

Friends of Teignmouth Cemetery

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 21st October 6pm at Alice Cross Centre

MINUTES

PRESENT - Jacqui Aplin, Geoff Chatfield, Jean Gitsham, Neil Howell, Kay Large, Rachel Spanswick, Wendy Wright

APOLOGIES: Marti Howell, Mal Mitchell

MINUTES OF LAST AGM – Approved

MATTERS ARISING

1. **Financial** –confirmed that a £500 fund which has been held in abeyance can be released for use in establishing a permanent “feature” for the cemetery. Suggestion that it could be put towards a history trail.
2. **Volunteers** – As agreed evening sessions were not repeated and leafletting in the local neighbourhood was completed together with putting up notices in the cemetery grounds. Moted that next “Big Help-Out” is to be in 2026
3. **TDC** – confirmed that meadow cut was started and completed earlier.

Review of Year’s Activities – Jean Gitsham

Jean gave a comprehensive overview of activities over the year – see separate full report. Good progress is being made on clearing remaining sections. Section II is now completed and work had started on section JJ. This, together with continuous on-going maintenance has created a never-ending flow of dumpy bags full of green waste. We are very fortunate in having support from a local farmer in removing this. Access to the Commonwealth War Graves remains one of our priorities which is especially challenging from Spring onwards when the grass is so fast growing. Local tours and presentations about the cemetery have continued. On a sad note we make very special mention of our lovely Paul McClure who sadly passed away earlier in the year – he is much missed as an FOTC volunteer colleague.

Treasurer’s Report – Kay Large

Kay’s full report and a statement of our accounts are given in separate documents. Key points are:

1. Income for the year was £1063.
2. Expenditure was £1156
3. Giving a net deficit of £93
4. Note that approximately a third of costs are for removal of green waste

5. Balance of funds available for operational use is just over £1000 so there is some measure of reserve for the coming year

AOB - Neil Howell

1. Discussion about whether we can change our financial arrangements with CWGC – Kay to contact them. (KL)
2. Need to think of new ways of attracting volunteers and members (All)
3. Committed to continuing with the Trust for the cemetery
4. Discussion about general principle of receiving bequests in wills. Agreed NH would pursue idea (NH)

Finally a huge thankyou once again to everyone who supports the activities of FOTC in whatever form – on the committee, as volunteers, as members, through financial donations or simply from the people walking through the cemetery who are quick to thank those working there for the improvements that continue to be made.