

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Quarterly meeting of the Burial Committee, 25th July 1939 at 7:00pm

Present

Councillor F W B Baskett (Chairman)
Councillor Captain J H Dibley, MC
Councillor G H Hummel

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Chairman of the Council and Councillor Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Committee held on 25th April 1939 (a copy of which had been supplied to each Member) were read and confirmed.

Curators' Reports

The Curators made their reports.

Proposed by Councillor Hummel, seconded by Councillor Captain Dibley and resolved that the application of one of the men employed at Northwood Cemetery to be paid extra for working when necessary on Saturday afternoons (instead of being allowed time off in lieu of the time worked on Saturday afternoons) be not entertained.

With regard to the application of the Curator, Northwood Cemetery have another man at the Northwood Cemetery in place of the man who was away sick, and on account of the fact that one man would soon be called up for service in the Territorial Army, it was proposed by Councillor Captain Dibley, seconded by Councillor Hummel and resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor to make the best possible arrangements.

A letter (dated the 23rd instant) from the Curator of the East Cowes Cemetery apologising for his inability to be present at the meeting because he was away on annual holiday, and stating that W Clayden was acting as Curator during his absence, was read. Mr Clayden appeared before the Committee and said he had no requests to make.

Northwood Cemetery

A letter (dated the 25th instant) from Mr W G Thomas referring to the fees payable by him in connection with the erection of granite kerbing to enclose four grave spaces, was read. After the Committee had considered the letter and had referred to the scale of fees payable in respect of the Council's Cemeteries, it was resolved that Mr Thomas be informed that the Committee regret that they must adhere to the scale of fees approved by the Minister of Health.

Surveyor's Report

The Surveyor's Report (dated the 24th instant) was received and adopted.

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Closing Time – Northwood Cemetery

It was resolved that a whistle be used to indicate to visitors the time of closing the Cemetery.

Chapel – Northwood Cemetery

Proposed by Councillor Captain Dibley, seconded by Councillor Hummel and resolved that the slabs be lowered as suggested by the Surveyor, and that an additional head block and cupboard be provided.

It was further resolved that a cupboard be provided at the East Cowes Mortuary.

Store adjoining Chapel – Northwood Cemetery

Proposed by Councillor Captain Dibley, seconded by Councillor Hummel and resolved that an item be included for consideration in the next estimates for the work of removing the lath and plaster and substituting 'Celotex' or similar boarding, and colouring ceiling and walls.

Sanitary Accommodation – Northwood Cemetery

The Surveyor reported that there was no sanitary accommodation for the employees. It was proposed by Councillor Captain Dibley, seconded by Councillor Hummel and resolved that an item be included for consideration in the next estimates re the provision of a room with W.C. and wash basin.

East Cowes Cemetery

Proposed by Councillor Captain Dibley, seconded by Councillor Hummel and resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 16 Burial Grants, Nos. 90 to 105 inclusive.

Accounts

Proposed by Councillor Hummel, seconded by Councillor Captain Dibley and resolved that the accounts be approved.

The Meeting terminated at 8:00pm.

Note: Signed by Councillor F W B Baskett (Chairman)

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Monday 29th January 1940

A meeting of the Burial Committee was convened to be held at Northwood House on Monday 29th January 1940 at 7:00pm. There was no quorum, Councillor Baskett only being present.

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Meeting of Burial Committee, 26th February 1940

Present

Councillor F W B Baskett (Chairman)
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior, JP

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Captain A M Fitzpatrick-Robertson, JP.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on 25th July 1939 (a copy of which was supplied to each Member) were taken as read and confirmed.

Curators

A letter (dated the 31st instant) from Mr W G Thomas, Undertaker, Union Street, Cowes, suggesting that some form of uniform or cassock be provided for the two Curators.

It was resolved that the suggestion contained in Mr Thomas's letter be acted upon, and that the Surveyor be authorised to take the necessary step in the matter.

The Curators of the East and West Cowes Cemeteries appeared before the Committee.

The following resolutions were passed:-

- (1) That one dozen water cans be purchased for the Northwood Cemetery;
- (2) That the Clerk ascertain from the Inspector of Police whether permission would be granted for the use of a handbell or whistle to be used to indicate to visitors the time of closing the Cemetery;
- (3) That the question of repairing the broken drain mentioned by the Curator of the West Cowes Cemetery be attended to by the Surveyor;
- (4) That the quotation from the East Cowes Gas Company for supplying and fixing a gas radiator for heating the Robing Room at the East Cowes Cemetery, for the sum of £1 15s 0d be accepted;
- (5) That the Curator of the East Cowes Cemetery be paid the sum of 2/6d for the extra work he carried out recently in connection with a post-mortem which took place at the Cemetery and that enquiries be made with a view, if possible, to the Council being reimbursed this sum by the persons concerned and
- (6) That the resolution passed at the meeting of the Committee held on 25th July 1939 to the following effect:

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'Proposed by Councillor Hummel, seconded by Councillor Captain Dibley and resolved that the application of one of the men employed at the Northwood Cemetery to be paid extra for working when necessary on Saturday afternoons (instead of being allowed time off in lieu of the time worked on Saturday afternoons) not be entertained'.

be and is hereby rescinded; and that the men at the Northwood Cemetery work ordinary hours during the week and that they be paid overtime rates for any work they may be called upon to carry out on Saturday afternoons.

- (7) It was resolved that the Curators take their weekly holiday on Wednesday afternoons (subject to alteration with the consent of the Surveyor) and that one of the workmen be employed (at overtime rate) from 5:00pm to 8:00pm that afternoon, to take the place of the Curators, and that these arrangements apply to the East Cowes Cemetery and the Northwood Cemetery.

Burial Fees – Clergy and Ministers of Religion

A suggestion from the Finance Committee that the Burial Committee should consider the advisability or otherwise of reviewing the fees payable to Clergy and Ministers of Religion for officiating at funerals was received and it was resolved that no action be taken in the matter unless and until a communication on the subject has been received by this Committee from the local Clergy and Ministers of Religion.

War Graves in the United Kingdom of members of the Naval, Military and Air Forces of the Crown

The Ministry of Health's Circular No. 1922 (dated the 1st December 1939) was received and it was resolved that a separate site be set aside in each of the Council's Cemeteries for the burial of service personnel, in accordance with the suggestion contained therein.

Accounts

The Accountant's Report (dated the 26th instant) was received and it was resolved that the accounts set out thereunder be approved.

Grants

It was resolved that the under-mentioned grants be approved:-

139	Meager H T	Cowes	8305	£1 11s 6d
140	Chinchin N G	Cowes	245	£4 14s 6d
141	Pilditch Mrs E	Cowes	157E	£1 11s 6d
142	Salter R H G	Cowes	5659	£3 3s 0d
143	Shepherd A W	Cowes	8759	£1 11s 6d
144	Spalding Janet	Cowes	516	£3 3s 0d
145	Burrows N F	Cowes	8891	£1 11s 6d
146	Surman H T	Cowes	3869	£3 3s 0d

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147	Hayter W G	E Cowes	136			
			137	£3	3s	0d
148	Gerahty F	Cowes	1462A	£1	11s	6d
149	Dodman Mrs M	Cowes	9368	£1	11s	6d
150	Fletcher I M	Cowes	1318B	£3	3s	0d
1	Browitt Mrs A	Cowes	9335	£1	11s	6d

Note: Signed by Councillor F W B Baskett (Chairman)

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Quarterly meeting of the Burial Committee, 31st July 1940 at 7:00pm

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F Smart J P

Chairman

It was resolved unanimously that Councillor F J Petty be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the current financial year.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 26th February 1940, were taken as read and confirmed.

Curators

Applications were received from the Curators of the West Cowes and East Cowes Cemeteries respectively for an increase of wages; and after discussion, it was resolved that in view of their appointment as Mortuary Superintendents in connection with civilian deaths due to war operations, the Curators be granted an increase in their wages of 5/- a week, subject to such expenditure ranking for grant under the Air Raid Precautions Act, 1937.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the 27 grants (Nos. 2 to 28 inclusive) be approved.

Accounts

The Accountant's report was received; and it was resolved that the accounts set out therein be approved.

Burial Grounds Revenue Account for the year ended 31st March, 1940

The Accountant submitted this account and the same was approved.

Next Meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting take place at the East Cowes Cemetery; and that the date and time of such a meeting be left in the hands of the Chairman to arrange.

Signed by Chairman F J Petty

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Quarterly meeting of the Burial Committee, 30th October 1940 at 7:00pm

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on 31st July, 1940, were read and confirmed.

Curators' Report

The Curators made their reports.

Northwood Cemetery

1. Trees

Mr Croad said that there was a dead evergreen oak in the Cemetery which should be felled and that the trees there needed thinning out generally.

It was resolved that a special meeting of the Burial Committee be held at the Northwood Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon next, the 6th November, at 3.30pm, for the purpose of considering this and other matters.

2. Workmen

The Curator said that he was short of labour and the Committee decided to consider this matter when they meet at Northwood Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon next.

East Cowes Cemetery

1. Curator's Report

The Curator made his report and said that the employee working with him (Clayden) was on the sick list and that it appeared he would not return for some time, if at all.

2. Chapel

The Committee then inspected the crack in the main wall and directed the Surveyor to fill in the crack and to keep a close watch on it.

Stirrup Pumps

It was resolved that one stirrup pump be purchased from the Council's stock for use at the East Cowes and Northwood Cemetery Buildings respectively.

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Burial Grants

It was proposed by Councillor Jago, seconded by Councillor Hollis and resolved that the following list of grants be approved:-

29	Mrs E J Homer	407	E C	£1	11s	6d
30	Mrs G O Cross	142	E C	£1	11s	6d
31	Mrs A Harding	9752	C	£1	11s	6d
32	Mrs J F Johnson	889	C	£3	3s	0d
33	Mrs A E Lacey	4191	C	£3	3s	0d
34	Mr A R Scovell	8875	C	£4	14s	6d
35	Mr A H Borroughs	332E	E C	£1	11s	6d
36	Mr C H Jacobs	8261	C	£1	11s	6d
37	Mrs M G Messenger	143	E C	£1	11s	6d
38	Mrs M K Ebbs	57	E C	£1	11s	6d
39	Miss M Mallinson	8218	C	£1	11s	6d
40	Mrs N Chick	441	E C	£1	11s	6d
41	Mrs M Day	210	C	£3	3s	0d
42	Mr G Taylor	9332	C	£1	11s	6d
43	Mrs M F Phillips	9614	E C	£1	11s	6d
44	Mrs E B Byham	437	E C	£1	11s	6d
45	Mrs E F Irwin	302E	E C	£1	11s	6d
				£34	13s	0d

Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Hollis and resolved that the accounts be passed for payment.

It was further resolved that in future only the Burial Committee's proportion of any accounts be submitted in the statement submitted to this Committee.

Curators' Wages

Air Raid Precaution Act, 1937

The Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health approved the payment of an increase of 5/- a week to the Curators and that the Council had decided that the increase of 5/- a week take effect as and from the 1st September, 1940.

Grave Plugs

It was decided to consider the advisability or otherwise of purchasing quantities of these plugs on more favourable terms than at present.

Signed by the Chairman F J Petty

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A Special Meeting of the Burial Committee was convened to be held at the Northwood Cemetery on Wednesday 6th November, 1940, 3.30pm. There was no quorum, Councillors Petty and Hollis only being present.

Initialed by FP and GHC

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Quarterly meeting of the Burial Committee, 27th January 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor G H Cole
Councillor F E Hollis

Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F Smart, JP
Councillor W H Warrior, JP

Curators' Reports

The Curators' reports were received and the following resolutions were passed:

1. Northwood Cemetery

- (a) That the Surveyor look into the question of the drains which were stopped up and which the Curator said had collapsed;
- (b) That the Surveyor go into the advisability of purchasing a pump for use by the Curators at the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries respectively;
- (c) That the necessary boots be purchased for the Curators;
- (d) The Chairman reported that he had inspected the trees at Northwood Cemetery and had given instructions to the Surveyor to have them thinned out; and it was resolved that, as the Surveyor was short of labour and had not carried out the work, Mr Matthews of Newport be asked for his terms for felling the timber and taking it away.

2. East Cowes Cemetery

- (a) That the following suggestion of the Curator of the East Cowes Cemetery be adopted:- 'That the old path leading towards the boundary wall on the river side of the cemetery be straightened; and that the portion of the path running almost parallel with that boundary wall be filled up'.
- (b) That the hedge in the middle of the East Cowes Cemetery be removed so as to provide additional burial space; that the Surveyor look into the condition of the back bedroom ceiling of the Cemetery Lodge at East Cowes, with a view to carrying out the necessary repairs, and that the Surveyor be given power to act in the matter.

Post Mortems

Mr Streets reported on the interview he had had with Mr Brading, Undertaker of East Cowes, that day, regarding a post mortem and it was resolved that the Committee await a communication from Mr Brading on the subject; that the Clerk take up with the County Council the question of fixing fees for the use of the Council's mortuaries for post mortem examinations; and that the question of holding post mortem examinations in the Council's mortuaries be referred to the Chairman of the Committee, the Vice Chairman of the Council, the Clerk and the Surveyor to go into with the Curators; and that they be given power to act.

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Grants

It was resolved that the following list of grants be approved:-

46	Dennis Hollingworth	Cowes	9704	£1	11s	6d
47	Alice Callaway	Cowes	8147	£1	11s	6d
48	May Glass	Cowes	861	£4	14s	6d
49	L H Walker	Cowes	9362	£1	11s	6d
50	Alfred H Brown	Cowes	5100	£4	14s	6d
51	Harrison Bell	Cowes	6624	£4	14s	6d
52	Hugh Bateman	Cowes	5147	£3	3s	0d
53	Louis Audrey Digweed	Cowes	4124	£3	3s	0d
54	Jessie E Attrill	Cowes	7349	£4	14s	6d
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				£29	18s	6d

Accounts

It was resolved that the accounts be passed for payment.

Curators' Reports

It was resolved that in future the Curators be asked to submit their reports to the Committee in writing.

The Chairman referred to a letter (dated the 23rd instant) which he had received from Mrs May Richardson, Le Chalet, Park Road, Cowes, enquiring why the grave of her late sister, Miss Kate Ward, was still not filled in; that her sister was buried on the 1st April last year, and that on enquiring why the grave was not made up in the Autumn of last year that she was told in the Cemetery that nothing much could be done until we had some rain and stating that she had noticed that other graves which had been made since her sister's burial, had been made up and put in proper order, and that as she felt strongly about the matter, the time had come when she was impelled to make a protest, was read.

After receiving the observations of the Curator of the Northwood Cemetery on the subject, it was resolved that Mrs Richardson be informed that the grave would be made up as soon as practicable.

Signed by the Chairman F J Petty

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Quarterly Meeting of the Burial Committee, 30th April 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor G H Cole, JP
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

Chairman

It was resolved unanimously that Councillor F J Petty be appointed chairman for the committee for the ensuing twelve months.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 27th January 1941 were read and confirmed.

East Cowes Cemetery

Suggested Air Raid Shelter for the Curator

Councillor Mason enquired whether the County Council were providing shelter for the people resident in the Curator's Lodge under the County Council's scheme.

Alderman Warrior (who is a member of the County Emergency Committee) said he would look into this subject.

East Cowes Cemetery – Curator's Report

Mr Street's written report (dated 29th April 1941) was received.

Northwood Cemetery – Curator's Report

Mr Croad's written report, in which he stated that the drains had not yet been repaired; that the hole in the road was still getting larger; and that now the grass cutting season was coming along, he would require another man to help him in the Cemetery, was received.

Alderman Warrior drew attention to the accumulation of clay alongside the Cemetery Roadway in the Northwood Cemetery.

After discussion, it was resolved that enquiries be made of Messrs Fraser & White as to whether they would allow the Council to tip surplus materials from the Cemetery in the copse as heretofore.

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Pump for taking Water out of Graves, etc.

Members of the Committee suggested that this pump was too heavy for the purpose and it was resolved that the question be left to the Chairman and the Surveyor to look into.

Turfing of Graves

The Chairman referred to the letter (dated 23rd January 1941) from Mrs Richardson, Le Chalet, Park Road, Cowes and said that he had recently met Mrs Richardson at the Northwood Cemetery and that she was still complaining that the grave had not yet been made up though graves which had been dug more recently had been put in order.

It was resolved that the subject be left to the Chairman of the Committee, the Chairman of the Council and Councillor Johnson to go into and to report at the next meeting.

It was further resolved that Mr Croad's application for extra help be referred to the same Sub-Committee with power to act.

Felling of Trees – Northwood Cemetery

With reference to the resolution passed in this matter at the meeting held on the 27th January 1941, the Surveyor read a letter (dated the 9th April 1941) from Messrs W Matthews, 9 St Johns Place, Newport.

“Re your letter of the 4th instant, we have gone carefully into the matter and for us to first carefully lop all branches and then fell the six trees and remove all timber and branches our charge to you for this work would be £25.0.0. (twenty five pounds). We have made an allowance for the timber before fixing our charge”.

After discussion, it was resolved unanimously that Messrs' Matthews' offer be accepted subject to (i) the payment to him by the Council of £25 after completion of the works; and (ii) the work being completed within two months from the formal acceptance of the offer; and (iii) Messrs Matthews agreeing to be responsible to make good (to reasonable satisfaction of the Council) any damage which may be done to the Council's or any private property in the Cemetery in the execution of the contract.

East Cowes Cemetery Mortuary – Post Mortem Examinations

Letters (dated the 13th February and the 13th March 1941 respectively) from Messrs W H Brading & Sons, Undertakers, East Cowes, were read, together with the Clerk's reply to that firm on the 28th March last.

War Graves – Burial in Special Plots set out aside in Civil Cemeteries

The Clerk again read the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 2197 (dated 22nd November 1940).

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Accounts

The accounts were received and approved.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to burial grants Nos. 52 to 82, both numbers inclusive.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman

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Special Meeting of the Burial Committee, 5th June 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor G H Cole, JP
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Butchers and Warrior

Damage as a result of Enemy Action – 27th and 28th May 1941
Question of clearing up Northwood Cemetery

The Committee inspected the condition of the Cemetery and the buildings.

After discussion, it was resolved that the Ministry of Health be informed of the damage; that they be asked to send a Representative to inspect it; and that the Minister be asked for his guidance as to re-instating the property.

It was agreed that in due course, application might be made to the Military Authorities for the necessary labour to fill in bomb craters.

It was further resolved that if and when a Representative of the Ministry of Health visits the neighbourhood, the Chairman of the Committee be informed of the proposed visit.

Chapel – Northwood Cemetery

It was resolved that Mr Smith, Architect, Sandown (who has been engaged by the Council on special work under the Housing (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939) be employed for the purpose of preparing an estimate of the cost of repairing the Cemetery Chapel; and that a claim for compensation under the War Damage Act, 1941, be submitted in respect of the whole of the damage, with the least possible delay.

Application of Curator, Northwood Cemetery, for extra help

It was resolved that an advertisement be inserted in the Isle of Wight County Press for a labourer for work at the Cemetery – preferably a young active man not liable for Military Service – at the Council's usual rate of pay; and that in the meantime, the Surveyor lend the Curator a man for work at the Cemetery as and when necessary.

Copse adjoining Cemetery – suggested site for tipping clay etc., excavated from Northwood Cemetery

The Clerk reported that he had heard from Messrs Fraser and White Ltd., that a representative of the company would be visiting the district the following day.

It was agreed that the Surveyor should meet him on the site at 12.30 o'clock tomorrow (Friday) morning, the 6th instant.

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Water-cans – Northwood Cemetery

It was resolved that four wooden stands be placed in the Cemetery on which the water-cans could be hung, and that the Surveyor have an appropriate notice exhibited at these stands asking people to be good enough to return the cans after use.

Deaths due to War Operations.

Funerals of A R P Wardens Brinton and Cowburn

An account from Messrs Brading & Sons, Undertakers, East Cowes, was read:-

To making unpolished English Elm Coffins with brassed furniture lined with swansdown and wadding and silk corded, and satin trimmed side sheets, frilling and pillows, and arranging for funerals	£16. 0.0d
Burial fees	<u>£ 2.16.0d</u> £18.16.0d

The Clerk reported on the contents of the Ministry of Health's Circulars 2165, 2192 and 2244.

After discussing the subject fully, and in the special circumstances, it was proposed by Councillor Cole, seconded by Councillor Jago and resolved that Messrs Brading & Sons' account for £16 be paid by the Council; that the burial fees of £2.16. 0d be waived, and that application be made to the appropriate Government Department for a grant of £15 towards the expense of funerals.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting held at Northwood Cemetery, 26th June 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman of the Burial Committee)
Councillor G H Cole, JP (Chairman of the Council)
Mr A C Webber (Engineering Inspector, Ministry of Health)

Northwood Cemetery

The sites of the bomb craters were inspected and also the Cemetery Chapel and Church.

It was pointed out to the representative of the Ministry of Health that it was highly necessary that the Church and Chapel should be reinstated because they might be required for use as Mortuaries at short notice.

Mr Webber intimated that he would report to the Ministry of Health as to the result of his inspection and that the Department would communicate their decision to the Council as soon as possible. In the meantime, he thought the Council should proceed with the necessary work of reinstating the Church and Chapel.

Mr Webber also suggested – purely for the committee's consideration – the advisability of informing such of the grave owners as can easily be traced, of the damage done to their property (i.e. graves and tombstones) and of the circumstances at Northwood Cemetery. He also suggested that grave stones etc. round the bomb craters, should be collected and stored away carefully until such time as they could be replaced in their former positions, so far as that were practicable.

The Inspector was informed that the Committee had in mind the calling on of help from the Military Authorities to fill in the bomb craters in the Cemetery Grounds.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 10th July 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G J Mason

Minutes

The Minutes of (i) the meeting held at East Cowes Town Hall on the 30th April 1941; and (ii) the Special Meeting held at Northwood Cemetery on the 5th June 1941, were read and confirmed.

Copse adjoining Cemetery – suggested site for tipping clay etc., excavated from Northwood Cemetery.

The Surveyor reported on his interview with a representative of Fraser & White Ltd., on the 6th June 1941.

It was resolved that no further action be taken in this matter.

Deaths due to War Operations – Method of dealing with Gas Contaminated Bodies

The Ministry of Health's Circular 2411 (dated the 23rd June 1941), (a copy of which had been supplied to each Member of the Committee with the Agenda for the meeting) was considered.

Mr Burchell (local A R P Officer) attended the meeting. He said that the rescue parties were to be trained in decontamination and that it might be possible for them to afford some assistance in dealing with gas contaminated bodies. Mr Burchell also suggested that concrete slabs with screens around might be placed at the Cemeteries for dealing with bodies contaminated by gas.

The following resolutions were passed:-

- 1) That four large and four small bins be purchased.
- 2) That four metal stretchers (two for West Cowes and two for East Cowes) be obtained
- 3) That the Surveyor order a quantity of Anti-Gas Ointment No. 2
- 4) That the Surveyor interview Council's employee's Cooper and Croft with a view to ascertaining whether they would be prepared to take the necessary course of training.
- 5) That the local Undertakers be approached with a view to obtaining the assistance of their staff in dealing with gas contaminated bodies.

It was reported that the Ministry of Health had been asked whether they could supply full protective clothing for 12 members of the Mortuary staff.

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It was resolved that if the Ministry of Health cannot supply rubber gloves, the Surveyor will order these articles.

The Chairman asked the Curators at Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries whether they would be prepared to take the necessary course of training for the purpose of dealing with gas contaminated bodies. They said they would like time to consider the matter.

It was agreed that the Chairman of the Committee, in company with the Surveyor and local A R P Officer, should go into the question of a site at Northwood Cemetery and East Cowes Cemetery for the suggested concrete slab and screens, and that afterwards, a Special Meeting of the Committee be convened to consider their recommendations.

Curator's Report

Mr Street's written report (dated the 8th instant) was received.

The Curator at the East Cowes Cemetery suggested the removal or covering of glass globes on graves as they acted as reflectors on moonlight nights.

It was resolved that all the owners of artificial wreaths with globes on the graves at the Council's Burial Grounds be asked to remove them for the duration of the war.

War Graves

A letter (dated the 23rd ultimo) from the Imperial War Graves Commission stating that where war graves are not already suitably marked the Commission would be responsible for their temporary marking by white painted wooden crosses, and asking to be assured that no fee would be charged for placing temporary crosses on the graves, was read.

It was resolved that no fee be charged for placing temporary crosses on the graves.

Curators' Holidays

The Curators raised the question regarding their annual holiday and it was resolved that the Council be recommended in the special circumstances to allow the Curators to take their annual holiday as pre war and that the Curators and their assistants be allowed to take bank holidays alternately i.e. the Curator to have one bank holiday and his assistant the next.

Post Mortem Reports on Air Raid Casualties

A letter (dated the 4th instant) from the County Medical Officer enclosing a copy of a letter sent to the Medical Officers of hospitals of the Emergency Medical Service, stating that if bodies of persons killed in air raids are taken direct to the public mortuaries, and the cause of death is not obvious, the Council should get the consent of the relative to a Post Mortem examination when they call for the death certificate and let him (Dr Fairley) know so that the necessary arrangements may be made, was read.

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It was pointed out that these arrangements appeared to overlap with the instructions given in the Ministry of Health memorandum 222 (enclosed to Circular 1779); and it was resolved that the matter be taken up with Dr Fairley.

Mortuaries – Post Mortem Examinations

A letter (dated the 2nd May 1941) from the Clerk of the County Council stating that his Council had not prescribed any allowances or disbursements which may be paid or made by the Coroner in respect of post mortem examinations held in mortuaries belonging to District Councils the administrative County, was read.

It was resolved that an item relating to the fixing of such fees be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee.

Northwood Cemetery – War Damage

It was resolved that the report of the Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Committee on their interview with an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health at Northwood Cemetery on the 26th ultimo, be received and adopted.

Trees at Northwood Cemetery damaged by Enemy Action

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to accept the following tender of Messrs W Matthews & Sons, Newport:-

1. To clear all blown branches on the ground, remove all blown branches still lodged in the trees and saw off ragged ends of torn branches on the standing trees. To creosote the exposed ends of the four large Cedar trees down the main carriageway

£10. 0s. 0d.

2. To saw lengths and cut off the trees from the roots and to transfer the large roots in the crater of two trees, one Douglas Fir and one Ash tree.

£2. 10s. 0d.

3. To saw clear the small trees and cut to lengths, excavate the roots and transfer the roots to the crater from two stalks of Cupressus trees

£2. 0s. 0d.

4. To clear all blown branches lying on the ground, remove all branches blown, but still lodged in the trees, saw off ragged ends and creosote exposed saw-cut from two Cedar trees standing in the lower path of the Cemetery

£3. 0s. 0d.

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5. To clear all branches strewn each side of the centre pathway below the main carriageway, also trim and remove branches of one large Cedar tree

£1. 15s. 0d.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal grants Nos. 83 to 98 inclusive.

Accounts

It was resolved that the accounts be approved.

War Damage – Northwood Cemetery

It was reported that the Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health had suggested that in the special circumstances it would be advisable for the Council to repair the mortuary and chapel immediately and that the work could be let out on prime cost contract.

The Surveyor reported that Messrs J Ball & Sons had commenced the repairs that day.

It was resolved that the action of the Chairman of the Committee in arranging for this company to execute the work be confirmed.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman. Dated 1/8/41.

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Special Meeting of the Burial Committee, 26th August 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor C F Butchers
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior, JP, CA

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Jago.

Minutes

The Minutes of (i) the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee, held on the 10th July 1941; and (ii) the Special Meeting held on the 1st August 1941 were read and confirmed.

Deaths due to War Operations

Method of dealing with Gas Contaminated Bodies

A letter (dated the 13th instant) from Messrs Brading and Son, East Cowes, giving names and addresses of four members of their funeral staff who were willing to take a course in the method of dealing with gas contaminated bodies, was read.

It was reported that no reply had been received from Mr W G Thomas, Undertaker, Cowes, to the Council's letter of the 8th instant on the subject.

It was resolved that Mr Thomas be asked for a reply to the Council's letter of the 8th instant. (Councillor Johnson voted against).

The Chairman of the Committee reported that he, the Surveyor and the local A R P Officer had visited the East Cowes Cemetery for the purpose of ascertaining a suitable site for the erection of a structure for dealing with gas contaminated bodies. The Surveyor submitted a plan for a galvanized iron building with a concrete floor which it was suggested should be erected on the west side of the mortuary at East Cowes Cemetery.

It was resolved that the Surveyor obtain a quotation from Messrs Brading & Son, for the erection of this shed and that if Mr Veale is of the opinion that the amount is reasonable, he be authorised to accept the quotation.

It was resolved that eight more metal stretchers be purchased.

Glass Globes on Artificial Wreaths

It was resolved that fresh notices be exhibited at the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries to the effect that glass globes on artificial wreaths must be removed by 7th September next, otherwise the Council propose to arrange for them to be removed and stored.

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Post Mortem Tables – Mortuaries

It was resolved that the Finance Committee be asked to include an amount in the estimates for the provision of two post mortem tables; one for the mortuary at East Cowes Cemetery and the other for the mortuary at Northwood Cemetery.

Chapel – Northwood Cemetery

A letter (dated the 22nd ultimo) addressed to the Chairman of the Committee by the Rev. E C R Lamburn, St Faith's Church, Cowes, suggesting (i) that a small table and a few hat and coat pegs should be placed at the back of the Chapel; (ii) that a properly furnished alter should be provided; and (iii) that the catafalque should be replaced by a couple of small trestles, was read.

It was resolved that the Surveyor look into the question of providing hat and coat pegs and a small table, and that no action be taken with regard to the other matters suggested by the Rev. Lamburn.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 5th November 1941

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor C F Butchers
Councillor G H Cole, JP
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor W H Warrior, JP, CA

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th August 1941, were read and confirmed.

Curators' Reports

The Curators' Reports were received.

Glass Globes on Artificial Wreaths

The Curators reported that the response to the Council's appeal for the removal of glass globes from graves had not been encouraging and it was resolved that the Surveyor arrange for the glass globes to be placed upside down on the graves or removed for the duration of the present war emergency.

Burial Fees

A letter (dated the 29th ultimo) was received from the Cowes Council of the Christian Churches asking that the fee paid to Ministers for officiating at funerals be increased from 4/- to 10/6d. It was resolved that, subject to the approval of the Home Office, the fee for each Interment in the afternoon be raised from 4/- to 7/6d.

Deaths due to War Operations

Method of dealing with Gas Contaminated Bodies

A letter dated the 30th ultimo (from the local A R P Officer) containing the names of all persons who had completed a course of lectures in the correct method of dealing with gas contaminated bodies, was read.

A letter (dated the 2nd September last) from the County A R P Officer, stating that he had heard from the Ministry of Health that the requisite protective clothing for emergency mortuary staff had been allocated to the Cowes Council, and that such issues were being made to the Council direct, was read.

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Deaths due to War Operations

A letter (dated the 30th ultimo) from the Assistant General Inspector, Ministry of Health, Reading, stating that he noted that no arrangements had been made for bodies to be covered at scene of incident, and expressing the hope that arrangements would be made for this to be done at an early date, was read. It was resolved that quotations be obtained locally for the supply of one dozen tarpaulins, and that the matter of accepting a quotation be left to the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor.

Mortuaries – Post Mortem Examinations

The Committee considered the advisability of asking the County Council to prescribe allowances or disbursements which may be paid or made by the Coroner in respect of post mortem examinations held in mortuaries belonging to District Councils in the Administrative County.

The Committee decided not to take any action in this matter.

It was resolved that the question of paying overtime to the Curators in connection with post mortem examinations be left to the discretion of the Surveyor.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 18 burial grants – Nos. 99 to 116 inclusive.

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts which had been paid in connection with the burial grounds.

It was resolved that the list be approved.

It was further resolved that the Accountant report at the next meeting as to the number of grave plugs supplied by Messrs Groves and Guttridge for the sum of £12. 0. 4d.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 16th January 1942

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor G H Cole, JP
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Butchers.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 5th November 1941, were read and confirmed.

Grave Plugs

The Chairman reported that he had gone into the account of Messrs Groves & Guttridge Ltd., with the Accountant, and had found the account in order. It was resolved that in future, quotations be invited for grave plugs.

Curators

A report from the Curator of East Cowes Cemetery to the effect that during the year 1941 there had been 60 burials in East Cowes Cemetery, was received.

No written report was received from the Curator of Northwood Cemetery and the Clerk was instructed to take the matter up with Mr Croad.

Minister's Fees

A letter (dated the 12th ultimo) from the Home Office to the effect that the Secretary of State had made directions with regard to applications for approval for Ministers Fees to be taken in respect of services rendered by Ministers of Religion at interments and that application for approval of any revised scale should be made in accordance therewith, was read.

It was resolved (i) that the table of fees be revised as follows:

For each interment in the morning	13/6d
For each interment in the afternoon	7/6d
For each interment on a Sunday	8/6d

Double fees in each case of interment of a new parishioner not dying within the Parishes, for which the burial ground is provided;

- (ii) that application be made accordingly to the Secretary of State for his approval;
- (iii) that the Ministers interested be asked whether they have any representation to make on the revised table; and

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(iv) that any representations they make be forwarded to the Secretary of State with the Council's application.

War Damage – Northwood Cemetery

The Clerk read a letter (dated the 27th November 1941) from the War Damage Commission as follows:-

'The War Damage Commissioners learn with regret of the war damage suffered by the property described above.

Normally the payment to be made by the War Damage Commission in respect of damage to land is the amount of the depreciation based upon the values at 31st March 1939.

In the case of cemeteries it is regarded as in the public interest that a reasonable reinstatement shall be offered and the Commission is accordingly prepared to consider payment of the proper cost of such works as are necessary to render the burial group decent and tidy. Works for which the Commission will consider payment include where necessary the removal of debris, the filling up and leveling of the ground, the replacement of turf, paths and flowerbeds. Such works might also include the re-erection or fixing of memorials or monuments if they are on the site and do not require extensive repair. In the event of memorials or monuments having been destroyed or requiring extensive repair, the Commission will give consideration of such proposals as the substitution of a tablet or such other indication of the locality of particular graves as the Commission in its discretion may deem suitable.

Will you be good enough:-

- (a) to inform me whether you have had any works done for temporarily meeting the circumstances created by the damage, and if so, to give a brief description of such works;
- (b) to advise me in the light of the matters referred to above what proposals you would like the Commission to consider in regards to further works of a permanent nature.

On receipt of your reply consideration will be given and the appropriate claim form will be issued to you with the Commission's reply'.

A report from the Surveyor (dated the 5th ultimo) on the lines indicated in items (a) and (b) of the War Damage Commission's letter of the 17th November, was supplied to each member with the agenda for the meeting.

It was resolved that a copy of the surveyor's report be forwarded to the War Damage Commission subject to a paragraph being added to it setting out particulars of the expenditure and the work already carried out at Northwood Cemetery up to the 31st December last, relating to the repair of the War Damage.

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After discussion, it was resolved that the War Damage Commission be informed that the Council propose to exhibit a notice in Northwood Cemetery somewhat on the following lines:-

‘The Council wish to render the burial ground decent and tidy and to re-erect or fix memorials or monuments if they are on the site and do not require extensive repairs. Owners who wish to make their own arrangements to have such memorials or monuments repaired, should therefore, notify the Council on or before the 30th March 1942’.

And that the War Damage Commission be asked whether they agree to the Council’s proposals in the matter.

It was further resolved that when a reply is received, a Special Meeting of the Committee be convened (at a date and time to be fixed by the Chairman) for the purpose of considering the subject further.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be commended to seal 10 burial grants – Nos. 118 to 127 inclusive.

Total Number of Burials

The Accountant reported that the number of burials during 1941 was 60 in East Cowes and 186 at West Cowes.

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid and it was resolved that they be approved.

Signed by Francis J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 31st March 1942

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor C F Butchers
Councillor G H Cole, JP
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th January 1942 were read and confirmed.

Tenders for Grave Plugs

It was reported that tenders had been invited by advertisement for the supply of 150 CI Grave Markers and that the last day for the receipt of tenders was the 10th April 1942.

It was resolved that the matter of accepting the most favourable tender be left to the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor.

Curator's Report

Mr W J Croad (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) made his report and the following resolutions were passed:-

- (1) That the Surveyor endeavor to obtain a supply of reap hooks for use at Northwood Cemetery.
- (2) That the employment of J G West (Labourer at Northwood Cemetery) be continued indefinitely.
- (3) That the Surveyor arrange to have the Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery blacked out.

Fees in Respect of Service rendered in Connection with Interments by Ministers of Religion

The Clerk reported that on the previous day he had received a telephone message from the Home Office to the effect that if the Council would agree to increase the Minister's fee for each interment on a Sunday to 10/6d (instead of 8/6d) the Secretary of State would approve the proposed revised scale.

It was resolved that the Home Office be informed that the Council agree to the burial fee for Sundays being increased to 10/6d.

War Damage – Proposed Repair of Memorials and Monuments at Northwood Cemetery

The Clerk reported fully on the position in this matter.

After discussion, it was resolved that Mr W G Thomas, Cowes, be asked to reinstate the 21 memorials misplaced by enemy action but not otherwise damaged (as set out in the Schedule which accompanied his letter to the Council's Surveyor of the 6th January last); that so far as practicable, Mr Thomas be asked to endeavor to trace the owners of the memorials with a view to obtaining their consent before the work is begun; and that Mr Thomas be asked to prepare a further list of monuments which are on the site and do not require extensive repair, for consideration by the Committee.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 16 Burial Grants (nos. 128 to 143 inclusive).

Accounts

It was resolved that the accounts be approved.

Signed by F J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 18th May 1942

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor C F Butchers, JP
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor J T Iliffe
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior, JP, CA

Chairman

It was resolved unanimously that Councillor F J Petty be appointed Chairman of the Committee for a further period of twelve months.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 31st March 1942 were read and confirmed.

Curator's Reports

A report (dated the 18th instant) was received from Mr S Streets (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery) and it was resolved that the following articles be purchased and that the matter be left to the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor:-

- 50 Hessian bags for clothing removed from air raid victims.
- Tie-on labels for the bodies and the Hessian bags.
- A further supply of sheets for covering bodies.
- A number of shrouds.
- A note book for the Mortuary Superintendent.
- six pairs of rubber gloves and six waterproof aprons for use in connection with the cleansing of bodies.

It was further resolved that the Chapel floor be given three coats of varnish to simplify the cleaning of same.

It was resolved that the Curators at the East and West Cowes Cemeteries be granted a war bonus of 5/- a week, and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to such expenditure to rank for grant under the Air Raid Precautions' Act 1937.

It was resolved that a record be made of the number of hours worked by the Curator and his Assistant at the East Cowes Cemetery and that an item relating to the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee.

It was resolved that the Surveyor be asked to appoint a member of his staff to contact the Curators immediately after an air raid.

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Mr W J Croad (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) made his report and said that all the buildings at Northwood Cemetery had been damaged in the recent air raid and that he now had no place to store his plans. It was resolved that the Surveyor look into the matter.

It was further resolved that the Surveyor get in touch with the Military with a view to obtaining men for the work of filling in the bomb crater in the road at Northwood Cemetery.

It was further resolved that the Surveyor have a notice placed at the entrance to Northwood Cemetery to the effect that the Cemetery is closed to the public for the time being.

It was further resolved that the date of re-opening the Cemetery to the public be left to the Chairman of the Committee and Surveyor to decide.

It was resolved that enquiries be made of the County Emergency Committee as to whether arrangements could be made for First Aid Parties (ARP) to be detailed for the work of washing the bodies of persons taken into the mortuaries.

Mortuary Accommodation – Northwood Cemetery and East Cowes Cemetery

It was resolved that the matter of providing additional mortuary accommodation on both sides of the river be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Committee and Councillors Iliffe and Warrior, and that they be given full power to act.

Fees in Respect of Services rendered by Ministers of Religion at Interments in the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries

A letter (dated the 8th ultimo) was received from the Home Office stating that the Secretary of State approves the undermentioned Table of Fees to be taken in respect of services rendered by Ministers of Religion at Interments in the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries:-

Officiating Minister

At each interment in the morning	13s 6d.
At each interment in the afternoon	7s 6d.
At each interment on a Sunday	10s 6d.

The above fees will be doubled in the case of a non-parishioner not dying within the Parishes for which the Cemeteries are provided.

War Damage Act 1941 – Damage to Memorials and Monuments at Northwood Cemetery by Enemy Action

A letter (dated the 1st instant) was received from the Regional Manager, War Damage Commission, Reading, stating that subject to the cost being a proper one, the Commission will pay for the re-erection (after such work is complete) of tombstones, etc., the parts or materials of which are available on the site and do not require extensive repair. It was resolved that the matter stand in abeyance for the time being.

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Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 7 Burial Grants (Nos. 144 to 150 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Deaths due to War Operations – Burials by Local Authority

It was resolved that the accounts from Mr W G Thomas, Undertaker, Cowes and Messrs W H Brading & Son, Undertaker, East Cowes (amounting to £188. 11. 0d. and £255 respectively) be paid.

Communal Funerals – 12th and 13th May 1942 – Services rendered by Ministers of Religion at Interments

It was resolved that the Ministers' fees be offered to the Clergy officiating at the above funerals.

Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 2nd July 1942

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor J T Iliff
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor P L Pullinger

Appointment of Curator and Mortuary Superintendent – East Cowes Cemetery

Two applications were received and one of the applicants, Mr S Moody, Curator at Newport Cemetery) was interviewed by the Committee. The other applicant though asked to attend for interview did not put in an appearance.

It was resolved that Mr Moody be appointed to the position at a wage of £3. 10. 6d a week (inclusive of bonus) and house rent-free. Mr Moody stated that he hoped to be able to begin his new duties on the 27th instant.

War Damage at Northwood Cemetery by Enemy Action

A letter (dated the 16th instant) was received from the Medical Officer of Health on his inspection of this cemetery.

Mortuary Accommodation – Northwood Cemetery

A letter (dated the 3rd instant) was received from the Assistant General Inspector, Ministry of Health, Reading, regarding the proposal to erect a hut at Northwood Cemetery as a temporary mortuary.

The Deputy Surveyor submitted a sketch of a proposal for repairing the existing mortuary and it was resolved that the Scheme be approved and that the sketch plan and specification be submitted to the Ministry of Health, Reading, forthwith.

Mortuary Accommodation – East Cowes Cemetery

It was resolved that the work of erecting bunks in the temporary mortuary at East Cowes Cemetery be proceeded with at all possible speed.

Mortuary Accommodation – Northwood House

It was resolved that a temporary building be erected in the Courtyard and that the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor be given power to act.

Mortuary Superintendent

A letter (dated the 26th ultimo) was received from Dr Fairly, County Medical Officer, enclosing a copy of a letter received by him from Mr J xxxtton, Portsmouth, offering his services as a Mortuary Superintendent in the event of an emergency.

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Communal Funeral – East Cowes – 13th May 1942

An account was received from Messrs Jacobs Cottell, Printers, Newport amounting to £2 for printing 500 funeral service sheets for the funeral at East Cowes.

It was resolved that Messrs Jacobs Cottell be asked who placed the order for this printing because the Council had no knowledge of it.

Installation of Telephones to Curator's Houses

It was resolved that a telephone be installed in the Curator's Lodge at East Cowes Cemetery and in Mr Croad's house at 9, Hill View Terrace.

Clerical Assistance for Mortuary Superintendents

A question was raised as to the advisability of having persons earmarked to assist the Mortuary Superintendents in filling in the necessary forms in the event of a local emergency, and it was agreed that the chairman of the Committee and Councillor P L Pullinger should make inquiries with a view to finding suitable persons who would be prepared to volunteer for work.

Signed by Francis J Petty, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 7th October 1942

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor J T Iliffe
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor P L Pullinger

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on the 2nd July 1942 were read and confirmed.

Communal Funeral East Cowes – 7th May 1942

The Chairman reported that because it appeared there had been a misunderstanding among the clergy as to the ordering of the funeral service sheets for East Cowes, the Finance Committee had decided to pay the account of Messrs Jacobs, Cottell Ltd.

Clerical Assistance for Mortuary Superintendent

The Chairman of the Committee and Councillor Pullinger said that they would look further into this matter with a view to finding volunteers.

Curators Reports

Mr Moody (Curator, East Cowes Cemetery) attended before the Committee, and the following resolutions were passed:-

(1) Winter Bedding Plants – East Cowes Cemetery

That the Surveyor arrange for the Council's Head Gardener to supply Mr Moody with a quantity of winter bedding plants for East Cowes Cemetery.

(2) Communal Grave

That the communal grave at East Cowes Cemetery be turfed over as soon as practicable, and that consideration of any further work be deferred until the end of hostilities.

(3) Free Graves

That any free graves in which air raid victims have been buried be turfed over as soon as practicable.

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(4) Jam Jars

It was decided to defer for the time being, consideration of the advisability of restricting the placing of jam jars on the communal grave at East Cowes.

(5) Vases

That no charge be made for placing vases on graves except where surname is mentioned on the vase, and that the Accountant refund the charge of 15/- which had been paid to the Council by members of the Galton family in respect of two vases placed on the communal grave.

(6) Turfing of Communal Grave

That the work of turfing the communal grave at East Cowes be left in the hands of the Chairman, Surveyor and the Curator to carry through.

(7) Pathway at East side of the Cemetery

That the pathway on the east side of the Cemetery (indicated by the Curator) be filled in and the ground be used for burial purposes.

(8) Chapel Roof

That the Surveyor give his attention to the leak in the roof of the Chapel at the East Cowes Cemetery.

(9) Refuse Destructor Site

That the Surveyor arrange for a few *Cupressus Macracarpus* trees to be planted between the Cemetery and the refuse destructor site.

(10) Letter Box – Cemetery Lodge

That the Surveyor arrange to have a letter box fitted on the back door of the Curator's Lodge.

That Mr Moody's application for permission to have a Sunday off occasionally be left to the Surveyor to deal with from time to time with full power to act.

A letter (dated the 5th instant) from Mr W J Croad (Curator, Northwood Cemetery) asking to be furnished with a place in which the staff at Northwood Cemetery could store their tackle and in which they could have their meals in inclement weather, was read.

It was resolved that the matter be left to the Surveyor to deal with.

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Mortuary Superintendents – War Deaths

A letter (dated the 2nd instant) from the Ministry of Health, Reading, acknowledging the Clerk's letter of the 23rd ultimo and stating that if the Council would inform the Ministry of the date from which the Council decided that in view of the additional duties, the increase from 5/- a week to 10/- a week should commence arrangements would be made for formal approval to be issued concerning the inclusion of the amount in the Council's claim for grant under the Air Raid Precautions Act, 1937, was read.

The Clerk reported that the required information had been forwarded to the Ministry.

Telephone - Cemetery Lodges

A letter (dated the 16th ultimo) from the Telephone Manager, Post Office Telephone, Southsea, stating that owing to the engineering staff available in the area being at present heavily engaged on essential work, it was not possible to carry out this work for the time being, was read.

In the circumstances, it was agreed not to take any further stage in the matter.

Additional Mortuary Accommodation; Northwood Cemetery

A letter (dated the 22nd July 1942) from the Ministry of Health, Reading, stating (i) that owing to urgency, the work was approved in principle and should proceed pending the submission of an estimate of cost; (ii) that the suggestion to provide body racks of wood and angle iron could not be agreed to on account of the scarcity of wood and timber; and (iii) that it would be advisable to carry out this part of the work with brick piers and concrete slabs for one body on the floor direct and two bodies over, the second tier to be built on the first tier slabs, was read.

Emergency Mortuary Accommodation – Northwood House

A letter (dated the 18th August 1942) from the Ministry of Health, Reading, was read.

Death due to War Operations – Protective Clothing

A letter (dated the 1st August 1942) from the Ministry of Health, stating that the following further protective equipment had been allocated to the Council for use of the emergency Mortuary service personnel:-

- 5 Steel Helmets
- 5 Curtains
- 3 Light Oilskin Suits
- 3 C D Respirators
- 3 Pairs Gumboots

was read.

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It was resolved that application be made to the County Council for one dozen secondhand overalls formerly used by the Warden's Service.

Brading & Sons

A letter (dated the 19th August 1942) from Messrs Brading & Son, East Cowes, stating that with their present staff they would be able to deal with the collection of bodies from the scene of incident and convey the same to mortuary, was read.

Northwood Cemetery and East Cowes Cemetery – War Damage

Two letters (dated the 18th ultimo) from the War Damage Commission were read.

Reserved Plots for Present War Graves

A letter (dated the 7th August 1942) from the Imperial War Graves Commission, Wooburn Green, Bucks, was read.

Deaths due to War Operations – Members of American Forces

A circular letter No. 2684 (dated the 7th August 1942) from the Ministry of Health, regarding the burial of members of the American Forces, was read.

Mr W G Thomas, Undertaker – Account

It was resolved that an account of £7 10. 0d. for supplying coffin for and interment of the late Sarah Louisa Varney and Patricia Betty Varney, be paid.

Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal ten Burial Grants (Nos. 1 to 10 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid, and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Mortuary Accommodation

The Surveyor reported:-

1. That the construction of the emergency mortuary in the Courtyard at Northwood House was nearly complete.
2. That the brick bunks at the Mortuary, East Cowes Cemetery, would be started as soon as labour is available.
3. That he (the Surveyor) had arranged with Ball & Sons, Builders, to start the work of repairing the Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery, that week.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

It was proposed by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Pullinger and resolved that all the necessary work be proceeded with all possible speed, and that the matter be left to the Chairman and the Surveyor to deal with on the lines suggested by the Committee.

Signed by Francis J Petty, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 15th January 1943

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor J T Iliffe
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor P L Pullinger

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Chairman of the Council, and Councillors Jago and Mason.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on the 6th October 1942 were read and confirmed.

War Deaths

A letter (dated the 7th October last) from the Senior Regional Officer, Ministry of Health, with reference to the payment of an increase of 5/- a week in respect of additional duties in each of the two Curator's wages which had been approved up to and including the 20th May 1942, and the further increase to 10/- a week in each case, stating that no objection would be raised, subject to audit, to the inclusion of the expenditure as from 21st May 1942, in the Council's claim for grant under the Air Raid Precautions Act 1937, was read.

Overalls for Staff Engaged on Collection of Dead Bodies after an Air Raid

A letter (dated the 13th October last) from the County A R P Controller, and a letter (dated the 12th instant) from the Ministry of Home Security – replying to the Clerk's letter of the 17th October, regarding the supply of part-worn ARP bluettae overalls for Emergency Mortuary staffs, were read.

The Clerk reported that he had forwarded a copy of the Ministry of Home Security's letter (dated the 12th instant) to the County Council and he asked them to let the Cowes Council have 12 such overalls with the least possible delay.

Deaths due to War Operations

It was reported that the Council's Emergency Committee had decided to ask the Cowes and East Cowes VA Detachments whether it would be practicable for each Detachment to allocate two members to assist in the work of washing bodies of air raid victims.

A letter (dated the 10th instant) from Mrs M Pim, East Cowes VA Detachment stating that Mrs Hodges, SRN, 'Merlin', Old Road, East Cowes, and Mrs Woodford, 33 Victoria Road, East Cowes, had volunteered for the work, was read.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

The Clerk reported that Mrs Bull (Cowes VA Detachment) would put the proposal before her members at a meeting this weekend, and would let the Council know the decision reached as soon as possible.

It was decided to ask the Leaders of the First Aid Parties at Cowes and East Cowes whether they could each allocate two men for dealing with male bodies and the heavy side of the work generally.

Communal Graves

Resolved that consideration of the question of erecting a permanent memorial on these graves be deferred until the cessation of hostilities; and that the subject be reviewed accordingly at the appropriate time.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 15 Burial Grants (Nos. 11 to 25 inclusive).

In view of the paper shortage, it was further resolved that in future a list of Burial Grants be not supplied to each Member of the Committee, it being considered sufficient if the Accountant will report verbally to the Committee thereon.

Accounts

The accounts relating to the Burial Department, which had been paid since the last meeting, were reported on by the Accountant and approved by the Committee.

Surveyor's Report

The Surveyor reported as follows:-

- (1) The Emergency Mortuary at Northwood House has been completed with accommodation for twelve bodies.
- (2) The damaged Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery has been roofed with corrugated iron; the remaining work to be carried out was proceeding steadily. The position is such that the building could be used for emergency purposes.
- (3) The Store Room for the use of the men at Northwood Cemetery had also been re-roofed and repaired, and was again in use.
- (4) At East Cowes Cemetery, the Chapel and the Curator's Lodge had been repaired, and racks for accommodating nine bodies had been constructed in the new building erected for gas contaminated bodies.
- (5) 24 *Cupressus Macracarpus* trees had been purchased and planted to form a screen between the Destructor and the Cemetery.
- (6) Repairs to the Greenhouse were proceeding – portions of the framework had had to be replaced and new sashes had been fitted to the elevation.

It was resolved that the report be received, and that the action of the Chairman of the Committee in authorizing the Surveyor to purchase 24 *Cupressus Macracarpus* trees from Cave's Nurseries, Newport, for the above purpose, be confirmed.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Removal of Dead Bodies after an Air Raid

The Chairman of the Committee reported on the detailed arrangements, which had been made in this matter.

War Deaths – Equipment for Mortuaries

It was resolved that the necessary articles of equipment be purchased, and that the matter be left to the Chairman of the Committee to arrange with the Surveyor.

Alternative Mortuary Accommodation

It was resolved that the undermentioned properties be earmarked for the above purposes:-

East Cowes

- (1) Shed at East Cowes Depot.
- (2) Villa Medina, York Avenue.

Cowes

- (1) All booths at Northwood Recreation Ground
- (2) Methodist Church, Worsley Road, Gurnard.

Signed by J T Iliffe, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 14th May 1943

Present

Councillor J T Iliffe (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor S C Lallow
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F J Petty, JP
Councillor P L Pullinger
Councillor W H Warrior, JP, CA

Chairman

It was resolved unanimously that Councillor J T Iliffe be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the current financial year.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on the 15th January 1943, were read and confirmed.

Dates for Future Quarterly Meetings of the Committee

It was resolved that, in future, the Quarterly Meeting of the Burial Committee be held on the Friday before the Council Meeting in the second month of each quarter; that the meetings be held alternately at Cowes and East Cowes; and that the holding of Special Meetings be left to the discretion of the Chairman.

Curator's Reports

The Curators' Reports were received and the following resolutions were passed:-

Northwood Cemetery

That the application of the Curator for an additional hand for cutting the grass at Northwood Cemetery be left to the Surveyor to arrange: the Surveyor to have authority to engage either a man or a woman for the work.

East Cowes Cemetery

That with reference to the question raised in Mr Moody's report as to whose responsibility it is to clean up bodies at the Mortuary after a post mortem examination in respect of deaths from a cause other than enemy action; it was agreed that the work should be carried out by the Mortuary Superintendent; that he be paid a sum of 3/- on each occasion whether the work is carried out in his normal working hours or otherwise; and that these arrangements apply both to East Cowes Cemetery and Northwood Cemetery.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Grant No. 123

The Clerk reported that in March last it had been brought to his notice that owing to a mistake, the grave space at Northwood Cemetery no. 9562, in respect of which the exclusive right of burial had been purchased by Mr F S Garrett, formerly of the Westbourne Hotel, Cowes, had been used for the burial of the wife of a Council employee (Mrs Parsons); that the whole of the circumstances had been reported to the then Chairman of the Committee; and that he (Councillor F J Petty) the Surveyor and the Accountant had interviewed the Curator about it on the site, and that it had been decided to offer Mr Garrett Plot No. 9609 in substitution of Plot No. 9562. Mr Garrett had been interviewed about the matter and had expressed his full agreement. Arrangements had been made accordingly.

The Committee resolved to confirm the above mentioned arrangements.

Northwood Cemetery

It was agreed that the Surveyor look into the question of repairing the boundary wall (abutting Newport Road) damaged by enemy action.

War Deaths – Equipment for Mortuaries

The Surveyor reported that the under-mentioned equipment had been received and distributed between Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries:-

Northwood Cemetery	East Cowes Cemetery
3½ dozen sheets	1½ dozen sheets
4 dozen calico bags	2 dozen calico bags
40 shrouds	20 shrouds
16 covers	4 packets cotton wool
8 rolls cotton wool	8 covers
5 pairs rubber gloves	3 pairs rubber gloves
94 labels	4 dozen labels
3 pairs overalls	2 pairs overalls
3 CD Respirators	2 sets of protective clothing
3 sets of protective clothing	2 canvas sheets
2 helmets	2 helmets
2 canvas sheets	3 CD Respirators
6 towels	6 towels

Dogs entering Northwood Cemetery

Councillor Pullinger reported that complaints had been received that people took their dogs into Northwood Cemetery and allowed the animals to stray about the grounds. Visitors to the Cemetery had complained about this.

It was resolved that the Surveyor take the subject up with the Curator with a view to removing any cause of complaint.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Accounts

Accounts relating to the Burial Committee, which had been paid since the last meeting were reported on by the Accountant and approved by the Committee.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 19 Burial Grants Nos. 28 to 46 inclusive.

Signed by J T Iliffe, Chairman

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 17th September 1943

Present

Councillor J T Iliffe (Chairman)

Councillor F J Petty, JP

Councillor P L Pullinger

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 14th May 1943, were taken as read and confirmed.

Northwood Cemetery – Curator's Report

Mr Croad's report was received, and it was resolved that the Surveyor arrange to have some barbed wire erected where the wall is down near the Old Mortuary.

Altar in Chapel at Northwood Cemetery

A letter (dated the 22nd July last) from the Rev. E C R Lamburn, offering to house this altar in St. Faith's Church and to look after it there until such time as the Cemetery Chapel is restored, was read.

Resolved that the Council be recommended to accept the offer, with thanks.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 11 Burial Grants (Nos. 47 to 57 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting, and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Surveyor's Report

The Surveyor reported that the grass had been cut at the Northwood Cemetery; that a notice had been erected at the entrance to this Burial Ground prohibiting the taking of dogs into the Cemetery except on a lead; that the boundary wall to Newport Road had been reinstated as War Damage; and that sanitary accommodation was in course of erection.

It was resolved that the Council's workman who carried out the repairs to the boundary wall abutting Newport Road be congratulated on an excellent job he made of his work.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery

Resolved that the Surveyor arrange to have a length of guttering fixed over the door of this Mortuary.

Signed by J T Iliffe, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 12th November 1943

Present

Councillor J T Iliffe (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F J Petty JP
Councillor S C Lallow
Councillor P L Pullinger
Councillor W H Warrior, JP, CA

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 17th September 1943 were read and confirmed.

Curators' Reports

Mr Croad appeared before the Committee and suggested that two additional strands of wire should be fixed where the boundary wall is down near the Old Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery.

It was resolved that the Surveyor arrange to supply Mr Croad with the necessary staples to enable him (Croad) to carry out the work.

Mr Croad went on to say that he would attain the age of 65 years in March next and that he wished to mention to the Committee that he proposed to retire from the Council's service at this time.

It was resolved that the Chairman of the Committee and the Clerk interview Mr Croad about this matter and report thereon.

The Clerk reported that no written report had been sent in by the Curator at East Cowes Cemetery. The Surveyor then reported that Mr Moody was on holiday.

It was, therefore, resolved that Moody be asked to submit a report (in writing) when he returns to duty, and that the report be dealt with by the Chairman.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to affix their Common Seal to 8 Burial Grants (Nos. 58 to 65 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant's Report (dated the 12th instant) was received and considered, and it was resolved that the accounts be approved.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Grave Markers

It was resolved that the Surveyor be authorized to order 150 grave markers at the price of 3/ - each.

Former Mortuary Superintendent at East Cowes

The Committee considered the question of paying Mr Streets for extra duties he had carried out as Mortuary Superintendent after the air raid in May 1942.

It was reported that Mr Streets had been paid extra wages since 1st September 1940, for and in his capacity as Mortuary Superintendent.

After discussion, it was resolved unanimously not to take any action in the matter.

Signed by Francis J Petty, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Special Meeting of the Burial Committee, 18th January 1944

Present

Councillor F J Petty (in the Chair)
Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor S C Lallow
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor P L Pullinger
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

At the outset of the meeting, the Chairman explained that he had called the members of the Burial Committee together because they were without a Chairman since the resignation of Mr J T Illiffe.

After discussion, it was resolved unanimously that Councillor F J Petty, JP (Chairman of the Council) be and is hereby appointed Chairman of the Burial Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Council in April next.

Signed by Francis J Petty (Chairman)

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Quarterly Meeting of the Burial Committee, 11th February 1944

Present

Councillor F J Petty (Chairman)
Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor P L Pullinger
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 11th November 1943 and the Special Meeting held on the 18th January 1944, were read and confirmed.

Curator – Northwood Cemetery

Mr Croad appeared before the Committee and said that he would attain the age of 65 on the 28th March next, and that he wished to retire on superannuation. He would, however, be prepared to carry on for a further month from that date so as to enable any new man to familiarize himself with the duties.

Mr Croad also said that he would be pleased to help the new Curator by affording him any information he required at any future time.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Mr Croad for his services at Northwood Cemetery during the past 45 years.

After discussion, it was resolved that the Council advertise (1) for a Curator at Northwood Cemetery at a starting wage of £4 a week with house (rent and rates free); and (2) an Assistant Curator & Grave Digger at Northwood Cemetery at a rate of wages to be fixed according to the experience and ability of the successful applicant: the advertisement in this instance to mention that housing accommodation may be available, if required.

It was further resolved that enquiries be made as to whether labour can be engaged – possibly a couple of women – for clearing up the leaves and tidying up the cemetery generally and that the matter be left to the Chairman and the Surveyor with power to act.

East Cowes Cemetery

A report was received from Mr S Moody, Curator, regarding a discrepancy in the plan of East Cowes Cemetery; the dilapidated state of some of the seats; and about the steps at the Chapel door allowing water to run underneath.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

It was resolved that the subject matters of Mr Moody's letter be referred to the Surveyor for attention.

It was further resolved that the Surveyor arrange for Mr Moody to take a course in the correct method of dealing with bodies contaminated by gas.

Deaths due to War Operations

A circular letter (dated 27th January 1944) from the Ministry of Health stating that the amount of Exchequer grant payable in respect of the burial by local authority of the body of a person who dies as a result of war operations, where circumstances permit normal burial, has been increased from £7 10 0d. to £10 as and from the 1st January 1944, was received.

Burial Grants

It was resolved that 11 burial grants (Nos. 66 to 76) inclusive be sealed.

Accounts

It was resolved that the accounts be approved as presented.

Signed on behalf of the Chairman by E R Bearup

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Special Meeting of the Burial Committee, 7th March 1944

Present

Councillor F J Petty JP (Chairman)
Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor S C Lallow
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

Appointment of Curator and Mortuary Superintendent at Northwood Cemetery

Applications for the above appointment were received from the following persons:-

Mr J A Cobb, The Dormers Cottage, Baring Road, Cowes.

Mr A Tutton, 3, Hill View Terrace, Newport Road, Cowes.

The Committee interviewed each of the above mentioned applicants.

After discussions, it was resolved that Mr. J A Cobb be appointed to the position in accordance with the terms of the official advertisement subject to his passing a medical examination for Superannuation purposes; and that he start his new duties on Monday, 20th March 1944.

9, Hill View Terrace

It was decided to ask Mr W J Croad (the present Curator at Northwood Cemetery) to vacate the above house as soon as he can conveniently do so, and if possible before the 28th March 1944.

Appointment of Assistant Curator and Grave-Digger at Northwood Cemetery

One application was received for this appointment, namely Mr A T Croad (an employee at Northwood Cemetery).

It was resolved that Mr. Croad be promoted to the position of Assistant Curator and Grave-Digger at Northwood Cemetery as from the 20th March 1944, at a wage of £3 12s 6d a week.

Additional Grave-Digger at Northwood Cemetery

It was decided to endeavor to secure the services of another Grave-Digger for Northwood Cemetery.

Signed on behalf of the Chairman by E R Bearup

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 12th May 1944

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A G W Holmes
Councillor G E Jago
Councillor S C Lallow JP
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F J Petty
Councillor W H Warrior JP

Chairman

Councillor S C Lallow, JP (Chairman of the Council) occupied the Chair at the outset of the meeting.

It was resolved unanimously that Councillor E R Bearup be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing twelve months.

Minutes

The Minutes of 9i) the Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on the 11th February 1944; and (ii) the Special Meeting of the Committee held on the 7th March 1944, were read and confirmed.

Additional Grave-Digger for Northwood Cemetery

It was reported that an advertisement had been inserted in the 'Isle of Wight County Press' for a Grave-Digger for Northwood Cemetery, but that no applications had been received.

Resolved that a Notice be exhibited outside Northwood House and East Cowes Town Hall inviting applications for this appointment.

Engagement of female labour for tidying up Northwood Cemetery

This matter was left to the Chairman of the Committee and the Surveyor.

Curators' Reports

The Curator at Northwood Cemetery submitted a list of tools which he required for use at the cemetery, and it was resolved that the same be passed to the Surveyor for attention.

Mr. Cobb suggested that a tool shed be erected in the new portion of the Northwood Burial Ground, and it was resolved that the Surveyor arrange for a brick shed to be erected in the lower corner of the new portion of the Ground.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

A letter (dated the 10th instant) was received from Mr S Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery, stating that he had nothing to report to the Committee.

9, Hill View Terrace, Newport Road, Cowes

It was reported that Mr J A Cobb commenced his new duties as Curator at Northwood Cemetery on the 20th March 1944, but that he was unable to enter into occupation of No. 9, Hill View Terrace until 17th April 1944, because Mr W J Croad did not vacate the house until the evening of the 15th April 1944.

As Cobb was appointed at a wage of £4 a week, with house (rent free), Councillor F J Petty, the former Chairman of the Committee, had authorized Cobb to be paid the sum of £2 4s 0d for the four weeks he (Cobb) was unable to occupy no. 9 Hill View Terrace.

Resolved that the action of Councillor Petty herein be and is hereby confirmed.

Curator and Mortuary Superintendent at Northwood Cemetery

It was reported that application had been made to Major S Y Woodroffe for the release of Cobb from the Home Guard, but that no reply had been received thereto.

Resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 17 Burial Grants (nos. 77 to 93) inclusive.

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last Quarterly Meeting, and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Method of dealing with bodies contaminated by gas

The Surveyor reported that he had asked the Local A R P Officer to arrange for the Curators to take a course in the correct method of dealing with bodies contaminated by gas.

East Cowes Cemetery

The Surveyor reported that the number of grave spaces left at this Burial Ground was approximately 284.

Resolved that the Committee consider the advisability of acquiring additional land at East Cowes for Burial purposes at the next Quarterly Meeting; that an item relating to the matter be placed on the agenda for that meeting; and that the Surveyor report at that meeting on suggested sites.

Cassock for Curator at Northwood Cemetery

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Resolved that the Surveyor be authorized to purchase a cassock for the Curator at Northwood Cemetery at the price of £5 18s 9d plus purchase tax.

Earth Sprinklers

Resolved that two earth sprinklers be purchased for use by the Curators.

Burials at East Cowes Cemetery

Resolved that it be a suggestion to Mr B Brading that he purchase a set of 'grasslike' grave linings for use at burials at East Cowes Cemetery.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 15th September 1944

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)

Councillor F E Hollis

Councillor W H Warrior JP

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 12th May 1944, were read and confirmed.

Use of 'Grasslike' Grave Linings for Burials at East Cowes Cemetery

A letter dated the 30th May from Messrs W H Brading & Sons, East Cowes, stating that they had in the past considered the advisability of obtaining 'grasslike' grave linings and had always reached the conclusion that where linings were required, evergreens made a perfectly satisfactory job, was read.

Curators

It was reported that neither of the Curators had anything to report.

Acquisition of Additional Land at East Cowes for Burial Purposes

The Surveyor submitted a plan showing an area of land of approximately 2¾ acres abutting on Kingston Road, East Cowes, being a portion of the site at present leased to the Council for allotments.

Resolved that enquiries be made from Messrs Clutton as to whether the Crown would sell this area of land to the Council for burial purposes.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 16 Burial Grants (nos. 95 to 112 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting, and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Labour at East Cowes Cemetery

With reference to the Works Committee's enquiry as to whether it was necessary for two men to be engaged full-time at East Cowes Cemetery, it was resolved that consideration of the matter be adjourned until the next meeting, and that in the meantime, the Surveyor inform the Curator at East Cowes Cemetery that the Committee do not consider it is necessary for him to have a full-time assistant all the

year round.

Application for Refund of Amount Paid for the Purchase of a Grave Space at East Cowes Cemetery

The Accountant reported regarding the burial of a young man named Wills at East Cowes Cemetery and stated that the Undertaker had paid for the purchase of the grave space. The relatives had subsequently decided that they did not wish to purchase the grave space. A burial grant had not been issued.

Resolved that, in the circumstances, a sum of £2 7s 6d be refunded.

Signed by G J Mason.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 17th November 1944

Present

Councillor G J Mason (in the Chair)

Councillor F E Hollis

Councillor A G W Holmes

Chairman of Meeting

In the absence owing to indisposition of the Chairman of the Committee (Councillor E R Bearup) from whom an apology for absence was received, it was resolved that Councillor Mason take the Chair.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 15th September 1944 were read and confirmed.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that Mr. J A Cobb (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) had nothing to report.

A letter dated 15th November from Mr. S Moody (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery) referring to the suggestion that his assistant divide his time between the Cemetery and other Council work, and giving particulars of the work required to be carried out at East Cowes Cemetery over a period of one year, was read.

Resolved that the matter be left to the Surveyor.

Acquisition of Additional Land at East Cowes for Burial Purposes

A letter dated the 3rd November from Messrs. Clutton stating that they saw no objection to the Council's proposal to acquire 2.8 acres of land abutting on Kingston Road, East Cowes, for burial purposes; that they would so advise the Commissioners of Crown Lands; and suggesting that the Council should instruct the District Valuer in the matter, was read.

Resolved that the District Valuer be asked to report on the value of this site.

Suggested Central Crematorium for the Island

The Committee considered the letter dated the 15th September last from the Clerk to the Newport and Gatcombe Joint Burial Committee enquiring whether the Council consider a Central Crematorium for the Island desirable, and it was resolved that the Council be recommended to reply in the affirmative.

Burial Grants

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal seven Burial Grants (nos. 113 to 119 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Burial of Merchant Seaman at East Cowes Cemetery

The Accountant reported that a Merchant Seaman had died at East Cowes Hospital and that the relatives of the deceased had no money with which to bury him. The Missions to Seaman and the British Legion had agreed to pay the cost of the funeral expenses.

Resolved that in the circumstances, parishioners fees be charged for this interment.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman on 16.2.45

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 16th February 1945

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A G W Holmes
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F J Petty
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 17th November 1944 were read and confirmed.

Curators' Reports

No reports had been received from Mr J Cobb, Curator at Northwood Cemetery.

A letter dated the 14th instant from Mr S Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery, stating that surface water from Kingston Road percolated under the Lodge making the walls very damp, and that the floor in the kitchen was in need of repair, was read.

Resolved that the matter be left to the Surveyor.

Acquisition of additional land at East Cowes for burial purposes

A letter dated the 13th February from the District Valuer stating that he was still in negotiation with Messrs Clutton and that he was doing his best to expedite a settlement, was read.

Burials Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 13 Burial Grants (nos. 120 to 132 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting, and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Labour at East Cowes Cemetery

At the request of the Works Committee further consideration was given to the necessity for two men to be engaged full-time at East Cowes Cemetery; it was resolved that the Works Committee be informed that the Burial Committee are of opinion that having regard to all the circumstances and the desirability of maintaining the Cemetery at its present high standard, they do not consider that any alteration in staffing should be made.

Curators' duties as Mortuary Superintendents in connection with Civilian Deaths due to War Operations

The Clerk reported that Mr W H Norman, Assistant General Inspector, Ministry of Health, had called on 3rd January and stated that the payment of 10/- a week to the Curators in respect of their duties as Mortuary Superintendents in connection with Civilian deaths due to war operations should be discontinued.

In view of the report it was resolved

- (1) that payment of the sum of 10/- a week to the Curators in respect of their duties as Mortuary Superintendents in connection with Civilian deaths due to war operations be discontinued after the 31st March next, and that they be informed accordingly; and
- (2) that the basic wages of the Curators be increased as and from the 1st April 1945, by 5/- a week.

East Cowes Cemetery

Resolved that a report be made at the next meeting on the number of grave spaces left at this Burial Ground.

Northwood Cemetery

The Surveyor reported that by arrangement with the War Agricultural Executive Committee a bulldozer had been engaged to fill in the bomb crater in the new portion of this burial ground, and that the cost thereof, which could be claimed from the War Damage Commission was £40. 10s. 0d.

Signed by F E Hollis, Chairman

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 11th May 1945

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor F E Hollis
Councillor A G W Holmes J P
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor F J Petty
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A

The Chairman of the Council (Councillor A G W Holmes, J P) presided at the outset of the meeting.

Chairman

Resolved that Councillor F E Hollis be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Councillor F E Hollis in the Chair

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 16th February 1945 were read and confirmed.

Damage to Headstone at Northwood Cemetery

A letter dated the 2nd May from Mr. W E Barton, 'Briardene', Osborne Road, Cowes, referring to damage to a headstone on the grave of William Barton at Northwood Cemetery, stating that the stone was beyond repair and asking the Council to replace it, was read.

The Surveyor reported that the tree, which damaged the headstone was blown down by the gale on the 18th January last.

Resolved that the Council repudiate any liability in the matter.

Extension of East Cowes Cemetery – Proposed purchase of 2.8 acres of land adjacent to the Cemetery

A letter dated the 21st March was received from the District Valuer enclosing his formal report of the terms of settlement which he had provisionally agreed with the Commissioners of Crown Lands for the purchase by the Council of approximately 2.8 acres of land abutting on to Kingston Road, East Cowes, and lying to the east of the existing East Cowes Cemetery, giving the purchase price as £280, the Council to pay the Crown Surveyor's reasonable fees and the Crown's reasonable office charges. Resolved that the area of land of approximately 2.8 acres on the east side of Kingston Road, East Cowes, be purchased by the Council from the Commissioners

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of Crown Lands for burial purposes in accordance with the District Valuer's Report, and that the question of finding the money therefor (no provision being made in the current estimates) be referred to the Finance Committee.

East Cowes Cemetery

The Surveyor reported that the number of vacant grave spaces at this Burial Ground was 225 and that the yearly number of interments was about fifty.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to 14 Burial Grants (Nos. 133 to 146 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accounts submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Signed by F E Hollis, Chairman

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 14th September 1945

Present

Councillor F E Hollis (Chairman)
Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor A G W Holmes J P
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 11th May 1945 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that Mr Cobb (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) had nothing to report. Nothing had been heard from Mr Moody (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery).

Resolved that Moody's attention be called to the Clerk's letter of the 10th instant asking that if he (Moody) had nothing to report to notify the Clerk accordingly.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 16 Burial Grants (nos. 147-150 and nos. 1-12 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Signed by F E Hollis, Chairman

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 7th December 1945

Present

Councillor F E Hollis (Chairman)
Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor A G W Holmes J P
Councillor A J Johnson
Councillor G J Mason
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 14th September 1945, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

Both Curators had intimated that they had nothing to report.

Resolved that the Curators be required to attend future meetings of the Committee.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 9 Burial Grants (Nos. 13 to 21 inclusive).

War Graves Commission

The Accountant reported upon correspondence which he had had in regard to the upkeep of war graves. Payment had previously been made at the rate of 6/3d. per grave at West Cowes and 5/- per grave at East Cowes and the War Graves Commission had intimated that they would assume responsibility for a further eighteen graves resulting from the last war. No charge had been made in respect of these graves during the period of the war and the Commission now suggests that their usual rate of 5/- should apply to these graves.

Resolved that the War Graves Commission be informed that the Council will accept 5/- per grave per annum in respect of the upkeep of all graves for which the Commission are responsible.

Trees

Resolved that the Chairman and the Surveyor be requested to look into the question of the desirability of replacing several dead Cupressus trees at the East Cowes Cemetery and that they be authorised to make any necessary arrangements.

Chapel, East Cowes

Resolved that the Chairman and the Surveyor be requested to inspect the Chapel and the East Cowes Cemetery with a view to ascertaining whether it had sustained any

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damage etc. and the need for carrying out repairs.

Fees for Upkeep of Graves

The Committee considered the position generally in regard to maintenance of graves in the cemeteries for which fees are payable to the Council, and it was resolved that enquiries be made of the Curators as to whether they receive any fees for this work.

Programme of Capital Expenditure – Ministry of Health Circular 185/45

Resolved that the estimated capital expenditure for the three years beginning the 1st April next, be as follows and that the estimates be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval:-

East Cowes Cemetery Extension

Boundary Walls, layout, paths, etc.	£3,300
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West Cowes Cemetery

Repairs to Chapel Mortuary, paths and drains etc.	£3,000
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The work to be spread over the three yearly period giving a capital expenditure of £2,100 per annum.

Signed by F E Hollis, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 7th February 1947

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor S L Glossop
Councillor A J Johnson J P
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor Mrs K E Venner
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 25th September 1946 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Apology for Non-Attendance

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Mrs Crews.

Appointment of Curator & Mortuary Superintendent, Northwood Cemetery – Report

In connection with the appointment of Mr H Warren as Curator & Mortuary Superintendent at Northwood Cemetery subject to a probationary period of one month at the grave-digging rate of pay of 86/6d. per week, it was reported that Mr. Warren's appointment had been confirmed at the salary of £4 12s 6d per week, together with the house, rent free (Minutes of Committee – 25th September 1946).

Curators' Report

Mr Moody (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery) and Mr Warren (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) both attended and made their reports and decisions on matters raised by them made as follows:

East Cowes Cemetery

(a) Coping stonework on Chapel

That the Surveyor investigate the matter of surface water entering the Cemetery from Kingston Road.

(b) Path – Repair of

That the repair of the path on the west side of the Cemetery be left to the Surveyor.

(c) Surface Water Drainage

That the Surveyor investigate the matter of surface water entering the Cemetery from Kingston Road.

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(d) Motor Mower

That while the Committee does not at present favourably consider the purchase of a motor mower for use in East Cowes Cemetery, the Surveyor will report on the matter in due course.

Northwood Cemetery

(a) Labour

The Curator suggested that a fair complement would be four gravediggers and two gardeners, a total of six including himself.

At present there are three gravediggers (including himself) and one gardener. Additional labour is sent when necessary but is not satisfactory.

The Committee appreciate that the difficulties encountered at the Cemetery could very well justify a larger staff, but in view of the apparent impracticability of recruiting suitable staff at the present time, it was felt that if possible the position should be relieved by the use of as many labour saving devices as possible.

The Committee would also as soon as practicable, consider further the labour position.

(b) Protection of Graves

Arising from the consideration of labour, the question was raised of facilitating the digging of graves, and also providing protective covering for nearby graves and memorials, and the Surveyor was asked to see what could be done.

(c) Shuttering Timber

The Curator reported that the present method of timbering was inadequate and the Surveyor was asked to see if any improvements could possibly be made.

(d) Pump

The present pump being reported as useless, the Surveyor was asked to consider the replacing the pump with one of the semi-rotary type.

(e) Waterproofs for Gravediggers and Awning

That the Surveyor make enquiries regarding the provision of suitable waterproofs for gravediggers and of a protective covering while graves are being dug.

(f) Mower

The Curator reported that he had now about 80 graves to maintain and that the provision of an 8" mower would facilitate this work.

Resolved that a suitable mower be purchased.

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(g) Spoil

That the Surveyor arrange for the removal of spoil from the Cemetery.

Suggested Memorial to Air Road Victims

The Clerk reported on correspondence he had with the Urban District Councils Association and the Ministry of Health on the question of the permanent marking and maintenance of the communal graves of civilian war dead.

The Ministry stated that this matter was under active consideration by the Home Office and the Ministry of Health, and that in the circumstances, it was advisable that the Council should defer consideration thereof until a decision had been reached, which it was hoped would be very shortly.

The Department also stated that if the Council were a Cemetery Authority under the Public Health (Interments) Act, 1879, and the cemeteries referred to in the Cemeteries Clause Act 1847, which is incorporated with the Act of 1879, clearly authorizes the Council to prevent any part of the ground from becoming an eyesore as a result of neglect and is intended to be wider than the duty imposed by Section 16 of the Act of 1847 of keeping the cemetery in good order and condition, and that there was therefore power to maintain. It was also considered that the sections were wide enough to authorise the Council:

- (a) to distinguish in some appropriate manner between the communal grave for civilian war dead and the rest of the ground (layout), and
- (b) to make the ground more pleasing to the eye by embellishments such as flower beds and shrubs, masonry and bronze tablets.

As regards any expenditure that might be incurred, the Department stated that this would come before the District Auditor in the ordinary way, and if he should consider any part of the expenditure reasonable in amount but open to objection on legal grounds, it would be open to him to allow the Council to make an application for sanction under Section 228 of the Local Government Act 1933, during the course of the audit of the Council's accounts.

Suggested Central Crematorium for the Island

A letter dated the 6th September from the Clerk to the Newport and Gatcombe Joint Burial Committee was read, regarding the Council's enquiry and to the position regarding the establishment of an Island Crematorium (Minutes of Committee – 20th August 1946), stating that the matter was receiving the active consideration of the Committee with a view to the acquisition of a suitable site, but that the Council would appreciate that the housing programme is still receiving Government priority.

The position was noted.

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Allotments – Land recently acquired for extension of East Cowes Cemetery.

Consideration was given to the position regarding the allotments at present in use on the land recently acquired from the Crown as an extension to East Cowes Cemetery, and in view of the number of interments at East Cowes it was resolved that allotment holders be informed that the land will not be required for cemetery purposes for two years.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to affix their Common Seal to 24 Burial Grants (Nos. 50 to 73 inclusive).

Stillborn Child - Account

The Accountant reported that he had received a Certificate for Disposal in respect of the stillborn child of Mr. G C Steen, 43 York Street, the burial of the child having taken place at Northwood Cemetery without an order being issued and without payment of the fee of 6/8d., and on the steps he had taken to recover this amount.

Resolved that the Clerk take the matter up with Mr. Steen with a view to payment being obtained and that he be authorised to take any proceedings he may consider desirable.

Signed by W H Warrior, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 16th May 1947

Present

Councillor W H Warrior J P (Chairman of the Meeting)
Councillor Mrs. E L Crews
Councillor S L Glossop
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor F Smart

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hendy and Councillor Mrs Venner.

Chairman

Resolved that Councillor Hendy be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Chairman of Meeting

In the absence of Councillor Hendy it was resolved that the Chairman of the Council take the Chair.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 7th February 1947 were confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Northwood Cemetery

A letter dated 14th May was read from Mr. H Warren, Curator at Northwood Cemetery, stating that he was still in the same position as regards labour and equipment as when he reported to the Committee on the 7th February last.

The Surveyor reported on the position with regard to labour and stated that the equipment was on order.

Mr Warren appeared before the Committee and was informed of the position.

Mr. Warren enquired whether it would be possible for him to move into another Council House. No action was taken thereon.

East Cowes Cemetery

Mr Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery appeared before the Committee and stated that he had nothing to report.

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Council's Workmen

The Surveyor reported on the individual workmen employed at the Burial Grounds. The report was noted.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to Twenty-one Burial Grants (Nos. 74 to 94 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last Meeting of the Committee and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Signed by Counillor Hendy, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 11th September 1947

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor Mrs K E Venner
Councillor F Smart
Councillor W H Warrior J P, C A.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 16th May 1947 were read signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Glossop.

Curators' Report's

The Curator of Northwood Cemetery appeared before the Committee and stated that he had nothing to report.

The Curator of East Cowes Cemetery appeared before the Committee and stated that the only matter to which he had to refer was that the type of labour he was receiving for digging graves when there were several interments within a short period was very unsatisfactory.

Consideration was given to the difficulties arising in this respect and it was resolved that the Surveyor report on the suitability of using an automatic pick with a view to consideration being given to the purchase of an instrument.

Post Mortem and Mortuary Accommodation

A letter dated the 7th August from the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital in regard to the possibility of installing a Refrigeration Plant in the Post Mortem Room at the Hospital was read. The Hospital Committee enquired if the Council had under consideration any improvement to the existing Mortuary accommodation in the Island and whether if the Hospital's Mortuary and Post Mortem Rooms were placed at the disposal of all Island authorities for future use, the Council would be prepared to help in the expense incurred in the installation of Refrigeration Plant.

Resolved that the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital be informed that the Council is not prepared to contribute to the expense incurred in the installation of Refrigeration Plant in the Post Mortem Room at the Hospital.

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Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to fifteen Burial Grants (Nos. 95 – 109 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which have been paid since the last Meeting of the Committee and it was resolved that the same be approved together with the accounts for Ministers' Fees at the Northwood Cemetery.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 13th February 1948

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor S L Glossop
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor F Smart
Councillor Mrs. K E Venner
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 11th September 1947 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

The Curators of East Cowes and Northwood Cemeteries attended before the Committee and in both cases everything appeared to be satisfactory.

Ministers' Fees

At present it is the practice for the Ministers' fees to be paid by the Curators immediately after the interment. At Northwood Cemetery this presents some practical difficulties and the Committee were of the opinion that the practice is not altogether desirable.

Resolved that payment of Ministers' fees at the time of interments be discontinued and that in future the fees be paid quarterly.

Turfing of Graves

In connection with the notices exhibited at the Cemeteries that graves can be turfed for the sum of 4/- on application to the Curator, it was reported that some difficulty arose due to the fact that application is often made for the turfing of graves out of season. The work is carried out in due course by the Curator and then insufficient records of the applicant have not enabled payment to be obtained.

The Committee were of the opinion that generally it is undesirable that the Cemetery Curators should themselves receive the fees for work to be carried out and it was resolved that all orders for the turfing of graves be made to the Council's Accountant.

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Suggested Central Crematorium for the Island

A letter dated the 28th November from the IW Planning and Development Committee addressed to Burial Authorities for the opinion of the Committee as to the need for a Crematorium and as to the locality, was submitted together with the Clerk's reply based on the previous decision of the Committee.

A letter dated the 6th January from the Town Clerk, Ryde was read, referring to the IW Planning and Development Committee's letter and stating that the Corporation feel it is not practicable to give a reply to the two questions without first having an exchange of views with the other Authorities who control cemeteries. The Council was asked whether in the event of the Corporation proceeding to call a Conference of Island Burial Authorities, this Council would be prepared to send representatives thereto.

Resolved (1) that Ryde Corporation be informed that this Council would be prepared to be represented at such a Conference and (2) that if a Conference is called, the Chairman of the Committee and the Chairman of the Council be appointed as the Council's representative.

Upkeep of Graves in perpetuity

The Clerk reported that the following sums had been received in respect of the upkeep of graves in perpetuity under the provisions of Section 99(1) of the Cowes Urban District Council Act, 1938:-

£50 paid by Mr. G M Dowling in respect of grave spaces numbered 7911 and 7946 in Northwood Cemetery.

£75 paid by Mrs. B J Learmouth in respect of grave spaces numbered 8017, 8080 and 8105 in Northwood Cemetery.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to seven Burial Grants (nos. 119–125 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which have been paid since the last Meeting of the Committee and it was resolved that the same be approved together with the accounts for Ministers' fees at the Northwood Cemetery.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 14th May 1948

Present

Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor W J Hendy
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor J F Sinclair
Councillor F Smart J P
Councillor A H Turner

Chairman

Resolved that Councillor Hendy be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Councillor W J Hendy in the Chair

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Mrs Venner.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 13th February 1948, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

(a) East Cowes Cemetery

The Curator East Cowes Cemetery submitted a written report stating that the roofs of the cottage and Chapel were in need of repair, also the Glasshouse, and that a small motor mower would be of great assistance.

Mr Moody attended and also raised the question of weed killer for destroying the moss on the Cemetery paths.

Resolved that the Surveyor arrange to obtain suitable weed killer and that he report on the other matters.

(b) Northwood Cemetery

Mr H Warren (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) attended and stated that he had nothing to report.

Civilian War Dead – Marking of Graves

In connection with the Committee's recommendation on the erection of plaques in the East Cowes and Northwood Cemeteries bearing the names of all civilian residents who lost their lives in air raids in the district and the subsequent deferring of further action pending information from the Ministry of Health, to which the Department had referred in their letter of the 20th December 1946, Circular 35/48 dated the 19th March 1948 from the Ministry of Health was read in reference to the marking of communal and other graves provided during the war by local authorities for the burial of persons killed by enemy action. The Minister considers it very desirable that proper provision should be made for permanently marking such graves and Exchequer assistance consisting of a unit payment of £11 in respect of individual graves and £8 in respect of persons buried in communal graves is offered. The nature of the permanent markings is a matter left for decision in the light of local opinion and circumstances but it is suggested that it would generally suffice for it to be a simple memorial without elaborate sculpture or architectural features and it should be non-denominational.

The number of civilian dead at East Cowes was 60 of which 23 were buried in a communal grave, 8 in individual graves and 4 in Service plots all at East Cowes Cemetery, 3 in Northwood Cemetery and two away.

30 civilians were killed at West Cowes of which 20 were buried in a communal grave and one in an individual grave, the remaining 3 being buried away.

The Surveyor submitted suggested designs for enclosing the communal graves at East and West Cowes Cemeteries in a low wall of Portland stone with dwarf memorials also in Portland stone.

The Committee was of the opinion that the suggested designs could most suitably be adopted.

Consideration was given to the fact that relatives have in certain cases taken individual steps to place flowers thereon. The Committee felt, however, that provision should be made for marking the communal graves and at the same time providing appropriate memorials.

Resolved (1) that estimates be obtained in order that the cost of providing memorials in the form suggested by the Surveyor may be ascertained;

(2) that next of kin of the civilian dead be invited by public advertisement to attend a meeting to discuss the Council's proposals with a view to arrangements being made for the proposals to be carried out; and

(3) That if the estimate of cost does not exceed the amount of Government grant, the Chairman be authorized to arrange the date for the meeting of the next of kin, the Burial Committee themselves to meet immediately prior to that meeting, otherwise a meeting of the Burial Committee be convened further to consider the schemes.

Northwood Cemetery – Repair of War Damage to Memorials

In 1942 consideration had been given to the re-erection of tombstones damaged by enemy action. The War Damage Commission being prepared to reimburse the cost in respect of the memorials which did not require extensive repair and an estimate from Mr W G Thomas in respect of twenty-one memorials in the sum of £24. 14. 6d. was obtained. No further action had, however, been taken in view of the far more extensive damage subsequently suffered by the memorials in the Cemetery.

In view of the direction given by the Treasury to the War Damage Commission empowering the Commission to pay so far as permissible under the War Damage Act for the restoration to a seemingly condition of cemeteries, including the repair of tombstones and memorials not extensively damaged and in other cases the provision of a plain substitute, Mr Thomas had been requested to survey the memorials in the Cemetery and to furnish a list of the memorials slightly damaged or misplaced through enemy action, together with an estimate for repair, replacement and cleaning.

The Committee have had under consideration the taking of steps for the repair of the memorials and have paid special regard to the letter from the War Damage Commission of the 13th December, 1945 expressing the desire that all works of reinstatement or repair of the burial grounds, tombstones, monuments, etc., of the nature for which a quotation has been obtained, should be undertaken by Cemetery Authorities. At that time no decision had been reached by the Commission for the compensation which might be made for destroyed or partially destroyed memorials and further they were not prepared at that time to consider the carrying out of extensive repairs.

The Committee also considered carefully the position arising in regard to the carrying out by the Council of work of repair on memorials in which in some cases, the owners are interested and in other cases the owners could not be traced.

A quotation dated the 6th May 1948 from Mr W G Thomas for the repair and reinstatement of various memorials being memorials which are slightly damaged and which can be repaired without the use of new material, and including cleaning the memorials as they are all in a very dirty condition, amounting to the aggregate sum of £478. 18. 9d. was submitted.

Resolved (1) that the quotation be submitted to the War Damage Commission for approval; and (2) that upon approval being obtained, public notice be given of the Council's intention to carry out repairs to memorials at Northwood Cemetery which had suffered slight war damage.

Ministers' Fees

Correspondence with the Portsmouth Interdenominational Committee was submitted (a Committee representing all denominations in the Portsmouth area) suggesting that the Ministers' fees for officiating at interments in the afternoon should be increased from 7/6d. to 10/-. In view of the fact that no representations have been received from local clergy in respect of the table of fees approved in April 1942, it was resolved that no alteration be made.

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A report was received on the proceedings at a Conference of Representatives of Island Burial Authorities held at Ryde on the 18th March regarding the provision of a Crematorium for the Island. The following resolutions were passed at the Conference:

(1) that there is a definite need for a Crematorium for the whole Island and that it would be preferable for such a Crematorium to be provided and operated by a Joint Committee or Board comprising representatives of the various Burial Authorities in the Island;

(2) that, in the opinion of this Conference, the locality for the provision of such a Crematorium should be as central as possible in the Island, in an area considered suitable by the Town Planning Committee; and

(3) that the IW Rural District Council and the Town Planning Officer should be informed of the proceedings of this Conference and that the Newport and Gatcombe (IW) Joint Burial Committee be also contacted and asked if they would be willing to cooperate in the future.

Resolved that the Ryde Borough Council be informed that this Council concur in the recommendations of the Conference.

Allotments – Land acquired for extension of East Cowes Cemetery

Further consideration was given to the position regarding the allotments at present in use on the land acquired from the Crown as an extension to East Cowes Cemetery and to the advisability of giving the allotment holders Notice to Quit.

Resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred for a further 12 months.

Charge for Turfing Graves

On the report of the Accountant it was resolved that the charge for turfing the grave of a person over 10 years of age be revised from 2/6d. to 6/-d., and for turfing the grave of a child under 10 years of age be revised from 2/-d. to 4/-d, and that the Accountant's action in connection therewith be confirmed.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to affix their Common Seal to 17 Burial Grants (nos. 126 to 142 inclusive).

It was reported that Mrs. H M Scovell of Bosham, Sussex, had surrendered Burial Grant No. 143 granted by the former East Cowes Urban District Council to the late John Read for the exclusive Right of Burial in Grave Space No. 11, Section E at East Cowes Cemetery and that the fee of £1. 1. 0d. had been refunded.

Resolved that the action taken be confirmed.

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Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last Meeting of the Committee and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Willful damage at Northwood Cemetery

Councillor Moore reported that willful damage had been done by boys at Northwood Cemetery. Granite chips had been removed from Memorials and scattered about the ground and vases of flowers on graves had been overturned etc.

Resolved that the attention of the Police be called thereto.

Mortuary – Northwood Cemetery

Councillor Turner enquired whether the roof of the Mortuary at Northwood Cemetery could be painted and it was resolved that the Surveyor look into the matter.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 1st July 1948

Present

Councillor W J Hendy
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor F Smart J P
Councillor Mrs K E Venner
Councillor A H Turner

Common Grave Interment – Mrs Croutear - Interment in wrong grave

The Clerk submitted correspondence with Messrs Damant & Sons and reported upon the interment of Mrs Edith Kate Croutear deceased, on 12th June, 1948 in common grave space No. 9079A instead of common grave space No. 9079 the latter being the grave space in which the deceased's husband was interred on the 4th September 1936. The former grave space also contained one interment.

The Committee noted the contention of the Clerk in his correspondence with Messrs Damant & Sons that no rights in respect of burial were vested in any specific person in either of these two grave spaces. They were, however, of opinion that the Council should take what steps they could to remedy the matter, having regard to the personal feelings of the relatives.

Resolved (1) that the Clerk enquire of the Home Office as to the implications in respect of exhumation and re-interment so far as such course may be necessary to remedy the error; and

(2) that if the reply does not require any excessive expenditure in respect of elaborate arrangements, the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Committee be authorized to take such action as the deem fit.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 17th September 1948

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor F Smart JP
Councillor A H Turner

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Mrs Venner.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 14th May, 1948 and 1st July, 1948 were signed by the Chairman as correct records of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that Mr S Moody, Curator as East Cowes Cemetery was on holiday.

Mr Warren, Curator at Northwood Cemetery, appeared before the Committee and stated that he had nothing to report.

Consideration was given to a report by members on a complaint regarding the manner in which Mr Moody had spoken to a woman while she was trimming a grave in the East Cowes Cemetery, and that since that time the Curator had ceased to trim the grass on the grave.

Resolved that the Surveyor have a word with Moody about the matter.

Common Grave Interment – Mrs Croutear Interment in wrong grave

The Clerk reported that a license had been obtained from the Home Office for the removal of the remains of the late Mrs E K Croutear at a fee of £2 and that the remains were re-interred in the correct grave on the 29th July.
(Minutes 1st July).

French War Dead – Removal of Remains

A letter dated the 30th August was received from the Acting Consulate General for France stating that the French Government in collaboration with the Home Office proposed to effect in the very near future the removal to France of the remains of certain of the French War Dead at present interred in the United Kingdom and to remove to one or more Central War Cemeteries the bodies of the remainder and enquiring whether the Council would co-operate with the Consulate General in connection therewith.

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The Clerk's reply thereto of the 9th September offering the Council's co-operation was read.

Resolved that the action taken be confirmed and that the Surveyor be authorised to make such arrangements as he may consider desirable.

Northwood Cemetery – Repair of War Damage to Memorials

A letter dated the 16th July from the War Damage Commission was read stating that the Commission would consider a claim for the replacement of a destroyed memorial by one of a standard design, the price of which to include the supplying and fixing had been agreed with the National Association of Monumental Masons at £10. Alternatively, where it was desired to repair the existing memorial, a claim within the limit of £10 would be accepted. The Commission would be unable to pay for replacements where no living person was interested in the grave.

The Commission would be prepared to consider the Council's claim for the repairs detailed in the list submitted by Mr W G Thomas after the work had been carried out. (Minutes 14th May).

The Clerk reported that on receipt of the letter from the War Damage Commission Mr Thomas' quotation had been accepted and the work was now in hand. No objections had been received in response to the notice exhibited in the Cemetery before the work was undertaken but several applications had been received in respect of memorials not included in the list submitted by Mr Thomas. The position in regard to these further memorials was being investigated with a view to adding them to the list if they come within the War Damage Commission's scheme.

Resolved that the action taken be confirmed.

ARP etc. Personnel – Service Plots, East Cowes Cemetery

A letter dated 15th June was received from the Regional Inspector of the Imperial War Graves Commission stating that six graves in the Service Plot at East Cowes Cemetery (2 Firewatchers, 2 ARP Wardens and 2 Seamen) were not classified as War Graves and would not be the responsibility of the Commission for permanent marking. The Inspector suggested that the Council might like to consider the permanent marking of these graves in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular letter of the 19th March 1948. In cases where Service Graves and Civilian War Death Graves were intermingled it was considered desirable that the style of permanent marking and treatment should be harmonised.

The Surveyor submitted a design of a proposed headstone for ARP personnel and Merchant Seamen showing slight deviation from the Commission's standard headstone and quotations for the supply and erection of six headstones were received as follows:

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Frank Cooper, Newport

£7 each, with badges carved as War Grave Headstone
With badges craved in deep relief and modeled - £8 15s 0d. each
Letters at 9/- a dozen

W G Thomas, Cowes

£6. 15s. 0d each, with crest flat carved similar to War Grave memorials
With crests carved in relief - £8. 8s. 0d. each
Inscription 9/- per dozen letters

Wight Monumental Co., Newport

£11 each

T & J Ellery, Ryde

£4. 18s. 6d. each, including fixing on prepared concrete foundations.
Inscription 4/6d. per dozen letters extra.

In view of the fact that the quotation of Messrs. T & J Ellery provided for fixing on prepared concrete foundations, it was resolved that the tender of Mr W G Thomas at the price of £6. 15s. 0d. per headstone supplying and fixing, plus inscriptions at 9/ - a dozen letters, be accepted.

Tenders for enclosing the communal graves at Northwood Cemetery and East Cowes Cemetery in accordance with the design approved by the Committee on the 14th May 1948 were received as follows:-

Wight Monumental Co., Newport

Memorial at Northwood Cemetery - £1,340, Hard York Stone. £1,475 Portland Stone
East Cowes Memorial - £750 Hard York Stone, £790 Portland Stone

Mr W G Thomas, Cowes

Northwood Cemetery - £850 Portland Stone
East Cowes Cemetery - £550 Portland Stone
Inscriptions 9/ - a dozen letters.

Frank Cooper, Newport

Northwood Cemetery - £865 Portland Stone
East Cowes Cemetery - £575 Portland Stone
Inscriptions at 9/ - a dozen letters.

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T & J Ellery, Ryde

Northwood Cemetery - £693. 10s. 0d. Portland Stone

Northwood Cemetery - £665. 10s. 0d. Portland Stone (alternative designs) plus a provisional sum of £11. 10s. 0d. for inscriptions.

East Cowes Cemetery - £471. 10s. 0d. Portland Stone plus a provisional sum of £20 for inscriptions.

The unit payment permitted under Ministry of Health Circular 35/48 aggregates to £440 at East Cowes and £320 at West Cowes. The Committee was of the opinion that the most helpful course which could be taken would be to invite the Monumental Masons who submitted tenders designs within unit payments.

Resolved that designs be invited from the Monumental Masons for memorials on the communal graves of the civilian war dead in East Cowes and Northwood Cemeteries with quotations for the carrying out of the work within the limits of the sum of the unit figures given above.

War Graves – East Cowes Cemetery

A letter dated the 25th May addressed to the Council's Accountant by the Regional Inspector of the Imperial War Graves Commission was read enquiring whether the Council would have all War Graves in the Service Plot at East Cowes Cemetery level turfed during the autumn, with a continuous narrow flower border along each row of wooden crosses. The wooden crosses would eventually be replaced by Commission headstones.

Resolved that the Imperial War Graves Commission be informed that the Council will carry out the work provided the Commission will undertake to reimburse the Council the expense incurred in connection therewith.

Northwood Cemetery – Graves obliterated by enemy action

Consideration was given to the erection of a suitable memorial tablet giving particulars of persons buried in graves, which had been obliterated by bomb craters at Northwood Cemetery.

A letter dated 16th July from the War Damage Commission was read stating that it was not clear whether the proposal would come within the Commission's scheme for the treatment of damaged and destroyed memorials. It was suggested that the Council might prefer to replace destroyed memorials by the standard design, but it was particularly emphasised that the Commission would be unable to pay for the replacement where no living persons were interested in the grave.

Resolved that further consideration of this matter be deferred pending arrangements being made in regard to the memorials on the communal graves.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A report was received of a further meeting of the Island Burial Authorities held at Ryde on the 9th September (Minutes 14th May) at which it was resolved (the Newport representatives not voting as they had no authority so to do):

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(1) that in the opinion of this Conference, it is desirable that powers should be obtained whereby a Crematorium could be provided and operated for the whole of the Island by means of a Joint Committee or Board representative of the various Burial Authorities in the Island; and

(2) that the various Authorities represented should be informed of the proceedings of this Conference, and asked whether they endorsed the resolution now passed and if so, the extent to which they were prepared to support the taking of steps to implement the opinion contained therein.

The Committee decided to leave this matter for determination by the Council on the presentation of the Committee's report on the 21st September.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to 20 Burial Grants (nos. 143–149 and 151–163 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the meeting of the Committee and 14th May and it was resolved that the same be approved.

National Assistance Act, 1948

The Clerk reported on the provisions of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 relating to the burial or cremation of the dead.

Resolved that he be authorised to make any necessary arrangements under the Section.

Curators – Annual Holiday

The Surveyor reported that the Curators had enquired whether they were entitled to more than a fortnight's annual holiday in view of the fact that the ordinary workmen now get a fortnight's holiday with pay.

Resolved that the Curators be granted an additional three days holiday annually, provided they do not include a Saturday or a Sunday.

Curator at Northwood Cemetery – Oilskin Coat

Resolved that the Surveyor be authorised to purchase an oilskin coat for use by the Curator at Northwood Cemetery.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 10th December 1948

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor M R Moore
Councillor C A Salter
Councillor J F Sinclair
Councillor Mrs K E Venner

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Turner.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 17th September 1948 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that Mr H Warren (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) had nothing to report.

Nothing had been heard from Mr S. Moody (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery) and he was not in attendance at the meeting. It was assumed therefore that he had nothing to report.

Civilian War Dead – Marking of Graves

Designs and tenders for memorials on the communal graves at the two cemeteries were received from the following:-

Messrs T & J Ellery, Ryde

East Cowes Cemetery - £424/ 10s.
Northwood Cemetery - £320.
5" instead of 6" width curbing - £312/ 10s.

Mr F Cooper, Newport

East Cowes Cemetery - £440
Northwood Cemetery - £320

Mr W G Thomas, Cowes

East Cowes Cemetery - £440
Northwood Cemetery - £315

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Resolved that the tender of Messrs T & J Ellery, Ryde, for memorials on the communal graves at Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries in selected Portland Stone, in accordance with the specifications contained in their letters of 5th November 1948 and the drawings which accompanied them at the sums of £424. 10. 0d. for the East Cowes Memorial and £320 for the Memorial at Northwood Cemetery, be accepted and that the Council's seal be affixed to the Contract.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A report was received on a further Conference of Representatives of Island Burial Authorities held at Ryde on the 2nd December as to the provision of a Crematorium of the Isle of Wight.

It appeared that all other burial authorities in the Island now agreed as to the provision and operation jointly of a crematorium.

The Conference resolved to recommend that a Sub-Committee consisting of one representative of each Burial Authority in the Island, be appointed to investigate fully and report to the Conference upon the proposal that a Crematorium be provided and operated through the aegis of the various burial authorities in the Island, such investigations to include the financial implications, the question of the promotion of a private Bill, and the site for the proposed Crematorium.

Resolved that the Recommendation of the Conference be received and adopted and that Councillor Hendy be appointed as the Council's representative on the Sub-Committee.

Curators – Annual Holidays

With reference to the resolution passed at the Meeting of the Committee held on the 17th September 1948 that the Curators be granted an additional three days holiday annually, provided they do not include a Saturday or a Sunday, it was reported that the Finance Committee had enquired whether the Burial Committee were making a recommendation to them for the alteration of the Conditions of Service of the Curators.

Resolved that the Finance Committee be informed that the resolution of the Committee of the 17th September is an alteration of the Conditions of Service of the Curators, made to preserve the distinction in regard to holidays which previously existed between the Curators and the gravediggers and that they recommend to the Finance Committee accordingly.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to 15 Burial Grants, nos. 164–178 inclusive.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds, which had been paid since the last meeting.

Resolved that the same be approved.

French War Dead – Removal of Remains

It was reported that the remains of six members of the French Forces interred at Northwood Cemetery had been exhumed and were removed by the French Authorities on 7th December.

The Surveyor reported that the Council's employees at Northwood Cemetery who had carried out the work of excavating down to and round the coffins had found that the lids of the coffins had collapsed, making it a very unpleasant job and that they had enquired whether in the circumstances they could be granted extra payment therefore.

Resolved that the Surveyor arrange for extra payment based on 6d. an hour for the time the men were engaged in the work.

Signed by W J Hendy, Chairman

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Special Meeting of the Burial Committee, 4th February 1949

Present

Councillor W J Hendy (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E L Crews
Councillor A H Turner
Councillor J F Sinclair
Councillor F Smart J P

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Moore and Mrs. Venner.

Civilian War Dead – Marking of Graves

It was reported that a meeting of relatives and friends of air raid victims was held on the 28th January to obtain their views on the proposals for erecting memorials on the communal graves at the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries.

With regard to the Memorial at the East Cowes Cemetery, it had been suggested that the portion bearing the inscriptions should be placed at the head of the grave in accordance with custom, and that the paving across the grave should be omitted.

It was suggested that a path might be made to the Memorial at Northwood Cemetery.

A small trough in the front wall coping for flowers on each memorial was also suggested.

The Surveyor submitted an amended design incorporating the suggested alterations to the East Cowes Memorial.

With reference to the tenders of Messrs. T & J Ellery for the two memorials at the total sum of £744. 10. 0d. which had been provisionally accepted, the Clerk reported that it had now been ascertained that the maximum government grant the Council would receive from the Ministry of Health would be £615, leaving a deficit of £129 10. 0d. There would also probably be an additional expenditure in connection with the inscriptions, the provision of troughs for flowers, and the construction of a path to the Memorial at Northwood Cemetery.

Resolved that that slight amendments to the East Cowes Memorial be agreed and that amended quotations be obtained from the Contractor Messrs. T & J Ellery in respect of the amendments and in respect of inscriptions, etc., and that any amount over the grants incurred in respect of the Memorials be met from the General Rate Fund.

Further resolved that the Finance Committee be recommended to include the sum of £150 in the estimates for the year ending 31st March 1950, to cover any excess expenditure over the amount of the government grant in connection with the provision of the two memorials, and that application be made to the Minister of Health under Section 229(1) of the Local Government Act 1933 for sanction to incur the expenditure over and

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above the amount of government grant in connection with the provision of the memorials.

Consideration was given to the wording of the inscription and the Committee were of the opinion that simplicity is most desirable: probably on the lines of –

'In memory of those who lost their lives in the air raids on this town 1939/1945'.

Followed by the names of all the local civilian residents who were killed in the air raids at Cowes and East Cowes respectively.

It was resolved that designs of the memorial together with the inscriptions and the lists of names be exhibited at East Cowes Town Hall and the Gas Showrooms respectively.

A letter dated the 3rd February was received from Mrs. B Polley whose husband was buried in the communal grave at East Cowes, stating that she objected to paving being placed across the grave and enquiring whether her husband's remains could be removed from the communal grave and placed in a private grave.

Resolved that the Chairman of the Committee interview Mrs. Polley and explain the position to her.

Signed by Councillor W J Hendy, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 17th June 1949

Present

Councillor E R Bearup
Councillor L G Daish
Councillor H E Day
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor J F Sinclair J P
Councillor Mrs. E Wall

Chairman

Resolved that Councillor E R Bearup be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Councillor E R Bearup in the Chair

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 4th February 1949 were read and confirmed.

Curators' Report

It was reported that neither of the Curators had anything to report.

Allotments – Land acquired for extension of East Cowes Cemetery.

A letter dated the 15th April was received from the Cowes and District Trades Council referring to the Council's decision to give one year's notice expiring on the 6th April 1950, to certain allotment holders at East Cowes whose plots will be required in connection with the extension of East Cowes Cemetery (Minutes of Committee – 4th February 1949) and stating that while they appreciated that this land had been earmarked for some time for the extension of the Burial Ground and that suitable notice had been given, they had been advised that equally suitable land actually adjoining the Cemetery might possibly be acquired for this purpose.

Resolved that the Cowes and District Trades Council be informed that the Committee had carefully considered this matter at the time and in their opinion there is no land adjoining the East Cowes Cemetery suitable for burial purposes.

Civilian War Dead – Marking of Graves (a) Memorial at East Cowes Cemetery)

A letter dated the 31st May was received from Messrs. T & J Ellery stating that there was insufficient space on the East Cowes Memorial for carving the full names of all the deceased persons. He suggested that in certain cases where there were Christian names, the second one should be omitted and the initial inserted.

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The Clerk reported that in cases where the whereabouts of the relatives of the deceased persons were known, he had written to them stating that unless he heard from them to the contrary, arrangements would be made for the names to be included as suggested by Messrs. Ellery.

Resolved that the Clerk's action herein be and is hereby confirmed.

(b) Memorial at Northwood Cemetery

The Surveyor reported that Messrs Ellery had commenced work on the erection of the Memorial at Northwood Cemetery.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 8th September 1949

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor H E Day
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor J F Sinclair J P
Councillor F Smart
Councillor Mrs E Wall

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Daish.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 17th June 1949 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that Mr H Warren, Curator at Northwood Cemetery, had nothing to report.

A letter dated the 7th September was received from Mr S Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery, applying for an increase in wages on the grounds that his Assistant was paid more than he was.

Moody's present wages were £5. 3. 6d a week, plus house rent free valued at 10/- a week. The wages of the gravediggers were £5. 6. 0d. a week. The wages of the Curator at Northwood Cemetery were £5. 9. 0d. a week with house rent free valued at 10/- a week.

Resolved to recommend to the Finance Committee that Moody's wages be increased by 5/6d. to £5. 9. 0d. a week.

Northwood Cemetery – Condition of

Consideration was given to the condition of Northwood Cemetery chiefly due to the long grass. The Surveyor reported that nearly two-thirds of the Cemetery had now been tidied up and he was asked to concentrate on clearing up the remaining portion.

Service Graves – Permanent Marking

A letter dated the 11th August was received from the Imperial War Graves Commission as to the permanent marking by the erection of headstones of the Service Graves of the War 1939/45 in the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries, particulars of which were given in Schedules accompanying the letter.

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The Commission asked for consent to the erection of the headstones; for approval to the inscriptions; and enquired whether the Council would waive their erection fees and grant to the Commission the exclusive rights of burial in perpetuity in respect of these graves.

Resolved (1) that consent be given to the erection of the headstones; (2) that the proposed inscriptions be approved; (3) that the erection fees be waived; and (4) that the Commission be granted the exclusive rights of burial in perpetuity without charge in respect of grave spaces Nos. 9459, 9460, 9461, 9504, 9505, 9993 and 10167 t Northwood Cemetery, and Nos. E.508, E509, E220, E552 and E597 at East Cowes Cemetery and Nos. E54, E218 and E259 at East Cowes Cemetery having already been purchased.

With reference to the Minutes of the Committee of the 17th September 1948, regarding the provision of headstones on the graves of two Firewatchers and two Merchant Seamen was not covered by the Department's Circular 35/48.

A letter dated the 12th August was received from the Imperial War Graves Commission stating that these graves had been classified as non-war graves and as such were not the responsibility of the Commission, but in view of the fact that the burials were made within the area reserved for Service burials, it was desired to give further consideration to the position and a further communication would be addressed to the Council in due course.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A report was received on a Conference of Representatives of Island Burial Authorities held at Ryde on the 2nd September 1949, regarding a proposed Island Crematorium. The Conference passed the following resolutions:-

1. That the site at the junction of Staplers Road and Blacklands Road, Newport, be approved and that the Town Clerk of Ryde make an informal approach to the Town Planning Officer with a view to obtaining his observations upon the acquisition of this site for the erection of a crematorium.
2. That the Surveyors to the Ryde, Newport and Cowes Councils be requested to collaborate in the preparation of ground plans, designs and estimates for presentation to a further meeting of the conference and that the services of a Consultant Architect be engaged in due course, the fees of such consultant to be paid proportionately between the various authorities concerned on a ratable value or population basis to be agreed later; and that an enquiry be made of the owner of the land as to his reaction to the proposal to acquire the land for the erection of a crematorium.

Resolved that the report of the conference be received and adopted.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to 11 Burial Grants (Nos. 210 to 220 inclusive).

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Accounts

A list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting was submitted and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Messrs. T & J Ellery's account for supplying and erecting memorials on the communal graves of the civilian war dead at Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries at the sum of £726. 16. 0d. was submitted. This was £4 in excess of the contract sum, the additional amount being the cost of three additional crosses to the two memorials.

Resolved that the account be approved and passed to the Finance Committee.
Resolved that arrangements be made for the two memorials to be dedicated; that the Clerk communicate with the Bishop of Portsmouth regarding the Services of Dedication; and that public notice be given in due course as to the dates and times of the services in order that relatives and friends of the deceased persons may attend.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 8th December 1949

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor L G Daish
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor J F Sinclair J P
Councillor F Smart
Councillor Mrs E Wall
Councillor W H Warrior J P

Minutes

The Minutes of the Committee held on the 8th September 1949, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

Mr Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery, appeared before the Committee and asked for repairs to be carried to the roof of the Lodge at the Cemetery. He also raised the question of the period of his annual holidays.

Mr Warren, Curator at Northwood Cemetery, appeared before the Committee and suggested that the two bomb craters in that cemetery should be rolled and leveled. He also raised the question of his annual holiday.

Resolved that the carrying out of any necessary repairs to the roof of the Lodge at East Cowes Cemetery and the leveling of the two bomb craters in the Northwood Cemetery be referred to the Surveyor.

Consideration was given to the Curator's holidays, which had been extended by three days (which were not to include a Saturday or a Sunday) in September 1948, after the holiday allowance of two working weeks and six public holidays per annum in the Conditions of Service of the South Midlands Provincial Council (Manual Workers). As the Curators are responsible for opening and closing the Cemeteries on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays the Committee were of the opinion that the extension of their annual holiday from two weeks to two weeks and three days was inadequate.

Resolved that the Curators be granted three annual holidays, to be taken in not less than weekly periods.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A letter dated 28th November was received from the Town Clerk of Ryde, giving the present position regarding the proposed Island Crematorium.

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Private Vases on Communal Graves of Air Raid Victims

Consideration was given to permitting the placing of private memorial vases on the communal graves at the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries. Fifteen vases had been removed on the erection of the permanent memorial in Northwood Cemetery, and twelve in the East Cowes Cemetery.

Resolved that subject to the vases being appropriate types in the Surveyor's opinion and placed to his approval, private memorials be again permitted on the communal graves at Northwood Cemetery and East Cowes Cemetery in accordance with permission previously given, or any future application which receives the Council's approval under the regulations.

Service Plots

The Surveyor reported that the Imperial War Graves Commission had now supplied and fixed headstones on the Service Graves at both the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries. Roses supplied by the Commission for the Service plots had also be planted.

The Surveyor further reported that he had been approached by a relative of one of the persons buried in the Service Plot at West Cowes enquiring whether the Council would plant a line of hedging around the plot.

Resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred for twelve months.

Extension of East Cowes Cemetery

The Surveyor submitted a preliminary lay-out plan for the extension of East Cowes Cemetery. It was suggested that a extension of East Cowes Cemetery. It was suggested that a weather-shelter might be provided and it was resolved that the Surveyor consider making provision therefor.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 11 Burial Grants (Nos. 221 to 231 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.

Northwood Cemetery Burial Board Minute Book (1939-1951)

Meeting of the Burial Committee, 9th March 1950

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor L G Daish
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor F Smart
Councillor Mrs. E Wall CC
Councillor W H Warrior JP, CA

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors H E Day and J F Sinclair, JP.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 8th December 1949 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

Mr Moody (Curator at East Cowes Cemetery) and Mr Warren (Curator at Northwood Cemetery) appeared before the Committee. They had nothing to report.

The Cremation Society – Annual Conference

A communication was received from the Cremation Society inviting the Council to appoint representatives to attend the Annual Cremation Conference to be held at Blackpool on the 27th, 28th and 29th June 1950.

Resolved that no action be taken thereon.

Civilian War Dead – Marking of Graves

It was reported that the cost of erecting Memorials on the graves of Civilian War Dead at the Northwood and East Cowes Cemeteries was as follows:

Messrs T & J Ellery:

Memorials on two Communal Graves	£726	16s	0d
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Mr W G Thomas:

Memorials on three graves – Wardens etc., East Cowes	£33	19s	6d
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Labour and haulage	£3	7s	8d
Service of Dedication	£7	12s	0d

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£771 15s 2d

The cost would be met as follows:

Grant:

East Cowes – 43 @ £8	£344	0s	0d
West Cowes – 27 @ £8	£216	0s	0d

Wardens etc. – East Cowes

2 @ £11			
2 @ £8	£598	0s	0d

Air Raid Distress Fund (Balance)	£139	17s	0d
General Rate Fund	£33	18s	2d

£771 15s 2d

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Council be recommended to seal 15 Burial Grants (Nos. 232 to 246 inclusive).

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to the Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

An account from Mr W G Thomas amounting to £33 19s 6d for supplying and erecting three memorials on the graves of the Wardens and Fire Watchers at East Cowes Cemetery who lost their lives as a result of enemy action was also submitted and it was resolved that the same be approved and passed to the Finance Committee.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 8th June 1950

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor H E Day
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor A H Grose
Councillor A A Guttridge
Councillor J F Sinclair

Chairman

Resolved that Councillor E R Bearup be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Councillor E R Bearup in the Chair

Minutes

The Minutes of the Committee held on the 9th March 1950, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Report

A written report dated 6th June was received from Mr S Moody, Curator at East Cowes Cemetery. He asked for:

- (a) a 12 inch motor mower;
- (b) installation of electricity in the lodge; and
- (c) definition as to who was in charge of the man employed at the Cemetery.

The Committee considered the application for a motor mower. No provision has been made in the current estimates. The Surveyor reported that he was considering the possibility of obtaining a suitable mower for general work, which would include work in the cemeteries and the matter was left to the Surveyor for a report to the Works Committee.

In regard to installation of electricity at the Lodge, the Surveyor was instructed to obtain an estimate for consideration by the Committee.

Consideration was given to the position at East Cowes both as regards the curator and the man employed in the Cemetery and when the Curator requires additional labour which he obtains from the Assistant Foreman.

So far as the Cemetery labourer is concerned, the Committee did not quite understand the implication of the Curator's enquiry. It was decided to inform the Curator that he is in charge of the man subject to the general supervision of the Surveyor.

No report was received from Mr H Warren, Curator at Northwood Cemetery.

Curator's House, Northwood Cemetery

The Clerk reported that Mrs Warren had applied for a transfer of tenancy as, she said, they were not happy in their present house, and she hoped that an opportunity might be provided of their getting one of the new Council houses to be built near the Cemetery gates.

The application would be dealt with in the ordinary way by the House Letting Sub-Committee subject to any observations the Burial Committee wished to make.

The rent of the present house is 16/4d a week; the Curator occupies the house rent-free and his emoluments for superannuation purposes are valued at 10/- a week.

The Committee are of opinion that, if the House Letting Sub-Committee wish the change to be made, then it might be agreed if the Curator's emoluments were placed at 15/-d a week in respect of the house and he paid the difference between that sum and the rent of the new house.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A letter dated 19th May from the Town Clerk, Ryde, was submitted together with a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of a Conference of representatives of Island Burial Authorities held at Ryde on the 5th May.

A copy of a report of the Borough Engineer, Newport, on the proposed Crematorium at Staplers, giving the approximate cost of the work etc., and plans, showing site layout and plan and elevations of a crematorium designed by the Borough Surveyor. It was assumed at this stage that the purchase of the site, payment of development charges and erection and equipment of the crematorium would cost £27,000, giving an initial annual cost based on loan charges, and allowing for rent for the Superintendent's Lodge, of £843.

The estimated annual cost, including maintenance amounted to £2,790.

The revenue which might be anticipated at the commencement was put at £1,170.

The Conference felt that the stage had now been reached when, with the information available, it would no doubt be possible for the various Burial Authorities in the Island to decide whether they wished to proceed with the proposal for an Island Crematorium to be administered by a Joint Committee comprising representatives of all such Authorities and they resolved that copies of the plans and reports be sent to each authority concerned for their views thereon.

The Council have felt from the outset of the suggestion that a crematorium should be provided in the Island that all Burial Authorities should be associated with its administration, rather than that a crematorium be provided by one Authority only. Conferences of the Island Burial Authorities have from time to time been held under the auspices of the Borough of Ryde and a site at Staplers in the Borough of Newport has been selected and agreed upon by all the Authorities concerned.

Resolved to recommend (a) that the plans submitted giving a design for a Crematorium at Staplers be approved in principle; and (b) that the Council concur with the other Island Authorities in the establishment of a Joint Committee.

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The Council's representatives at the Conferences were Councillors Bearup and Warrior. In view of the altered Membership of the Committee it was resolved that the Council's representatives for the ensuing year be Councillors Bearup and Guttridge.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Seal of the Council be affixed to 16 Burial Grants, Nos. 247 to 262 inclusive.

Accounts

The Accountant submitted a list of accounts relating to Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Perambulators and Bicycles in Cemeteries

It was reported that the Curator at East Cowes was stopping the taking of Perambulators and bicycles into the Cemetery. The Committee agreed that cycles should not be used and it was resolved that perambulators be allowed in the Cemetery subject to their being kept to the paths.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 6th September 1950

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor Sir Godfrey Baring, Bart.
Councillor H E Day
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor A H Grose
Councillor A A Guttridge
Councillor J F Sinclair, J P

Minutes

The Minutes of the Committee held on the 8th June 1950, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators' Reports

It was reported that neither of the Curators had anything to report.

Proposed Island Crematorium

A letter dated the 24th August 1950, from the Town Clerk, Ryde, giving a summary of replies received from the various burial authorities in the Island upon the report prepared by the Borough Engineer of Newport in regard to the proposed scheme for a Crematorium at the junction of Staplers Road and Blacklands Road, Newport, was read. The replies were noted as follows: Newport (Joint Burial Committee), Cowes, Ventnor and the IW Rural District Councils agreed to the scheme in principle and the establishment of a Joint Committee for administrative purposes; Ryde, Sandown and Shanklin Councils have decided that the scheme was too costly and should be deferred until such time as a modified scheme had been prepared at a greatly reduced cost.

The Committee felt that the scheme was a sound one and they confirmed their views expressed at the last Meeting of the Committee (Minutes - 8th June 1950), being of opinion that the scheme should not be deferred indefinitely.

Resolved that the Town Clerk of Ryde be informed of the Committee's views herein.

Curator's Lodge – East Cowes Cemetery

The Surveyor submitted a quotation of the Southern Electricity Board for the installation of electricity at the Curator's Lodge at East Cowes Cemetery, amounting to £14 10s 0d for six light points and one power point.

The Southern Electricity Board also stated that owing to the length of service cable required, 111 yards, the Council must make a contribution of £26 14s 0d towards its cost.

Resolved that not further action be taken in the matter at the present time.

Extension of East Cowes Cemetery

The Surveyor submitted an amended layout plan for the extension of East Cowes Cemetery on the east side of Kingston Road together with a specification of the work to be carried out the estimated cost being £5,000. Provision had been made for 1825 grave spaces and the estimate included an item of £200 for a shelter, although design and location had not at this stage been settled (Minutes of Committee - 8th December 1949).

Resolved that the layout plan specification and estimate submitted by the Surveyor for the extension of East Cowes Cemetery be approved and that the Capital Estimate be submitted to the Finance Committee.

Burial Grants

Resolved to recommend that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to 19 Burial Grants, Nos. 263 to 281 inclusive.

Accounts

The Treasurer submitted a list of accounts relating to Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Inspection of Cemeteries

Councillor Sir Godfrey Baring stated that he felt that the Committee should carry out an inspection of the cemeteries and suggested that a special meeting of the Committee should be held for this purpose.

Resolved that the Chairman of the Committee arrange for a special meeting of the Committee as suggested.

Maintenance of Grave Spaces

The Treasurer reported that he had received a number of complaints from persons who paid for the maintenance of grave spaces, that the graves were not being maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The Surveyor reported that owing to the weather the grass in the cemeteries had grown much quicker this year and consequently required cutting more frequently. He had arranged for extra labour to be available at the cemeteries when possible.

The Committee felt that the attention of the Curators should be drawn to the complaints and that special efforts be made satisfactorily to maintain grave spaces where layout payment is made.

Resolved that the matter be left to the Surveyor to do what he can.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.

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A Meeting of the Burial Committee was convened for 7pm on the 7th December 1950. There was no quorum, Councillors Day and Grose only attending, and after 7.15pm the meeting was abandoned.

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Meeting of the Burial Committee, 9th March 1951

Present

Councillor E R Bearup (Chairman)
Councillor W J Foss
Councillor A H Grose
Councillor E J Maxted

Apology for Absence

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor A A Guttridge.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Committee held on the 6th September 1950 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

Curators Report

It was reported that neither of the Curators had anything to report.

Service Graves

(a) Maintenance

A letter dated 5th October from the Imperial War Graves Commission was read referring to the temporary arrangement made for the maintenance of War Graves (Minutes of Committee 7th December 1941, page 62). The Commission now forwarded for consideration a proposed revised Agreement which called for the annual washing of headstones. This had not previously been a condition of the maintenance and the Commission stated that they would be grateful if this additional service could be included and suggested that the uniform fee of 6/- per grave per annum would be in keeping with the considerate fee of 5/- per annum which the Council had hitherto accepted as being appropriate in view of the nature of the Commission's work. There are 28 war graves in the Northwood Cemetery and 15 at Kingston Cemetery.

Resolved that subject to the amendment of the Agreement by providing for the graves to be kept reasonably clear of weeds etc. in place of the Commission's provision that graves are to be cleared of all weeds etc., an Agreement be entered into with the Imperial War Graves Commission for the maintenance of war graves of the 1914/18 and 1939/45 wars at the Northwood and Kingston Cemeteries for an annual payment of 6/- per grave.

(b) Grants of Graves Spaces

The Clerk reported that in connection with the grant by the Council free of charge to the Imperial War Graves Commission of the exclusive right of burial in war graves in the Cemeteries where the exclusive right of burial had not been acquired privately (Minutes of Committee - 8th September 1949, page 104) one further war grave, being grave

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space No. 9360 (consecrated) in Northwood Cemetery, remained to be dealt with. The grant had been sealed by the Council on the 19th December 1950.

Resolved that the action taken and the granting of exclusive right of burial in grave space No. 9360 Northwood Cemetery, in the Imperial War Graves Commission be confirmed.

Proposed Island Crematorium

Minutes of a conference of representatives of the Burial Authorities held on the 23rd February were submitted. The Minutes incorporated a revised estimate based on a reduction of the cost by the omission of parts of the proposed scheme which were not absolutely essential for satisfactory operation and limiting the site to an area sufficient to provide the minimum space for a Garden of Rest. The revised proposals reduced the estimated cost to £20,000.

The conference unanimously resolved to recommend to the various Burial Authorities (1) that the amended scheme be approved and (2) that each of the six Burial Authorities in the Island should concur in the formation of a Joint Committee.

The Committee at their meeting on the 8th June 1950 had recommended that the approval of the plans as originally submitted. Also concurrence in the establishment of a Joint Committee, which recommendation had been adopted by the Council. In view of the recommendation of the Conference which had been based on the revised proposals, in order to keep uniformity amongst all the Authorities in the Island it was resolved to recommend:

- (1) That the Cowes Urban District Council, as the Burial Authority for the Urban District of Cowes do hereby approve the modified scheme prepared by the conference of Island Burial Authorities for the provision at Staplers, Newport, of a crematorium for the Isle of Wight, at an estimated capital cost of £20,000, the particulars of such scheme being those contained in the report made to the said conference by the Borough Engineer of Newport, bearing date the 5th May 1950, as modified by a subsequent report dated the 2nd February 1951, and prepared jointly by the Borough Engineer of Newport, the Borough Surveyor of Ryde, and the Surveyor to the Cowes Urban District Council; and
- (2) That the Cowes Urban District Council as the Burial Authority for the Urban District of Cowes in pursuance of their powers under Section 91 of the Local Government Act 1933, do hereby concur with the Ryde Borough Council, Newport and Gatcombe (IW) Ventnor Urban District Council, Sandown/Shanklin Urban District Council and the Isle of Wight Rural District Council in the constitution of a Joint Committee to be called 'The Isle of Wight Crematorium Joint Committee', for the provision and maintenance by such Joint Committee of a crematorium to serve the whole of the Isle of Wight, the site and buildings to be vested in the various constituent authorities acting jointly; and do hereby further agree to such Joint Committee exercising on behalf of the said Burial Authorities for the aforesaid purpose, all their respective powers and functions within their respective areas as the Burial Authority for the purpose of the Cremation Act 1902; such concurrence and agreement to be subject to the approval by the

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Cowes Urban District Burial Authority of the form of constitution to be prepared for the setting up of such proposed Joint Committee.

Northwood Cemetery – Suspected Unexploded Bomb

A letter dated 31st January 1951 from the Home Office (Civil Defence) was read, in respect of the suspected unexploded bomb reported by the Hampshire Constabulary on the 12th October 1950, stating that their evidence was that the bomb had exploded and no further work was being carried out.

Memorial Plans etc.

The Treasurer reported that the Auditor in connection with his audit of accounts had suggested that memorial plans should be approved by the Committee. In the ordinary course all these plans are approved in the office and having regard to the fact that the memorials placed in the Cemeteries are very much of a pattern it was resolved:

- (1) That in order that there should be no delay in approving memorials etc., they continue to be dealt with upon receipt by the officers, that any controversial applications be referred to the Chairman of the Committee and the Chairman be authorized to deal with them; and finally that applications which the Chairman himself was not prepared to deal with be referred to the Committee; and
- (2) That the list of memorials approved together with the plans and the inscriptions, be submitted to the Committee at each ordinary meeting.

Extension of East Cowes Cemetery

A tender for the work in connection with the East Cowes Cemetery had been accepted, subject to consent to loan being issued by the Ministry of Local Government and Planning (Minutes of Works Committee – 12th February 1951), and the Surveyor reported that it had been necessary to give notice to eleven allotment holders of a slight encroachment on their plots, in respect of which the General Purposes Committee (Minutes – 6th March 1951) were providing for a reduced rent.

The position was noted.

Northwood Cemetery – Removal of Wall

The Surveyor suggested that it would be desirable to remove the wall between the old and new portions of the Northwood Cemetery, that the estimated cost was £50 and could be met from monies in the estimate for maintenance etc. work at the Cemetery. Additional grave spaces would then be available.

Resolved that the Surveyor arrange for the wall to be removed.

Burial Grants

Resolved that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to thirteen Burial Grants, Nos. 293 to 305 inclusive.

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Accounts

The Treasurer submitted a list of accounts relating to Burial Grounds which had been paid since the last meeting and it was resolved that the same be approved.

Signed by E R Bearup, Chairman.