



The Friends of Raikes Road Burial Ground

Minutes of the Meeting of the Friends of Raikes Road Burial Ground held at 7.20 pm on Tuesday 29th April 2014 in the Assembly Hall, Swadford Centre, 32 Swadford Street, Skipton, BD23 1RD.

Present: Jean Robinson, Hazel Bulcock, Stephanie Carter, Les Chandler, Audrey Crossley, Norrie Earl, Sue Montgomery, Glenn Roadley, Ann Wilkinson and Stuart Wilkinson.

1. Apologies for absence

Valerie Mason, Paul Norman and Geoff Sharwood-Smith.

2. To approve the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 28th January 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 28th January 2014 were approved by the members present at that meeting.

Proposed by AW and seconded by JR.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

NE raised two points firstly, that although Ian Fulton attended the last meeting his name was missing under those 'Present' and secondly, no mention was made of the short presentation given by Paul Norman. Both points were duly noted.

4. Finance

As the Treasurer was not present it was agreed that discussion on the accounts should be left until the next meeting. Proposed JR and seconded HB.

5. Ongoing and planned work

The Restoration Action Plan updated at the last quarterly meeting was reviewed.

A number of tasks were marked as completed including a review of the Quarter Sessions and Assizes archives held at West Yorkshire Archives in Wakefield, review of local archives and newspapers at Skipton Library, recording memories of local people and visitors and collating any information from documentary evidence they may hold; and the collection and collating of old photographs of the burial ground.

Other tasks to be amended, added or acted upon in the next couple of months:

JR will arrange to undertake a research visit to Lister Lane Cemetery in Halifax.

As Paul Sharp is no longer available to oversee arrangements for an insect survey, LC will contact the RSPB Wildlife Explorers group about the possibility of undertaking an insect survey at the same time as the mammal survey arranged for 12th July. If not, JR will get in touch with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

JR reported that a Faculty to undertake work in the burial ground has been submitted to the Diocese and the outcome is expected by the end of May. The date for archaeological investigation work was put back to the end of October 2014.

The target date for completion of visits to local schools, institutes and Skipton Civic Society was extended to the end of October 2014.

LC agreed to take over the design and printing of the schools pack. LC will also contact Daniel Webb to enquire whether he is still able to fulfil the tasks identified as his responsibility on the Action Plan. If not, GR offered to take on the design and printing of a site trail guide and advertising flyer.

There was a brief discussion about the wildflower planting scheme. The issue of the lack of a water supply in the burial ground was raised and it was suggested the installation of a water supply or a trough be added as a post-project activity.

Added as a post-project activity at the last meeting, JR confirmed that the burial ground survey mapping the location of graves was planned to go ahead on 10th May and at some point the gravestones themselves will need to be properly recorded. LC pointed out that photographs of the survey need be taken for the end of project report for the HLF.

The Action Plan will be revisited at the next quarterly meeting.

6. Tour de France, 5th July 2014

LS said he had spoken with Jill Wright (Churchwarden) about whether the Church would allow the Friends to open up the burial ground for the Tour de France. Her view was that we could go ahead if that is what the Friends decided on. After some discussion on the issue, JR summed up by saying that we do not formally allow people access to the burial ground to view the race. LC will look into the placement of Harris fencing behind the gate and inside along the wall on Raikes Road. It was also suggested a couple of people be on hand to man the gate.

7. Cherishing Churchyards Week, 15th June 2014

Although strictly not part of the Cherishing Churchyards Week from 7th to 15th June 2014, JR suggested an alternative date of 21st June for an open day. This would be a low key event but would be an opportunity to inform visitors about the project plan and what has been achieved to date.

LS agreed to help with arrangements for a gazebo, table, chairs, risk assessment, 'volunteer interest' forms, display panels, container for rubbish, donation bucket, flyer to announce the event and for Steve Gardiner to come and take photographs. JR will prepare a press release for the *Craven Herald*.

8. Any other business

JR has received a communication from Sue Allott who runs Waltonwrays Cemetery about linking up with the Friends. JR suggested this would be a good idea as it would give a seamless run of burials from the Parish Church to Raikes Road to Waltonwrays. It was agreed that there should be contact and NE suggested inviting Sue to the next meeting to discuss this matter further.

Proposed JR and seconded HB.

9. Date of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 29th July 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Skipton Town Council Offices, Barclay's Bank Chambers, Skipton.