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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
CHURCHYARD COMMITTEE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL AYLSHAM
ON MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2023 at 10.00am**

PRESENT:

Mrs A Overton Chairman
Mrs J Bennett
Mrs M Evans
Mr M Martin
Mr L Mills

One member of the public

OFFICER: Mrs S Lake, Aylsham Town Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr T Bennett and Rev Canon Julie Boyd

2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

None declared

3. MINUTES

The last meeting of the churchyard Committee was held on 28th November 2022. The minutes were **AGREED**.

4. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Not Required

5. INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

All items on agenda

6. PATHWAYS/ROADS

There is still an issue regarding the stones but again it was felt that no action should be taken until the work on the bells has been completed.

It was advised that some cars were driving down the path from the church parking area to the Lych Gate. This will be monitored.

7. WALLS

The quinquennial inspection has still not been received. An e-mail has been sent to the architect requesting that this section be sent as soon as possible.

8 GROUND MAINTENANCE

a) To receive an update on the faculty re constructing waste areas

The Town Clerk showed some pictures, taken at the cathedral of a wire fence on which wicker panels had been placed. This maybe an alternative option. The PCC had not responded regarding the green fencing.

The Town Clerk will obtain quotes for all types of fencing together with detailed dimensions and forward these to the PCC for comment.

b) To receive an update on creating the garden area

A meeting with Wendy Sadler from Aylsham in Bloom and Erica Fisher is still to be held. This will take place in the next month.

Aylsham U3A have already promised a bench for the garden area.

9 WAR MEMORIAL

Nothing to report.

The clerk had spoken to a representative from the British Legion who advised they are informed regarding any local names that should be added to the memorial and they know of none at the moment.

10 LYCH GATE

Nothing to report.

11 CHURCH BUILDING

The lighting project within the church is still ongoing

The new flagpole will hopefully be in place for the coronation.

12 CHURCH CLOCK

The bells are scheduled to be removed between 13-15th March and returned in the middle of August.

13 AYLSHAM CEMETERY

a) To discuss the current state of the cemetery

The cemetery is visited regularly and the clerk advised that this summer they would be spending sometime there to do topple testing on the gravestones and at the same time to do any gardening maintenance. This will be advertised in the cemetery and also through Just Aylsham and Social Media.

b) To receive an update on the gateway and gates

The gateway has now been repaired and is slightly wider. The gates were removed and not replaced. The gates are in a very poor state showing severe rust. The clerk recommended not re-hanging them but selling for scrap. This was supported and will be taken to the Town Council for agreement. If new gates are to be hung the suggestion

was they should be aluminium which is lighter and has no resale value. Members felt gates were not needed.

c) To receive an update on the benches

Four benches have been ordered and should be installed by May.

d) To discuss the cemetery driveway

The driveway has numerous potholes and really needs relaying. Discussion on surfaces took place and it was agreed to delay a decision until the summer inspections so councillors can look at it and make a decision after viewing.

14 PAUPERS GRAVEYARD

a) To receive an update on maintenance

The site had been visited recently by members of Aylsham In Bloom who did some clearing of leaves etc. The grass will not need cutting until the end of March

b) To receive an update on signage

A final design has now been prepared and is waiting for comments from Aylsham In Bloom and the Archives/Heritage Centre.

15 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT AGENDA

Review of Cemetery regulations and Terms of Reference

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.20am. The next meeting is scheduled for May after the new council has been elected..