Cemetery Advisory Group

PC Councillors

Annabel Menheneott Jean Hawker Tania Pascoe Elli Bate

Residents

Rachel Moore Roland Birchby Margaret Dodge Vora Peck Janet Norris Loulou Brouard

Report on Cemetery Advisory Group Meeting 14 October 2021

All members of the group were present except Elli Bate. The meeting was useful to hear residents views and also try and find a clear way forward regarding on going maintenance and discuss ideas on how to enhance the cemetery.

In conclusion the following actions were deemed acceptable to all members of the advisory group.

Bulb Planting

For spring bulbs to be planted in a naturalistic manner in the following areas of the cemetery:

1. Along the boundaries of the cemetery - hedgerows and along the walls

2. In the land which forms the triangle on the far side of the path at the top of the cemetery where there are currently no graves

3. In the area at the top of the cemetery where there are no gravestones. These will be allowed to grow until the end of May. *To be clear this is the area nearest the path we discussed in the meeting as an area to be left as long grass but following the meeting it seemed clear that the majority would prefer this area to be planted with spring bulbs and the grass only left until the month of May and then cut short.*

Grass Cutting

- Long grass for 3 months (till mid-July) in the middle section of the cemetery (see TP's map).
- Grass at the top of the cemetery where there are no gravestones to be left until the end of May and then cut. *See note 3 above regarding bulbs in this area.*

Triangle (top of the cemetery on the other side of the path)

- Swathes of flowers, (similar in fashion to those at the Memorial Hall) and spring bulbs to be planted with some long grass with paths through the area.
- Add a bench to create a peaceful area to sit.

Other Actions

- Fix the fence, particularly in the areas near the two gates.
- Plant clematis and honeysuckle along the fence, to enhance privacy of the cemetery and enhance the aesthetic. Loulou has these plants and they could

be planted now along the good part of the fence in light of the time it might take to mend the fence.

- Add benches, potentially these could be memorial benches:
 - 1. Under the oak near the bottom of the cemetery
 - 2. At the top of the cemetery near the main gate
 - 3. In the triangle on the far side of the path to the top of the cemetery
- Add compost heap at the bottom of the cemetery through the hedge into the Tyning but NOT in the pound.
- Clear graves of saplings and keep clear through regular strimming and prune roses.
- Tidy ivy on graves and walls but leave ivy on the walls to flower.
- Invite parishioners to set up a cemetery working group to tend and enhance the untended graves. Adopt a Grave scheme to help with on going maintenance.

Conclusion

In conclusion it was agreed by the group that by way of a compromise the grass cutting scheme outlined above would be trialled for 1 year and then revisited to assess the scheme.

The cemetery Advisory Group agree that the actions outlined above is the best way forward to enhance and maintain the cemetery for the residents of the Parish.