

# **Friends of Teignmouth Cemetery**

## **Annual General Meeting 2024**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 6:30pm

### **Minutes of Meeting**

#### **Welcome & Introduction - Neil Howell**

#### **Review of Year's Activities – Jean Gitsham – Key Points**

1. See report for full details
2. A higher proportion of time is now being spent on routine maintenance. This has been exacerbated by delay in the annual meadow cuts and reduced grass cutting of paths by TDC
3. Search for new volunteers continues
4. The lodge archway remains blocked
5. Community activities have included tours of the cemetery by local groups, visit of Teignmouth primary school as part of local history studies, presentations to local groups, the "Big Help-Out" event. And of course our Facebook site continues to be the main conduit for informing the community about what is going on.
6. Big effort to clear sections HH and II
7. Start of effort to get details of all graves onto the international "Find-a-Grave" web-site with links through to our own web-site – a long-term project.
8. The operational report was accepted, with thanks to Jean for her total commitment throughout the year to all aspects of our operational activities.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Kay Large – Key Points**

1. See report for full details
2. Total income £1,238 - We're most grateful for this level of income, particularly from membership and donations which allows us some freedom in the way we carry out our work in the Cemetery
3. Total expenditure £1,719 – this resulted in a loss of £481 which we were fortunate to be able to cover from reserves but the financial situation obviously needs careful watching.
4. Unrestricted reserves are now at £1,135
5. The financial report was accepted, with thanks to Kay for her keen watch over our accounts for the year

### **Matters Arising –**

1. Financial – agreed to confirm that a £500 fund which has been held in abeyance can be released for operational use in purchasing a permanent “feature” for the cemetery.
2. Volunteers – Agreed not to repeat the idea of evening sessions but try leafletting in the local neighbourhood and putting notices in the cemetery grounds and with funeral directors
3. TDC – endeavour to get their meadow cut done earlier in the year with definite commitment for a second cut in the autumn.

### **AOB – Neil Howell**

1. Agreed to continue running the Teignmouth Old Cemetery Trust (Charity) in readiness for being able to renew efforts with TDC in renovating the buildings. This will also require a review of the previous business plan for continued viability.
2. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the work of FOTC in the last year. Without our core of dedicated volunteers “in the field” we wouldn’t have been able to make the enormous change in the accessibility and appearance of the cemetery; and of course there are others giving their time in the background in all the necessary administrative activities and promotional activities; and others who help simply by contributing donations which allow us to keep going financially.