

**SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**CHURCHYARD AND BURIAL GROUND MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Churchyard and Burial Ground Management Sub-Committee was held in the Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Mrs M Thomas (Chairman), Mr I Bone and Mr R Atterwill. Also in attendance Mrs F LeBon (clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Mrs J Leary and Mr C Clegg

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Minutes of the Burial Ground Sub Committee Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 to be accepted, initialled and signed.**

After two minor amendments, the minutes were signed by Mrs Thomas as a true record of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2007**

None

**5. Churchyard Maintenance**

**a) To receive update on rabbit control in the churchyard**

The clerk reported that Walkers Tree and Land Management were due to perform the work as recommended to help address the problem with rabbits in the churchyard on the 18<sup>th</sup> July. Mrs Thomas is to meet with them after the work has been done to check the work and provide payment.

**b) To receive update on removal of ivy from church wall**

The clerk reported that Walkers Tree and Land Management had provided a quote of £175 for the removal of the ivy and that this had been approved by full council and instruction had been given to Walkers. Mr Atterwill stressed that a risk assessment must be done by Walkers for this work and also the work to remove the rabbits.

**c) To receive update on fencing project**

The clerk reported that EW Crane had been instructed to erect fencing around the churchyard at their earliest convenience. Mr Bone queried whether the trees by the church wall would be a hindrance. He had also taken advice following a visit by the Arch-Deacon and a faculty would be required for this structure.

Mr Atterwill expressed his displeasure that a structure being erected on the grounds of Health and Safety would be held up by the faculty process. He also felt that the Parish Council were not being supported by the DAC on the matter of the deterioration of the church wall, particularly after many years of neglect by the Diocese.

**d) Faculty for tree felling**

Mr Bone advised that the DAC will not accept the report given by Mr Clegg and Adrian Slater as part of the faculty application. The clerk is to speak to Treecare, who provided the best tender price for the specified tree felling, to see if they will provide an expert report to enable the Parish Council to get a faculty and thus allowing work to commence.

**e) To receive update on Disabled Access Project**

Mr Atterwill reported, weather permitting, work on the disabled access ramp should begin within the week with access being via the west gate whilst work is being done. The documents transferring land ownership are also being drafted. The clerk reported that the Friends of All Saints had accepted full liability should any works damage the wall. Mr Bone advised that should any work be done on the pathway though the churchyard, then a faculty would be required.

**f) To receive update of Mill Street widening feasibility study**

Mr Atterwill reported that the feasibility study for the widening of Mill Street should be complete by the end of the summer. Should this study recommend that widening goes ahead it will be placed on the Forward Programme, and work can be expected to commence in two to three years.

**6. Burial Ground Maintenance**

Mrs Thomas raised concerns about the grass cutting, however acknowledged that the weather was making any grass cutting difficult.

#### **7. To review Regulations and Fees and to Consider Amendments**

It was agreed that the fees should stay as they currently are.

The following regulation amendments are to be taken to full Parish Council:

- That the Exclusive Right of Burial should be for 100 years as opposed to 35.
- That there should be 24 inches between graves as opposed to 18.
- That a period of 18 months should be allowed between the last interment and laying of a kerbside to allow for subsistence.
- Small perennials are will no longer permitted.

#### **8. Garden of Remembrance in Churchyard**

The clerk reported that the Parish Council had voted to permit ash interments in the open part of the churchyard and will provide the PCC with written confirmation.

#### **9. Memorial Garden**

Mrs Thomas suggested deferring the creation of the memorial garden until autumn. The clerk had spoken with the DAC and was advised that a faculty is not required. Mr Bone is to confirm as it is consecrated ground.

#### **10. Any Items to be considered and approved by full Parish Council**

- Regulation amendments
- Faculty for tree felling

#### **11. Any Item to be reported for next meeting**

- Repair of headstones as reported in the visit by the Arch-Deacon

#### **12. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> September

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ (Mrs Marilyn Thomas, Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_ Date