

Update on Mowing Arrangements at Freshford Cemetery

Outline

A few people have commented on or written in regarding the cemetery and the long grass. Feelings are that it looks unkempt and that people can't reach graves safely. Cllrs Hawker, Batchelor-Wylam and Pascoe visited the Cemetery to consider the current arrangements.

Recommendations

During long grass season (spring - Mid Summer):

- Grass around graves that are tended regularly should be kept short with a mown path for access (particularly top SE corner and those along the eastern boundary and the small graves along the fence). James can start strimming around the tended graves in the top SE corner now. Book him in to do this.
- Other areas should have more straightish mown paths giving more access and inviting people in.
- Areas where there are no visible graves are good places to enhance the wildflowers (particularly near the big box ball, NE corner western edge and under the big tree near the fence) and have long grass.
- The triangle opposite the cemetery (also consecrated and reserved for future graves) is a good place to leave the grass to grow, enhance with wildflowers and bulbs. No additional trees to be planted until the grave strategy is done.
- Planting evergreen climbers such as honeysuckle along the fence by the path will aid a sense of privacy.
- Nettles, saplings and ragwort needs to be tended to.
- Pot holes in the mown path need to be addressed urgently - they are a safety hazard.
- Invite FoF to enhance wildflowers, plant bulbs in the areas not to be mown regularly.
- The cemetery would benefit from another bench or two - memorial benches?
- Communicate these plans after the PC meeting and add a sign on the gate for 3 months of the long grass season.