MEETING OF SHEFFORD AND CAMPTON JOINT BURIAL BOARD

Minutes of the meeting of the Board held via Zoom on Thursday 17th April 2025 2pm.

Present: Cllr Pollard as Chair, Mackin for Shefford, Cllr Ash for Campton and Chicksands, Clerk for Campton and Chicksands, Tammy Medley, Admin assistant Checka Quinlan for Shefford.

13/25 APOLOGIES/ DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Clerk for Shefford Francesca Fitch.

14/25 ELECTION OF CHAIR:

Cllr Mackin proposed Cllr Pollard, seconded by Cllr Ash, Cllr Pollard accepted and will be Chair until May 2026.

15/25MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING, MATTERS ARISING

The minutes 23rd January 2025 meeting were agreed as a true reflection of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Ash, seconded by Cllr Mackin, all agreed.

16/25 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

A resident has contacted the JBB regarding buying back her two reserved graves. The graves are X33 + X34 and were bought in 2006 and 2009 respectively. Cllr Pollard proposed buying back the plots, seconded by Cllr Mackin, all agreed. The plots will be purchased by at the original cost minus the % of costs for each year of ownership and will be subject to an admin charge.

17/25 RIALTAS:

Shefford TC are working hard to complete the End of Year in Francesca's absence, it is hoped with the help of Rialtas the end of year figures for the JBB will be available.

18/25 STAFFING:

Due to Francesca's absence Clerks have not committed to inputting of data, the focus has been on the day to day running of the cemetery. Once Francesca returns Clerks will continue with the historic records.

19/25 BUDGET AND CEMETERY FEES:

Following a resolution by the JBB, TM has increased the fees by 3.91%, rounded up to the nearest full pound. These fees came into effect on 1/4/25.

20/25 FINANCE:

No finance report available but once the End of year with Rialtas has been completed Clerks will email a report out to JBB.

21/25 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:

- The grass cutting/grounds maintenance tasks for the Burial Ground + Cemetery continue to be carried out by DJ Granger Grounds Maintenance Ltd and 2 Elms of

Shefford Gardening Services respectively at the rates as per budgeted for the 2025/26 year.

- Anglian water have notified the TC of a road closure to Campton Rd from 19th May-6th June. There will be some access available to residents and they will allow the Grounds maintenance team access by prior arrangement but will not be able to accommodate a funeral in this period. TM has agreed that we will see what happens and if the need arises for a full burial it will need to be discussed with Anglian water.
- The tap has been turned back on, but the pressure seems to be lower than it used to be so Robert will have a look at it.
- 2 Elms have strimmed half of the ashes plaques a quote has been received for them to strim the rest (the quote if for £600) Cllr Pollard proposed the works, seconded by Cllr Ash, all agreed.
- 2 Elms are also planning to relevel the TUV section with topsoil and grass seed to smooth out all displaced earth.

22/25 CAMPTON BURIAL GROUND:

The resident in the property adjacent to the church yard has expressed concerns that one of the trees is affecting her property, TM suggested that the JBB agree for a survey of the tree. Proposed by Cllr Mackin, seconded by Cllr ash, all agreed.

23/25 AOB

Cllr Ash will shown Cllr Pollard and Cllr Mackin around the Campton church yard.

24/25 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 24th July 2025, 2pm via Zoom.