

# **Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council**

## **Fairground and Cemetery Committee 04/10/2022**

### **Cemetery Extension – Boundary Fence and Hedge**

Agenda item 22/018 2. To review the requirements for the Cemetery Extension boundary fence and hedge and, so quotes may be obtained where necessary, agree:

- a. The specification of the work required to make the fence stock proof.
- b. The specification of the safety fence to be installed at the bottom of the extension alongside Foudry Brook.
- c. The management or replacement of the existing fence between the current and cemetery extension.
- d. The specification of the work required for the maintenance of the hedge and shrubbery.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Parish Council has leased an area of land, some 78m x 30m, for the use of burials and cremated remains. This is an extension of the current Council extension to St Mary's Church, Stratfield Mortimer.

### **COSTS**

Three quotes, as Council requirements, to be obtained for the works and agreed on receipt.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Prior to bringing in a consultant to implement the design and build of the new cemetery area, it is recommended the Parish Council undertake works within their capability to reduce delay and costs on bringing the works to conclusion. Consideration needs to be given to the insurance requirement in clause 6 of the lease.

## **Fencing**

1. Under 4.25 of the lease, a stock proof fence must be maintained along all the boundaries of the premises. The current 2 bar fence is not deemed stock proof and consideration needs to be given as to whether this is a temporary install or if it will remain with an additional stock proof fence installed at the current boundary line. The stock fence needs to be dual aspect 1) to exclude dogs etc. to ingress onto the Englefield land and 2) to exclude deer from entering the cemetery. It is recommended the fence should be as per document 22-018 1.1 design standards-fencing. The grid of the fence hole should be 75mm x 75mm max which will exclude small dogs and deer from passing through. Larger deer, which roam in the field and could leap up to 1.8m, could be excluded by either extending the height of the fence to 1.9m or by growing the hedge to a suitable height.
2. Under clause 4.81 of the lease the premises and fence must be maintained in good order. A section of the existing 2 bar fence is broken and is need of repair.
3. For safety reasons, where the southern end of the extension abuts Foudry Brook, a fence should be installed. We will need to erect a wire fence approx. 28m long, as has been installed at the southern end of the existing Cemetery. The fence will need to be on the inside of the two existing oak trees and be close fitting to the fences either end.
4. The fence between the current and new cemetery is of poor condition. It is an agricultural wire fence with a top line of barbed wire. We need to consider what we intend doing with this, i.e. replacement.

## **Hedging**

The inside of the two-bar fence has a line of new planted hawthorn and mixed tree hedge which need managing. Part of the hedge is now over 7 foot tall and is in excess of the 6 foot noted on the original plan. In other areas the planting has not taken.

There are areas of overgrown shrubbery which will need cutting back to fence line in areas of the fence between the old and new cemeteries.

The temporary tall chain link fence at the end of the new bridge will need to be taken down.

## **Associated Documents**

- 22-018 1.2 Cemetery Lease Part 1 and 2
- 22-018 1.1 design standards-fencing
- 22-018 1.3 Cemetery Extension ACLA Landscape Sketch