



**AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**CHURCHYARD COMMITTEE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL AYLSHAM**  
**ON WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 2021 at 10.00am**

**PRESENT:** Mrs A Overton  
Mrs V Shaw  
Mrs M Evans  
Rev Canon Julie Boyd  
Mrs E Springall  
Mr T Bennett

**OFFICER:** Mrs S Lake, Aylsham Town Clerk

3 members of the public

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed that Annette Overton be nominated as chairman – this was **AGREED**.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mathew Martin

**3. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**

Mary Evans declared her interest as a governor of St Michaels School  
Val Shaw declared an interest as her son is a churchwarden

**4. MINUTES**

The last meeting of the churchyard Committee was held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The minutes were **AGREED**.

**5. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

A parishioner wished to speak regarding the removal of the leylandii trees. He showed some pictures which he felt confirmed that the tree does not block the view of the church and for ecological reasons felt they should remain.

Another parishioner who lives next to the church advised of issues she had seen in the churchyard as follows

- People adding to the compost heap from their own gardens
- Children playing on the compost area

- Drinkers in the summer who also urinate in the churchyard
- People smoking cannabis in the churchyard
- Lots of bottles and other litter left around

She suggested setting up a Neighbourhood Network who could identify and report these issues.

This will be passed onto Debbie Graver Secretary of the PCC for action.

## 6. **INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING**

These were all picked up under agenda items

## 7. **PATHWAYS/ROADS**

### a) **To discuss any issues that have arisen**

The gravel keeps being moved to the side by the traffic. The Town Clerk will arrange for this to be swept to the middle again.

### b) **To discuss signage re access, speed and parking**

The PCC had advised Rev Boyd that the signage is on order.

### c) **To discuss the railings**

Some of the railings around the church have a mustard coloured top which is not in keeping with the conservation area. It was **AGREED** to contact the PCC and request these all be painted black.

## 8. **WALLS**

### a) **To note any issues with the internal walls**

There are a couple of areas where repairs are required, the corner near the lych gate and near the small gate by the school. These will be looked out when other repairs are made.

### b) **To discuss the issue of the wall adjacent to Church Terrace**

The wall near The Wildings has been damaged by the trees that were situated there. The wall has been propped up and fencing placed around the site. The clerk is still having problems obtaining a builder to give an estimate for the repairs. The matter will be pursued.

### c) **To note any issues with the outside walls**

No other issues have been reported.

## 9 **WAR MEMORIAL**

The stone mason had prepared a diagram of how the war memorial would look if all three panels were replaced. Members felt this would be beneficial and the clerk will look to see if a grant can be obtained

## 10 **LYCH GATE**

During the inspection last year it was noted that some of the wood is showing signs of rot. The clerk has obtained one quote to repair this amounting to just over £8000. Other quotes will be obtained.

**11 GROUND MAINTENANCE**

**a) To receive an update on removing green waste**

The area does need clearing and replacing with compost bins. The clerk will inspect the area with the maintenance manager and draw up a plan for consideration by the Town Council and PCC. There is a possibility of working with the school on some aspects of the project and this will be investigated.

**b) To discuss the removal of the leylandii trees.**

Members were not clear on the need to remove the trees and feel that a recommendation should go to the Town Council that the previous decision should be rescinded. It was suggested that trees be planted between the existing leylandii so that when they do have to be felled there will trees ready to take their place. Mary Evans reminded the committee that one of the trees to be replaced was to commemorate 100 years of suffrage. It was suggested that this go in the area reclaimed by removal of the compost together with something linked to covid to form a memorial area in the churchyard. This was **AGREED**.

**c) To consider any other issues relating to Grounds maintenance**

Members felt the contractors were doing a good job.

**12 CHURCH BUILDING**

Some plaster had fallen during the recent snow spell. This had been made safe but more work will be required. Work will take place on the renovation of the window in the Lady Chapel.

**13 CHURCH CLOCK**

Nothing to report but residents advised it was not working at the moment but it was ascertained that was due to work taking place on the bells.

**14 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT AGENDA**

None raised.

**15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This will be held in August/September – exact date to be agreed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.40 am

..... August 2021