

LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on Friday 24 March 2017 in St Margaret's Chapel, Lyndhurst Cemetery at 4.00 pm.

Present: Councillors A Wiltshire (Chairman), Mr M Rollé, Mrs A Trend and P Burrows

In Attendance: Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from the Revd Dr C Wilkins.

2. Declarations of Interest

None as it was agreed that Mr Wiltshire did not have to declare an interest in the fact that he had close relatives buried in the Cemetery.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on 8 July 2016, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

(a) Shrub Growing from Chapel Roof

It was noted that the shrub had now been removed from the Chapel roof by Martin Witney.

(b) Electrical Fixtures/Fittings

It was noted that this project had now been completed.

(c) Weddings in Chapel

It was noted that enquiries had been made and it was understood that it would not be financially viable at this stage to take out a licence to hold weddings in the Chapel as the cost would be £1700 over a period of three years. However it might be possible in the future for anyone wishing to hold a wedding in the Chapel to pay the licence fee themselves.

5. Open Day – Saturday, 8 April 2017

The Chapel would be open from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm with Councillors Wiltshire and Trend being present on the day. Former Cemetery Committee Chairman, Paul Boyes, would be on hand to show points of interest around the Cemetery and the Clerk would bring the new Cemetery maps and Registers. The event would be advertised in the Lymington Times and flyers and posters had been produced.

6. New outbuilding for Maintenance Use

The Cemetery Committee Chairman outlined possible ideas for an upgraded and enlarged maintenance shed. It was likely that planning permission would not be required although a letter had been sent to NFNPA to gain written permission. The shed was necessary for safe storage of materials and chemicals and in order to accord with COSHH regulations. Mr Wiltshire indicated that he already had some materials to hand that could be used and a local builder had indicated that he could undertake the work for a very reasonable price. By using this source it was also likely that the

Parish Council could purchase the remaining materials, thus enabling VAT to be reclaimed to facilitate a further saving.

RESOLVED: That the Cemetery Committee Chairman be authorised to pursue this method of gaining erection of a new shed.

7. Cemetery fees

Discussion took place regarding the possibility of an increase in Cemetery fees and comparisons were made between an increase of 5% and 10% with further comparisons being drawn to NFDC Cemetery rates. It was noted that if a 10% increase was employed this would still indicate that the costs at Lyndhurst Cemetery remained very favourable by comparison.

RESOLVED: That Cemetery rates at Lyndhurst Cemetery be increased by 10% in general with figures being rounded up where necessary.

8. Promotion of use of the Chapel

It was recognised that in order to make the building financially viable it would be a good idea to try to promote its unique position where possible. A leaflet would be produced for the open day and a more concerted effort would be made to ensure the Chapel paid for itself and was well used.

9. Possible “stained glass” window

Discussion took place centred on the possibility of creating a stained glass window above the altar. Councillor Burrows stated that Sheila Davis, who lived in Bank, undertook such work. It was thought that it might be advisable to start with one small window.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Burrows invite Sheila Davis to visit the Chapel and give some idea of whether the project was feasible and costs involved.

10. Any Other Business to take forward to the next Cemetery Committee Meeting

(a) Solar Panels to Provide Electricity

Councillor Wiltshire outlined a scheme to provide solar panels on the Chapel roof. It was understood that the income would be small although the Clerk indicated that there were sufficient funds for the scheme.

(b) Grill in Back Door

The Parish Council Chairman, Mark Rollé pointed out that cold air could get into the Chapel through the grill in the back door.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Wiltshire explore methods of dealing with the problem.

In the absence of any other business the Parish Council Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting.

Chairman _____

Date _____