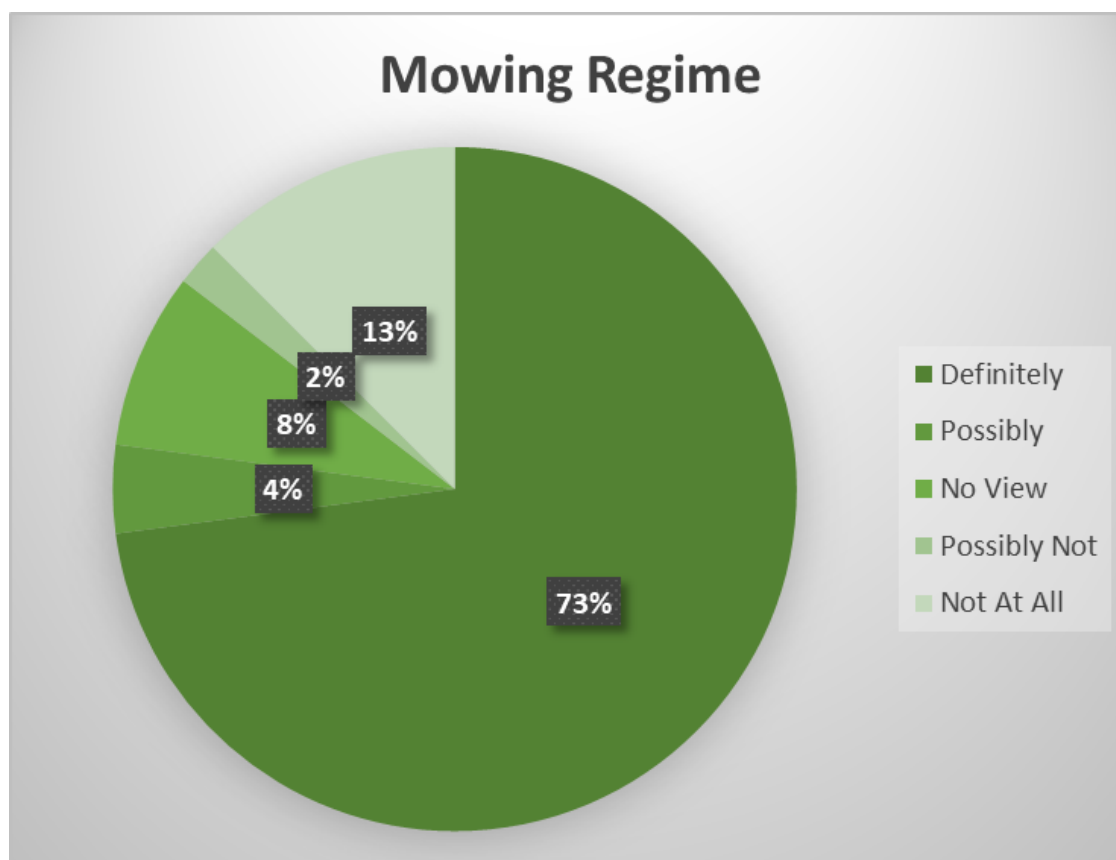
Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Mowing Regime	37	4	7	77%	8%	15%
3 Trees in the Cemetery	37	3	8	77%	6%	17%
Berry Rich Hedgerow	41	3	4	85%	6%	8%
3 Trees in the Triangle	38	3	3	86%	7%	7%
War Memorial Planting Scheme	39	3	5	83%	6%	11%

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Mowing Regime	35	2	4	1	6	0
3 Trees in the Cemetery	35	2	3	1	7	0
Berry Rich Hedgerow	37	4	3	0	4	0
3 Trees in the Triangle	36	2	3	0	3	4
War Memorial Planting Scheme	36	3	3	3	2	1

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

3. Do you agree with the Mowing Regime for the Cemetery?

3.1. Questionnaire Vote Summary



Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	35	2	4	1	6
Votes (Percentage)	73%	4%	8%	2%	13%

Non-Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	1	0	0	0	1
Votes (Percentage)	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%

All Responses	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	36	2	4	1	7
Votes (Percentage)	75%	4%	8%	2%	15%

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

3.2. Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments received about the Mowing Regime
Definitely	It is important to maintain access to the headstones/graves
Definitely	We should "manage" as little as possible. I think that it aids the beauty of a cemetery to see flowers and encourage wildlife, it creates a calming and peaceful setting.
Definitely	Churchyards that have adopted this less frequent mowing regime have resulted in more abundant flora and wildlife. There are some very interesting examples here www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk
Definitely	There may be some areas which benefit from regular mowing other than just paths, but in general mowing only where necessary is preferable.
Definitely	The maintenance of the grass as suggested above will enhance the cemetery which could be a very beautiful, biodiverse place. However, it is currently in very poor condition with weeds and ash saplings having colonised it for the past 3 or 4 years.
Definitely	There are already designated linear footpaths through the cemetery respecting the burials. Curved mown paths would not work.
Definitely	Agreed but the mown footpaths must respect and not interfere with the location of the burials. I have sent a plan of the burials to the PC.
Definitely	The Cemetery should be a place for remembrance and respect but can also provide joy and happiness.
Definitely	Please make people aware of ticks and lymes disease in long grass areas.
Definitely	The plans suggested seem sound
Definitely	The long grass brings life to the cemetery through naturally attracting butterflies, insects and colour.
Neutral	Removal of the saplings is routine maintenance and is long overdue. It should be done immediately.
Neutral	Does the grass need cutting in the Spring, when wild flowers are blooming?
Possibly Not	I agree with removing the ash saplings and I agree with planting blossom trees and on the whole I am in favour of the concept of re-wilding. However, I'm not convinced that the cemetery needs to be 're-wilded' given that the whole of the Tynning will be. I am concerned that the cemetery will become very untidy if the grass is only cut twice a year. WAR MEMORIAL - there is no opportunity to comment on the war memorial further in the questionnaire so I will comment here. I agree with the British Legion and feel it is very important, out of respect, that we keep the area around the war memorial neatly mowed and tidy otherwise it looks as though we don't care about those that gave their lives.
Definitely Not	I would prefer the grass to be cut on a more regular basis, as now. I am delighted that ash saplings will be removed from graves. I do not agree with mowing pathways through the cemetery, as this would encourage footfall and dogs. An un-mown area to encourage wildflowers around the perimeter would be acceptable.
Definitely Not	Please the cemetery alone. It just needs to be kept neat & tidy.
Definitely Not	the cemetery should be kept weed free with regular neat mowing . the surrounding area has plenty enough biodiversity . visit st james park in london and seen the biodiversity scheme there . its pretty grim

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

Response	Comments received about the Mowing Regime
Definitely Not	People need easy access on foot to all the cemetery graves without walking through undergrowth.
Definitely Not	I would like to maintain the present regime until such time as we have settled on a comprehensive review and agreed plan to manage and maintain the cemetery in accordance with our statutory obligations

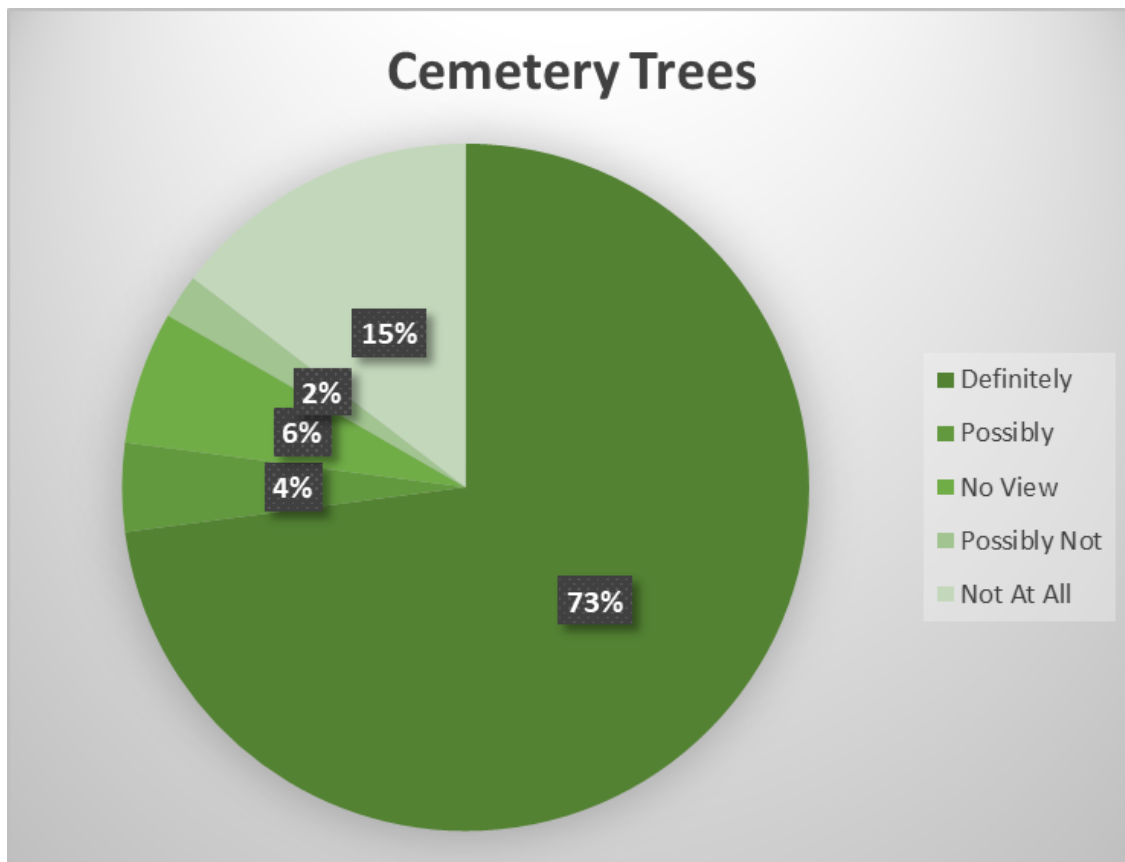
3.3. Non-Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments received about the Mowing Regime
Definitely Not	Maintaining the status quo regarding grass cutting.

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

4. Project 11 - Do you agree with 3 Trees in the Cemetery?

4.1. Questionnaire Vote Summary



Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	35	2	3	1	7
Votes (Percentage)	73%	4%	6%	2%	15%

Non-Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	2	0	0	0	0
Votes (Percentage)	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%

All Responses	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	37	2	3	1	7
Votes (Percentage)	77%	4%	6%	2%	15%

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

4.2. Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments about Blossoming Trees in the Cemetery:
Definitely	lovely idea
Definitely	It will make the cemetery more welcoming to both visitors and wildlife
Definitely	Blossoming trees will look just beautiful and act as a memorial in themselves
Definitely	There used to be a yew tree in the middle of the cemetery which must have provided shelter for wildlife. Small flowering trees would provide much needed food and habitat for wildlife as well as a beautiful place to remember loved ones who've passed away.
Definitely	A selection to provide the longest flowering period
Definitely	The planting of blossoming trees as suggested above will enhance the cemetery which could be a very beautiful, biodiverse place. However, it is currently in very poor condition with weeds and ash saplings having colonised it for the past 3 or 4 years.
Definitely	Glad to see that Amelanchier is included in the graveyard or triangle. A. Lamarckii (Juneberry) birds love, is small, has all year round colour interest and pretty star shaped flowers.
Definitely	Beautiful!
Definitely	Provide a wonderful view of life in a cemetery
Definitely	is it possible to plant more trees?
Neutral	Falling leaves and blossom in a cemetery are difficult to clear. The terrain seen from the boundary is interesting without further tree planting. The suggested bulbs and wild flowers might be more appropriate
Neutral	The visual attraction of the cemetery is its position and outlook which does not necessarily need extra visual enhancement. Small flowering trees sound a bit twee.
Definitely Not	Not appropriate in the cemetery itself although the area above and beyond the footpath on the south side could be used.
Definitely Not	I do not think the flowering trees will not add anything to this quiet and reflective space. Better to plant them on the triangle of land to the south of the public footpath.
Definitely Not	Please the cemetery alone. It just needs to be kept neat & tidy.
Definitely Not	There are already trees in the cemetery which were not placed originally with enough due thought, and so this now causes issues in relation to proximity of graves, overhang, etc. What should go ahead with some urgency is eradication of all ash saplings which proliferate the cemetery and are in amidst the graves. Structures and planting agreements in the cemetery should be addressed as part of a bigger picture, included within a cemetery maintenance strategy.
Definitely Not	I would like to maintain the present regime until such time as we have settled on a comprehensive review and agreed plan to manage and maintain the cemetery in accordance with our statutory obligations

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

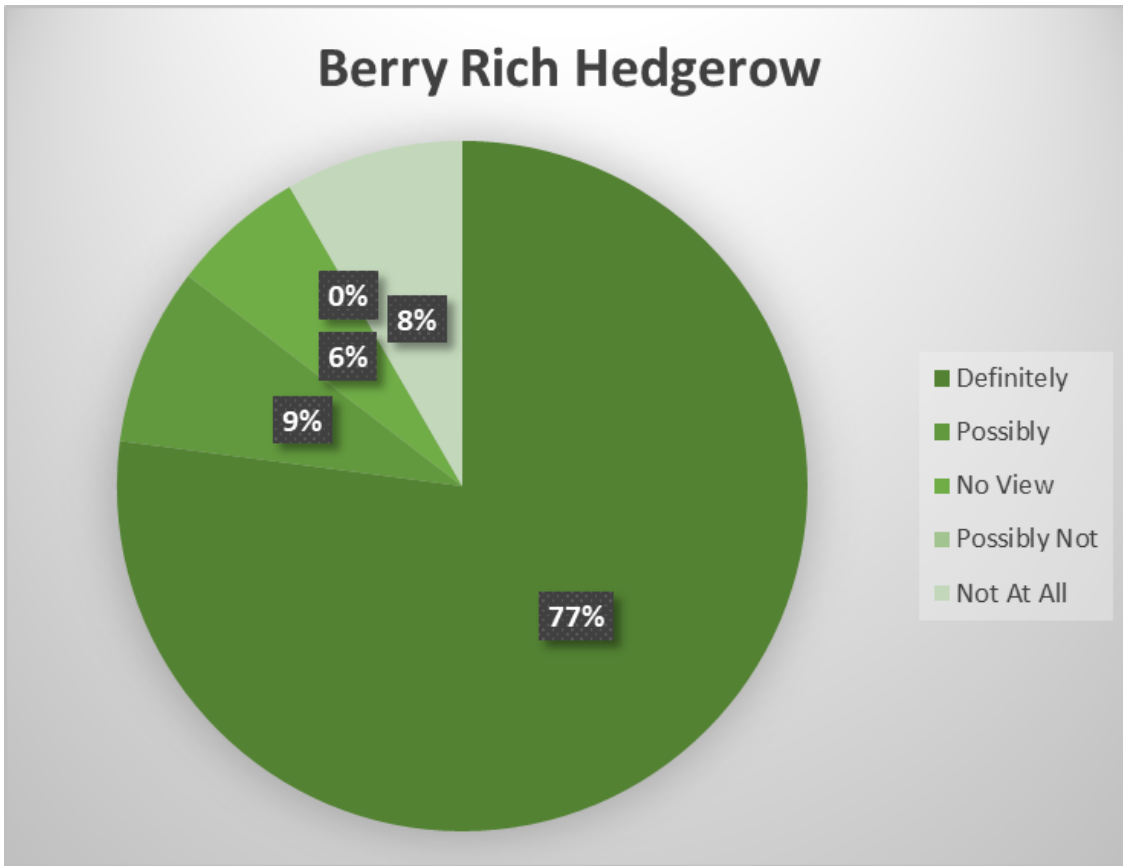
4.3. Non-Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments about Blossoming Trees in the Cemetery:
Definitely	Positioned sympathetically these would add colour and enhance the area.

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

5. Project 11 - Do you agree a Berry Rich Hedgerow?

5.1. Questionnaire Vote Summary



Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	37	4	3	0	4
Votes (Percentage)	77%	8%	6%	0%	8%

Non-Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	1	0	0	0	1
Votes (Percentage)	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%

All Responses	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	38	4	3	0	5
Votes (Percentage)	79%	8%	6%	0%	10%

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

5.2. Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments about a Hedgerow Between the Path and the Wall
Definitely	Yes - this is a rather 'dead' area and will benefit from this proposal.
Definitely	Currently this area feels a bit barren, these are good ideas to create more life. Cemeteries are often peaceful havens for man and beast.
Definitely	I think this will contribute to wildlife corridors through the village and will brighten up a bare edge.
Definitely	An excellent way of expanding habitat and increasing biodiversity
Definitely	A good idea in principle but maintenance could be an issue
Definitely	Less berries are produced on hedges cut yearly.
Definitely	Blossom trees would add to the tranquility of this space
Definitely	Generally I think it would be good to have a couple of benches sited in cemetery area for people to sit & have time of reflection
Definitely	Good idea.
Neutral	Which wall and path?
Neutral	Mightn't the cemetery need to expand into this area before long?
Definitely Not	The space is too small for more trees. There would be a loss of light.
Definitely Not	It was always expected the ground would become consecrated land for cemetery use.
Definitely Not	I would like to maintain the present regime until such time as we have settled on a comprehensive review and agreed plan to manage and maintain the cemetery in accordance with our statutory obligations

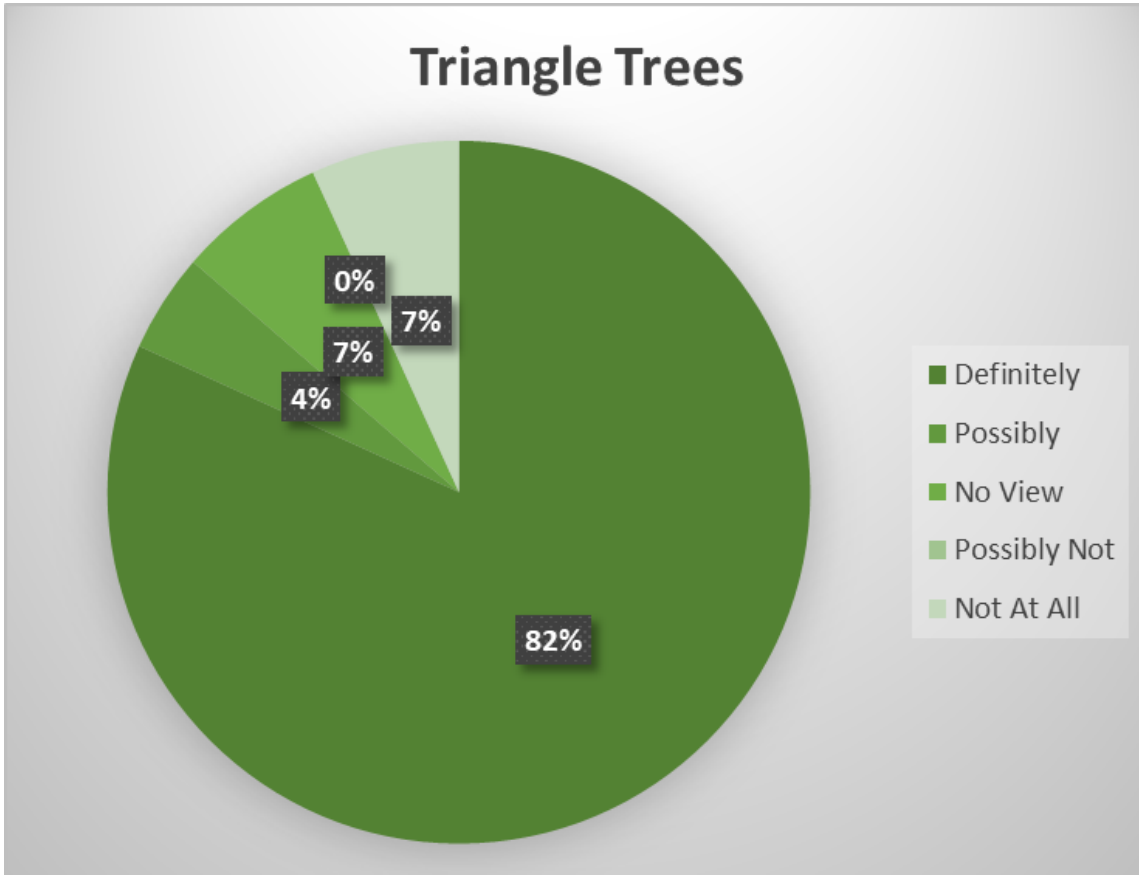
5.3. Non-Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments about a Hedgerow Between the Path and the Wall
Definitely Not	The wall is attractive to look at and I would not like to see it covered.

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

6. Project 11 - Do you agree with placing 3 trees in the triangle?

6.1. Questionnaire Vote Summary



Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	36	2	3	0	3
Votes (Percentage)	82%	5%	7%	0%	7%

Non-Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	1	1	0	0	0
Votes (Percentage)	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%

All Responses	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	37	3	3	0	3
Votes (Percentage)	84%	7%	7%	0%	7%

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

6.2. Freshford Residents Comments

Response	Comments About Including 3 Trees in the Triangle Area
Definitely	Yes - this is a rather 'dead' area and will benefit from this proposal.
Definitely	Anotehr aspect that will bring in more life and peace
Definitely	Having lost two established trees on the other side of the wall it is essential that we go some way to restoring natural habitat for birds and insects.
Definitely	A mix of fruit trees of modest height (c3m)
Definitely	An excellent way of expanding habitat, increasing biodiversity and reducing carbon
Definitely	It would be nice to see Blackthorn included somewhere or on the Tynning, left free to grow (not cut as in hedging) to produce more sloes for wildlife.
Definitely	This could be a lovely seating area and hopefully any further tree planting would not block the sun from the triangle
Definitely	This would bring welcome variation to the area. This area could be used as a memorial area to the cemetery rather than additional area for graves.
Definitely	Nice idea and this area could be a Memorial Tree area.
Neutral	Need to keep the vista down through the cemetery and across The Tynning open. A small memorial garden and a bench could be appropriate.
Neutral	Mightn't the cemetery need to expand into this area before long?
Definitely Not	No. And the current two fir trees would need to be removed to allow for future burials to take place. Dealing with this issue should be the priority.
Definitely Not	This area forms part of the cemetery.
None	After listening to discussion regarding extension to cemetery feel this shouldn't go ahead
None	Not too much planting

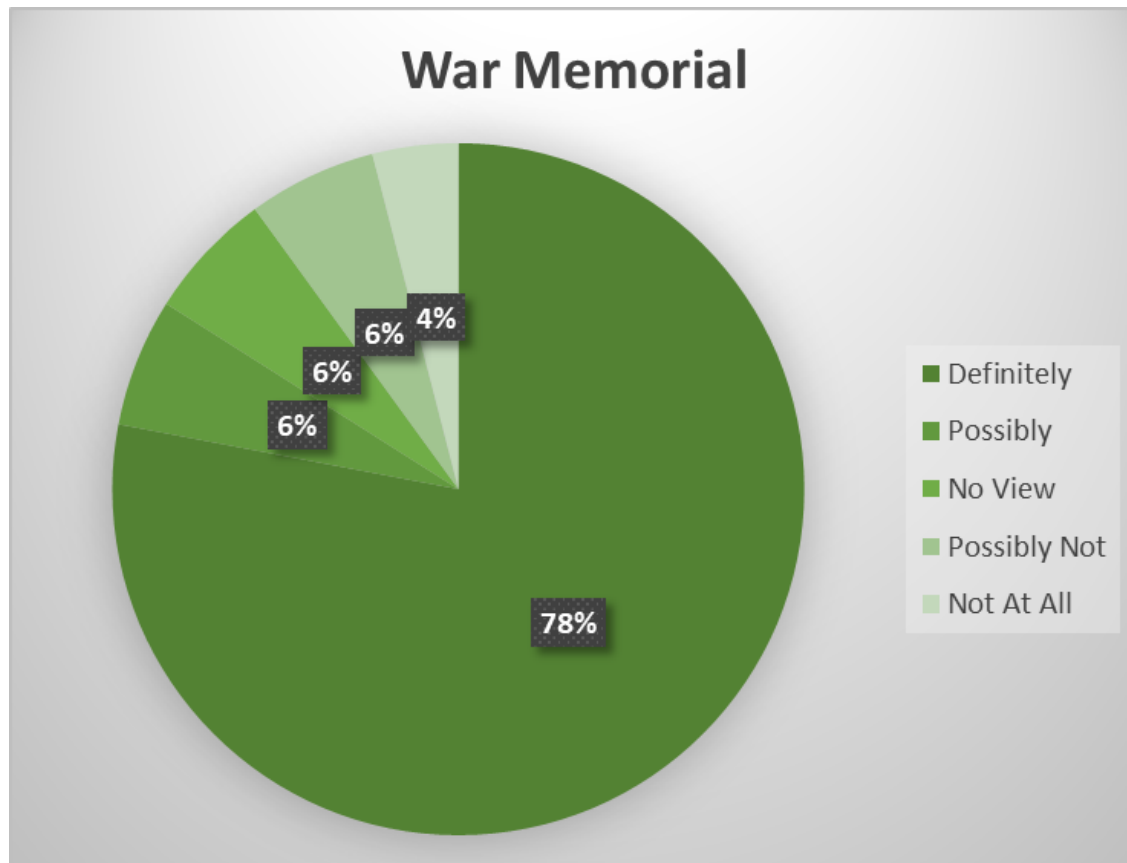
6.3. Non-Freshford Residents Comments

None.

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

7. Project 15 - Do you agree with the planting scheme for the War Memorial?

7.1. Questionnaire Vote Summary



Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	36	3	3	3	2
Votes (Percentage)	77%	6%	6%	6%	4%

Non-Freshford Residents	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	1	1	0	1	0
Votes (Percentage)	2%	2%	0%	2%	0%

All Responses	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All
Votes (Count)	36	4	3	4	2
Votes (Percentage)	77%	9%	6%	9%	4%

Cemetery & War Memorial Questionnaire Results

8. Detailed Counts of Responses

Freshford Residents Responses

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Mowing Regime	35	2	4	1	6	0
3 Trees in the Cemetery	35	2	3	1	7	0
Berry Rich Hedgerow	37	4	3	0	4	0
3 Trees in the Triangle	36	2	3	0	3	4
War Memorial Planting Scheme	36	3	3	3	2	1

Non-Freshford Residents Responses

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Mowing Regime	1	0	0	0	1	0
3 Trees in the Cemetery	2	0	0	0	0	0
Berry Rich Hedgerow	1	0	0	0	1	0
3 Trees in the Triangle	1	1	0	0	0	0
War Memorial Planting Scheme	0	1	0	1	0	0

All Responses

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Mowing Regime	36	2	4	1	7	0
3 Trees in the Cemetery	37	2	3	1	7	0
Berry Rich Hedgerow	38	4	3	0	5	0
3 Trees in the Triangle	37	3	3	0	3	4
War Memorial Planting Scheme	36	4	3	4	2	1