

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Burial Board held on Monday 1st June 2009 at 7:00pm at St Stephens Cemetery

PRESENT: Reverend A Butler (Chairman), Councillors R Austin,
Mrs S Hooper MBE, A Killea, P Stephens ISM

ALSO PRESENT:- Mr J Reid (St Stephens PCC)
Mr B Jones (St Stephens PCC)
Mr D Fowell (Pengelly's Funeral Director)
Mrs M Small (Town Clerk)

01/09/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were declared.

02/09/10 THE TOMB

The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Mr Moore who felt that English Heritage would not approve the de-listing of the tomb and he wished to see the repair undertaken in one period and not part repair each year. The information regarding de-listing states that that a building can only be removed from the list if it no longer meets the statutory criteria. This may be because of new evidence about the special architectural or historic interest of the building and no other issues can be considered. As its listing was as a typical graveyard structure with good group value with the church it makes it unlikely that de-listing would be approved.

The Clerk reported that from the article in the Town Messenger she had been contacted by a relative of the Tucker family who was now living in West Sussex. They had stated that there are no provisions made for the upkeep of the tomb and that the Tucker family has spread far and wide. The Clerk had asked the Conservation Officer the position with regard to repair of the tomb if a family member had been identified.

Concern was still expressed regarding the Health and Safety issue of this particular tomb in view of its position next to the public path and its height which makes the roof virtually level to the high bank. It was **AGREED** that someone from the Fire Service is asked to give expert Health and Safety advice on the current safety issues undertaken.

Mr Reid reported that he had spoken to the Royal Navy regarding any financial assistance available as it is known that John Jervis Tucker was an Admiral in the Navy and was from Trematon Castle. It was **RECOMMENDED:-**

- (a) by 3 in favour and 1 against that, in view of the special circumstances of the location of the tomb and the Health and Safety concerns, the Town Council find the money to undertake the repair of the tomb as soon as possible and that quotations are considered at the full Town Council Meeting.

- (b) that the new Cornwall Council is asked if they can assist towards the repairs
- (c) in parallel to the above, to seek legal advice from a qualified solicitor and the Cornwall Association of Local Councils and other Parishes on the Council's legal position regarding the tomb.

03/09/10 TREE FELLING

It was noted that the felling of trees is complete and the working group has nearly finished removing the branches. Silvanas has now returned and treated the stumps and therefore this is complete.

04/09/10 EXTENSION TO CEMETERY

- (a) Councillor Austin reported that the planning application for the cemetery has now been re-submitted and Robert Steed from the former Caradon District Council was to project manage the extension of the cemetery and this is just in the process of being cleared with the new Cornwall Council. Councillor Austin is looking for grants to undertake the work and if this is not possible the Town Council will consider borrowing the money. It is estimated that once the work is started it will take a year to complete.
- (b) The Clerk reported that she had obtained a CD on Cemetery Management and Administration for local Councils and this should contain information that is needed to consider regulations to govern the new cemetery. It was **AGREED** that a copy of the regulations is forwarded to the Committee to begin consideration.
- (c) The Clerk referred to the future upkeep of the existing cemetery when the extension opens and the effect this will have on the Grounds Person. It was **AGREED** that initial consideration is given through the appraisal process which will be held during August and is reflected in the Council precept in November.
- (d) A discussion was held on the composition of the Committee when the extension is open. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a new Committee is established at the May annual meeting and that its constitution should be six Councillors, members of the Church as at present and a Funeral Director and an allotment holder. In view of the current Agreement governing the maintenance of the cemetery there should be joint Chairman of the Church and a Councillor.

05/09/10 REMOVAL OF SOIL

The Clerk reported a quotation for the removal of the soil and a separate one for spreading the soil under the trees and hedgerow. Councillor Austin had also spoken to Pentillie House who would agree to receiving the soil as the cemetery is classed as farm land and it would move to another farm, thus there would be no disposal charges incurred, only the removal charges. Also there had been a suggestion that the earth is taken to the top of the cemetery

to make a Cornish hedge. It was **AGREED** that before consideration of the quotations, Councillor Austin obtains a price for making the Cornish hedge.

06/09/10 **NOTICE BOARD**

The Clerk reported three quotations for a notice board to take eight sheets of A4. It was **AGREED** that a further quotation is obtained from the company who had supplied the Church notice board.

07/09/10 **REPLACEMENT OF TRACTOR**

The Clerk reported that to replace the tractor would be in the region of £5000 and there is currently £3000 in the budget. It was **AGREED** to continue to get quotations both for purchase and leasehold in order that a decision can be made when it becomes necessary to replace the tractor.

08/09/10 **TREES**

The Clerk reported that she had received two letters regarding the Sycamore tree growing on the boundary of the cemetery. It was **AGREED** to get the advice of the Tree Officer to see if it needed to be lopped.

09/09/10 **ACCIDENT REPORT**

It was reported that a lady had fallen going up the steps and it was felt these were at the side entrance. The Clerk stated that she has been in touch with the person concerned to obtain the exact location. It was **AGREED** to obtain a cost of a handrail at the site.

10/09/10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 7th September 2009 at 7.00 pm at the Guildhall

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: 18th June 2009 _____