

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

BURIALS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Meeting held at Council Chambers on
Monday 27th January 2025 at 6.00pm.**

Present: Councillors C Harris (Chair), S Hillier, S Holmes, M Jones and T Saunders

In Attendance: Mr M Greenfield – Town Clerk
Mrs L Bendall – Assistant Clerk & Minute Taker

Members of the Public: 2 members of the public were present

Cllr Harris gave the usual housekeeping announcements.

Open Forum

A member of the public addressed the Committee to request that the Burial Authority reconsider her proposal to install a bench in the Catholic section of the cemetery. The bench would provide a place for her mother, who has mobility issues and uses a walking stick, to sit near her late father's grave. The resident explained that she had been in communication with the Clerk since November and had also met with them to discuss the request. She further noted that her mother is unable to afford the cost of a memorial bench but could offer a modest contribution towards the expense.

The Chair thanked the resident for attending and clarified that all benches currently in the cemetery had been purchased by families and placed near the graves of their loved ones. The Chair also explained that all benches are secured with cement and cannot be relocated once installed.

The Committee expressed a willingness to consider the installation of a memorial bench if it were paid for by the family but could not agree to fund the installation at the Council's expense. It was noted that the Clerk had fully investigated the matter and confirmed that the Burial Authority had adhered to all relevant legislation.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs Johns and Taylor.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd September 2024 be approved as a true record.

Resolved: Majority Approved

4. **CLERK'S REPORT**

To receive and note the Clerk's report
Received and noted.

5. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

- Cllr Harris requested an update on the restoration of the cemetery gates. It was confirmed that restoration of the pedestrian gates was nearing completion but work on the vehicle gates had not yet commenced due to the discovery that one of the pillars was structurally unstable. The office had obtained a quote from a local contractor which would be presented to council in February for a decision. The vehicle gates will remain in-situ until work on the pillar commences.

6. **SECTION H**

To consider and approve Section H in the cemetery.

It was proposed by Chair that Section H in the cemetery be approved.

Resolved: Unanimously Approved

It was commented that the council had previously approached a local developer to consider purchasing part of the path that runs along the side of the cemetery. The Ramblers Association objected to this at the time and no further action was taken. Office will try to find out if the Ramblers Association logged a formal stake to the pathway.

8. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

To identify business for future meetings of this committee.

- It was confirmed that obtaining additional burial space is part of the Strategic Plan that all councillors are responsible for working on. The Strategic Plan is reviewed quarterly by Full Council.
- Consideration may be made to look into the feasibility of a memorial wall with plaques and walkway, this will offer additional space for interred ashes.

Meeting closed at 6.27pm.

Chair



Date29.09.25.....