

**Houghton Regis Town Council
New Cemetery Sub-Committee
1st February 2021 at 6.00pm**

Present:	Cllrs:	S Thorne Y Farrell M Kennedy T McMahon R Morgan	Chair Substitute
	Officers:	Clare Evans Louise Senior	Town Clerk Head of Democratic Services
Also present:	Cllrs:	D Jones A Slough	
	CBC Cllr:	S Goodchild	
Apologies:	Cllr:	J Carroll	

NC126 APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from Cllr Carroll (Cllr McMahon substituted).

NC127 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

NC128 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

NC129 MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2020.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2020.

NC130 NEW CEMETERY PROVISION

Members were provided with a report from CDS on the trial trenching work completed on Grendall Lane as part of the T2 survey investigations for land for a new cemetery.

Members discussed the report and its findings.

It was suggested that a joint provision with Dunstable Town Council and also potential provision in surrounding villages be explored as this would widen the geographical land search area.

Although CDS had expressed concerns over the suitability of the Grendall Lane site, it was commented that a significant advantage of this site was that the land was being provided by CBC. It was also noted that ground conditions varied across the site, so whilst not all of the site may be feasible, there were significant areas which would be. It was suggested that thought be given to the site being sectioned, with each section having a designated use, such as double burials, single burials, and ashes. It was also suggested that on land which may be unviable that an alternative use such as allotments could be considered.

Members advised of their reluctance to commission a T3 assessment, without indication that this land remained a viable option from the Environment Agency due to the involved cost.

Members discussed the two alternative options offered by Central Bedfordshire Council, and agreed that these potential sites were either not viable.

Members were advised that the Town Clerk would contact CDS to determine whether a dual use community facility at Grendall Lane was practicable, Dunstable Town Council would be contacted regarding their cemetery plans and Central Bedfordshire Council would also be contacted and provided with members feedback to determine whether they would commission CDS to explore surrounding villages. Members would be provided with an update at the next meeting.

- Resolved:**
- 1. To note the findings of the interim T2 report and to confirm the completion of the T2 assessment and to seek feedback from the Environment Agency in due course.**
 - 2. To explore with CDS a shared use option of allotments and a cemetery and thus a smaller red line location for a cemetery.**
 - 3. To explore with Dunstable Town Council options for a joint facility;**
 - 4. To enquire whether CBC would commission a wider preliminary survey of surrounding villages to explore any options in those localities.**

NC131 FUTURE MEETINGS

Members were invited to consider when this Sub Committee should meet again.

Members agreed to reconvene as and when an update report was ready.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.00pm

Dated this day of

Chairman