

Minutes of a meeting of the **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Ilminster on Tuesday 10 May 2016 on the rising of the Planning, Highways and Transport meeting.

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr S Shepherd

Councillors: J Fagan, J Fowler, V Keitch, D Kinder, A Shearman, S Storey, R Swann and T Walker

**In Attendance**

Officers: Joy Norris (Town Clerk), Sally Whitefield (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Ryan Gold (Senior Open Spaces Warden) arrived at 20.30

No members of the public attended the meeting.

**OS79 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Albin, Burton, Drayton, Goodall, Neave, Sothern

**OS80 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

**OS81 Minutes**

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.
- (ii) To note the action list relating to the Open Spaces Committee.

Issues raised during consideration of the action list included:

Item 5 Removal of surplus materials stored at the cemetery;

Item 9 Surface matting outside the wardens' workshop - quotation requests were sent to 5 contractors with a closing date of 6 May 2016 but disappointingly only once response has been received

**OS82 Report from Cemetery sub-group**

The report from the Cemetery sub-group was considered.

**RESOLVED** to note the report

**OS83 Recommendations from Cemetery sub-group**

The committee considered the following recommendations:

1. That no further burial plots are sold and remaining land is used for ashes plots;
2. That the small strip of land in middle of Section J2 is used for a row of 8 ashes plots;
3. Issue a press release

Items discussed during consideration of this agenda item included:

Providing an area/memorial garden for ashes to be scattered

Constructing a memorial wall is likely to be expensive

The type of memorial to be used on the proposed ashes plots in Section J2

The need to develop a positive communication strategy

Chair's Initials

## Ilminster Town Council Open Spaces Committee 10 May 2016 Minutes

### **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

1. That no further burial plots are sold and remaining land is used for ashes plots;
2. That the small strip of land in middle of Section J2 is used for a row of 8 ashes plots;
3. New cremation plots in Section J2 have flat headstones only
4. The development of a positive communication strategy

### **OS84 Future plans for a Cemetery**

The committee considered options regarding the future of a cemetery in Ilminster.

Items discussed during consideration of this agenda item included:

The need to investigate options to provide a cemetery before considering ceasing provision

Consulting with residents

Seeking advice from SSDC Planning Office to find out planning requirements for a new cemetery or extension to existing.

**RESOLVED** to defer a decision on the future of a cemetery until advice has been sought from SSDC planning office.

The Town Clerk informed the committee of the Deputy Town Clerk's resignation.

The meeting closed at 20.45pm

Chair's Signature & Date