



# **BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

*CHAIRMAN: John Michael Bainbridge*

Minutes of the Meeting of the Churchyard & Cemetery Committee  
held on **Saturday 6 November 2021 at 9.30 am in the Churchyard,  
St Mary Magdalene Church, Church Road, Brampton.**

**Present:** Margaret Footner, Chairman, (MF), Simon Jordan, (SJ), Mike Bainbridge (MB),  
Liz Ruston, (LR)

**In Attendance:** Kathryn Hornett, Assistant Clerk (KH)

- 1. Receive Apologies**  
Nigel Maggs, Linda Hicks
- 2. Chairman's Opening Remarks**
  - 2.1 MF welcomed Kathryn Hornett to the meeting, as her first Churchyard & Cemetery meeting as Assistant Clerk.
  - 2.2 MF expressed how disappointed she was with the speed at which tasks are getting done in the Churchyard. MF and LR have been in the churchyard pruning and tidying.
  - 2.3 MF noted ivy is growing prolifically around the churchyard, especially up the walls of the church and up the trees.
- 3. Declarations of Interest**  
LR has a memorial rose tree in the Garden of Remembrance
- 4. To Receive and Approve Minutes of Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**  
The minutes had been approved by the full Parish council at its' meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October therefore the minutes were taken as read.
- 5. Action List from the Above.**
  - 5.1 No response from HDC, the grounds men have removed the dead branches
  - 5.2 Grounds staff removed leaves from Bartrop grave
  - 5.3 LH provided address for Ellington Grave, Assistant Clerk contacted but no response as yet
  - 5.4 TP reconnected water butt
  - 5.5 KH sent letter of thanks to Billie Leighton
  - 5.6 KH sent letter of thanks to Derrick Dorks
  - 5.7 Tree surgeon asked to do works on laurel trees, awaiting confirmation of date to complete works
  - 5.8 Grounds men cut back hedge around grave in old part of the churchyard
  - 5.9 Laurels included in quote from tree surgeon, awaiting date for completion
  - 6.0 Land owner contacted, now with solicitors and awaiting an update

- 6.1 Stonemasons contacted with regards to tomb in disrepair; two stonemasons been out but been unable to lift the tomb. Awaiting a date when all 4 stonemasons can attend on the same day to lift.
- 6.2 Grounds men weeded Montague pathway
- 6.3 Grounds men strimmed grave of James Holt
- 6.4 No family to contact regarding plants to be removed on grave of William Templeton, grounds men to be asked to remove
- 6.5 Letter sent to family of Steven Holland
- 6.6 Letter sent to family of John Baxter
- 6.7 No Francis McDonough documented on graveyard plan or alphabetical list of burial, so no family details to contact
- 6.8 Letter sent to family of Alice Richards, RE: fallen headstone
- 6.9 Families contacted RE: dying memorial rose trees
- 7.0 Grounds men actioned the removal of trees in Garden of Remembrance
- 7.1 Grounds men still need to remove ivy growing up lime tree
- 7.2 Grounds men still need to remove suckers from rose trees

**6. To discuss the future Burial Ground – Update**

The matter is now with the solicitors and is being dealt with between them. The office is awaiting an update.

**7. To discuss the Tomb in Disrepair in the Closed Part of the Churchyard**

Awaiting all four stonemasons to be available on the same day as two previously visited the site but were unable to move the stone. Clerk has chased via email.

**8. To discuss the trees work quoted to be pruned inc. laurel trees**

- 8.1 Awaiting tree surgeon to come back with planning permission to be able to deal with pine trees within quote
- 8.2 MF informed that laurels are becoming gravely overgrown, and requested tree surgeon to come out to complete works on the laurels whilst waiting for planning for the pine trees
- 8.3 Committee agreed this was sensible, Clerk to contact tree surgeon to request attendance of the laurel trees whilst waiting for planning for the remaining trees

**9. Memorial rose trees to be replaced**

- 9.1 At the time of the July meeting, seven rose trees were identified as needing replacing – these people were contacted, and four families asked to replace the tree, one owner was deceased, one had changed addresses so we could not contact, and the other decided against replacing.
- 9.2 One family asked to take over and replace the three trees that would not be replaced, for the various reasons. The committee decided against this and would not allow new trees, only to replace those that currently have a tree in place.
- 9.3 LR noted some of the stakes need replacing or need sharpening at the bottom.
- 9.4 LR and KH to liaise to organise purchase of new trees

**10. Request for angel on Memorial for Elijah David Lewis Samuel – Plot 1552 New Cem III**

- 10.1 MF reminded the committee that they previously had said no to the request of placing an angel on the memorial.
- 10.2 KH informed the committee that it was the Co-operative Funeral Care that contacted BPC to challenge the decision, and not the family.

10.3 Committee agreed to proceed with the previously agreed decision, but due to the unclear rules and regulations they can only advise of their decision.

### **11. Price increase for Memorial Obelisk Plaques**

11.1 KH informed committee that Columbaria have increased the prices for the plaques to be purchased for the obelisk; prices have increased from £66 to £75+ VAT.

11.2 It was asked whether the committee wanted to increase their charge price but the committee agreed that it was unnecessary to increase our charge price.

### **12. Budgets**

The Clerk reports an expected income of £7,800 and an expenditure of £15,220 for 21/22.

### **13. Inspection**

13.1 Grounds men to remove plants and unnecessary additions to grave of William Templeton plot no. 1531 New Cem III as no family

13.1.1 Grounds men are to remove glass jars/vases when seen

13.1.2 Grounds men are to remove damaged, faded or decaying cut flowers, wreaths and mourning cards, when seen

13.1.3 Dip/Hole in asphalt path, to the left of the church door, to be repaired

13.1.4 Ivy to be removed from church wall to the left of the church door when looked at; behind bushes, in alcove

13.1.5 Dead branch overhanging footpath, at the left of the fork in the path, near new church wall

13.1.6 The ivy to be removed from the tree, as above

13.1.7 Remove leaves, where possible

13.1.8 Clear downpipe of water butt, as constantly blocked. If water butt is leaking, please remove

13.1.9 Laurels at far back, left of old part of churchyard to be cut urgently as severely overhanging footpath

13.2 Mud beginning to encroach all footpaths, to be taken back and cleared

13.2.1 To maintain the hedge at far back of old part of churchyard, around grave containing an angel

13.2.2 To use root killer on all large weeds around churchyard, after Hunts Rotary clear up (20<sup>th</sup> Nov)

13.2.3 To use root killer on weeds around grave of Elizabeth Crawley plot no. 175 Triangle I, and surrounding

13.2.4 Take out four trees, surrounding Garden of Remembrance rose trees

13.2.5 Remove and/or sharpen stakes supporting rose trees in Garden of Remembrance

13.2.6 Remove tree in center of rose trees, in Garden of Remembrance, and replace with shrub or small tree – with advice

13.2.7 Move Carole Measures rose tree, and place where John Hewson currently stands (John Hewson family decided against replacing)

13.2.8 To contact the family of Olive Plant, Garden of Remembrance, regarding the excessive artificial plants and statues on the plaque

### **Job List for Huntingdon Rotary Clean Up on 20<sup>th</sup> November**

- To remove ivy from trees and headstones
- To remove seedlings & sapling trees, without spiral or stake, throughout the churchyard (Steve pictured)
- General tidying of leaves

- Cut back overhanging branches of trees onto footpath, including laurels, if able
- Cut back briars throughout churchyard
- Remove shrubs from churchyard (Steve pictured)
- Weeding graves, and around headstones
- Cut back briars at back of old part of churchyard
- All elder trees to come out

**14. Future meeting dates**

It was agreed the three meetings a year would remain as is, but that the meeting usually held in May would be moved forward to April in order for the current committee members to discuss the newly gifted land for the extension of the churchyard. It is suggested the meeting in April will be held on a Wednesday afternoon, to allow Rev. Duncan Goldthorpe the opportunity to attend, the July meeting will be in the evening and the November meeting to be held on a Saturday morning.

**15. Next agenda items**

- 15.1 To amend "Cemetery Regulations" to reflect the ideals of the committee, in keeping all memorials looking similar in appearance
- 15.2 To include in "Cemetery Regulations" the recommendation of purchasing a plaque – for the Garden of Remembrance – to include a precut hole to hold flowers.

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: