

**KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held at the Sarah Roope Trust Rooms on Monday 13 February 2017 at 19.00**

*Present:* Councillors J Henshall (Chairman of the Council), L Payne, E Jones and L Maurer

*Apologies:* Councillor J Hawkins and E Essex

In Attendance: Mr David Edwards – Clerk to the Council

**GP/13.02/01 - The Chairman of the Council will welcome everyone to the meeting.**

**GP/13.02/02 - To receive any apologies for absence from the Meeting.**

The apologies were accepted.

**GP/13.02/03 - To appoint a Chairman for the Committee.**

***It was RESOLVED that Councillor Henshall continue as Chairman.***

**GP/13.02/04 - To discuss any changes to the Cemetery fee structure and any increase in the amount of the fees for 2017/2018. (see attached)**

The proposed changes have already been discussed by the Finance Committee and it was its recommendation that some comparisons be obtained.

The clerk explained that the charges for Kingswear are lower than surrounding Councils and the new charges are now in line with Dartmouth, Totnes and Torbay.

The Council has allowed plots to be chosen, therefore, with the absence of issuing plots in sequential order; the additional fee for this has been deleted.

The Council has also come into line with regard to separate fees for the purchase of Exclusive Rights and the interment.

***It was the Committee RECOMMENDATION that the new charging structure be implemented from 01 April 2017.***

**GP/13.02/05 - To discuss the draft Cemetery Regulations (see attached)**

The Committee reviewed the draft regulations and it was agreed that it was unnecessary to lock the gates. Additional statements were added in relation to the memorials where they are to comply with the NAMM Code of Practice.

***It was the Committee RECOMMENDATION that the new Cemetery Regulations be implemented with immediate effect after ratification by the Council .***

**GP/13.02/06 - To consider the maintenance and other works that are required for health and safety purposes and other items to improve the appearance of the entrance to the Cemetery.**

1. The Clerk explained that he had a discussion with the officer from South Hams District Council who undertake the maintenance of the cemetery. It was noted that two large pine trees close to the Cemetery Lodge are dying and in view of their close proximity to the Lodge, they should be felled. The Clerk has received a quote of £525 from South Hams District Council to complete the work. The Members were of the view that another comparison quote be obtained.

***It was the Committee RECOMMENDATION that the work be implemented, but a second quote be obtained (Councillor Jones contacted a contractor known to him). The work to be instructed to the contractor offering the lower price.***

2. The additional works that the District Council has proposed is the cutting back of the overgrowth and remove the poor quality vegetation around the entrance. The areas of growth will be covered by wood chip with the option to replant more appropriate trees and shrubs. The existing plants that are of value will be retained. (Councillor Henshall will be advised when the work is to take place to provide knowledge of the shrubs that were planted by the Council in the past and are of value to retain)

***It was the Committee RECOMMENDATION that the work be implemented.***

Minutes Approved:

.....  
Councillor J Henshall – Chairman

Meeting closed at 20.30