

Notes from a site meeting of Cemetery Extension Working party to discuss the extension of Love Lane Cemetery held on 4.7.23 at 12.00

Present

Cllrs Johnson, Parry, Towers, Drummond

Apologies

Cllr Soul

Also present P O'Hagan, J Ralphs

No agenda issued

A general discussion took place on the extension plans and it was agreed that the following works will be required.

Installation of new path

There is currently a path between rows 13 and 14. The newest graves are currently in row 25 therefore the next path should be located between rows 26 and 27 which will be along the line of the existing wooden fencing.

Recommend that the Clerk is instructed to seek quotes for the installation of a path between rows 26 and 27 with a specification to match the existing path.

At the same time as the path installation the contractor will be asked to address pothole issues on the access road.

Water tap

The need for an extra water tap was discussed and it was

Recommended that as part of the extension works the existing water trough at the far end of the extension area is changed to a tap.

Fencing

All present felt that the bow topped metal railings should be continued along the extension area and the current double gate be changed to a small metal pedestrian gate at the end of the new path.

Recommend that the contractor who installed the original metal fencing be asked to quote to continue the fencing as he knows the site and is aware of its sensitivity and constraints.

Vehicular Access Gate Location

This was discussed and it was agreed that options would need to be discussed on site with the contractor considered.

Trees

The holly bush and dead tree at the end of the extension area need removal. The Lime trees along the boundary with The Whitchurch Road Cemetery were discussed as these would require some cutting back.

The Clerk was asked to establish if there are any TPO orders on these trees and to seek a quote from Via Della Emelia for the works.

Soil store

A suggestion was made to install an excess soil store in the far corner of the cemetery where the current compost pile was located.

Cremated Remains

The location of the cremated remains area was considered and all present felt that this would be most suitable located at the far end of the extension area. Cllr Towers agreed to discuss options with a landscape designer.

It was agreed to recommend that

- Screening in the form of shrubs should be planted between the boundary fence and the proposed cremated remains area. An access strip for neighbouring properties to access their fences for maintenance should be left between the planting.
- Councillors and staff should arrange to visit local cemeteries with cremated remains plots to consider the most appropriate style for the cemetery. The Clerk suggested cemeteries in Hengoed, Newport, Ellesmere and Whitchurch as locations that should be visited before a design is agreed on.

Budget

It was explained that the funds allocated in ear marked reserves would be insufficient for the all the works planned.

Additional funds should be allocated from 2023-24 cemetery income and general reserves.

Possible Timescale

Autumn 2023 Installation of new pathway and removal of fence,

Autumn 2023 or Spring 2024 Installation of new fencing and gates,

Winter 23/24 Tree work and planting of shrubs between boundary fence

Spring 24 Cremated Remains area to be installed.