

# NOTES FROM CHURCH AND PARISH COUNCIL SITE VISIT THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016 6.30PM

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## **Churchyard Walls & Boundaries**

The TPC confirmed that there were no plans for a full scale repair project to the walls of the closed churchyard following their survey of the walls. Repairs would be undertaken on a piecemeal basis, if and when required.

*Action: The PCC reminded the TPC any major works in the churchyard required Faculty permission from the Lichfield Diocese.*

## **Maintenance of Closed Churchyard**

The TPC confirm that there had been an incident of their grounds man having slipped and fallen from the bank above the walls. It was agreed that the high bank near the walls edge would still be maintained but allowed to grow wild but the area around the new church planting would be left to the care of the PCC.

*Action: The PCC undertook to maintain the new planting area and the grass around it near the boundary wall.*

*Action: The TPC undertook to advise their grounds man to the new arrangements.*

## **Proposed Church Car Park**

The area of closed churchyard proposed for a car park was looked at and various observations were given. This is a long term project in its very early discussion and observation stage.

- The boundary walls would need to be avoided by any works as far as was possible.
- The access road would require investigation and possible improvement.
- The proposal would be naturally quite emotive in that graves would be covered by parking.
- Full discussion and agreement would be required with neighbours.
- A Faculty would be required.

The cost of the works would be borne by the PCC and maintenance of the area of closed churchyard would have to be renegotiated with the TPC.

*Action: The TPC were invited by the PCC to offer any observations on this following their full meeting.*

## **Burial Provision**

An alternative position for car parking had been suggested by the TPC on the end of the new burial ground. The PCC had thought this short-sighted and unsuitable given that burial space was running out.

The position of alternative burial space on the bank behind the cremated remains area was felt by the PCC

to be difficult and expensive to construct given the closeness of the Castle bank. Following further discussion it does seem to be the only alternative.

*Action: The PCC agreed to look into this further and advise the TPC on the outcome.*

## **Wreath Holders**

The TPC were shown the area in which the wreath holders were proposed and a mock up showing approximate height and layout. The decision making process is with the Diocesan Advisory Committee and if they give their go-ahead then a 28 day time frame is given in which objections can be made. The TPC repeated their objection to them and ask to be informed as to when formal objections could be given.

*Action: The PCC undertook to inform the TPC when and if the Faculty process went ahead and when the 28 days began.*

There being no other area of business to look at the meeting ended at 8pm.

Rev Ian Whitehead . PCC Chair

Roger Sharp . PCC Vice Chair

Judith Collison . Churchwarden

Margaret Pyle . Churchwarden elect

Shirley Newton . PCC

Cllr F Crossley

Cllr W Crossley

Cllr C Smedley

Cllr A Allen

Cllr T Spencer Smith

Cllr S Adams

TPC Sec Karen Duffill