

## Melksham Town Council

### Minutes of the Cemeteries Task & Finish Group

on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026

PRESENT: Councillor P Alford (MTC)  
Councillor J Glover (MWPC)  
Councillor A Griffin (MTC)  
Councillor M Harris (MWPC)  
Councillor C Stokes (MTC)

IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS Ian Cunningham (MTC)  
Fiona Dey (MWPC)  
Andrew Meacham (MTC)

#### 6/25 Chair

**Councillor Alford was appointed chair of the meeting.**

#### 7/25 Apologies

There were no apologies.

#### 8/25 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 9/25 Report

The report was received. It was noted that, due to the Christmas period, some lines of enquiry had not received replies.

#### 10/25 Discussion

Representatives of DJ Bewley were present and spoke on availability, requires, trends in burials and their efforts to find a site that they could purchase themselves.

Members asked questions of the representatives and discussed the options.

It was agreed that it would not be possible for Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council to take on full responsibility for upkeep of the cemetery.

#### 11/25 Further Actions

Allocated to Melksham Town Council: -

Officers to research the requirements/regulations for natural and traditional burial sites, especially with regards to water tables. Identify areas in the wider Melksham area which might be suitable.

Allocated to Melksham Without Parish Council: -

Officers to ask Wiltshire Council about what would be required to make a large expansion to the current Melksham Cemetery (to the south of the cricket ground) e.g. would they want to hand over the whole cemetery and would this conflict with plans for the cricket club?

Meeting closed at: 19:00

Signed ..... Dated .....

DRAFT