

Haxby Town Annual Meeting Tuesday 14th March 2023

Haxby and Wigginton Joint Cemetery Report

The Haxby and Wigginton Joint Cemetery Committee continue to work well together.

Practical update:

During the year we undertake regular visits to the cemetery

- to inspect the headstones
- make sure the overall appearance is maintained
- address any issues arising such as overhanging branches, broken benches, headstones that are unsafe

This usually takes place on the Monday prior to the full meeting.

Other issues that can arise are interment of ashes - how many per grave, or a request for a bench, or placement of trees, bushes, and plants.

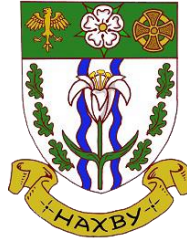
We also check that headstones meet the criteria we have laid down – so for example, a request for a purple headstone would be brought to committee for discussion and decision.

There is a lot of paperwork involved in organising a burial/interment along with dealing with sometimes distressed or overwrought family.

The cemetery has allocated non consecrated plots should the need arise, along with plots for cremated remains and full burials.

The cemetery is expanding as we are now opening up our next plot for full graves.

An extension must be included in the plans going forward with the ST9 development.



Office management update:

The Cemetery Committee undertook a review of the staffing requirements to run the cemetery efficiently.

It was agreed to make a separate, stand alone post so that the public and undertakers have a direct point of contact.

We employed a clerk, but they have sadly resigned.

Our financial situation is currently unavailable as Barclays Bank are not allowing access. We have no paper statements and are unable to access online.

This is despite multiple attempts to gain said access and two complaints, one of which is ongoing at present.

For your information there has been no staff in the office since November 2022 until the arrival of our locum clerks in mid-January – who work mainly remotely and for 30 hours only e.g. 15 hours each

I have personally maintained this service to the best of my ability as an unpaid Councillor/servant to the people of Haxby and Wigginton.

I would like to say its been a pleasure but very hard work.