

13b(viii) To agree the specification for a path in the new section of Millbrook Cemetery.

Proposed specification from an additional path in Millbrook Graveyard

- Extend the path from the existing path towards the bench provided by Pauline Woffenden.
- The path will be approximately 16 metres in length
- Concrete path to include expansion joints and root barrier membrane.
- Overhanging branches along the bank edge need to be removed to a height of 3m to allow free access to the graves and path.
- Contractors to provide a copy of the public liability insurance and risk assessment.
- The contractor needs to liaise with the Council and funeral directors so that the works do not coincide when a burial is due to take place.



See email below from Cllr Taggart

From: **Bruce Taggart** <bruce.taggart@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>

Date: Wed, 15 Sept 2021 at 08:36

Subject: Re: Availability for meeting in the graveyard next week.

To: Sharon Lewis <sharon.lewis@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>, Karen Hall <karen.hall@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>

Cc: Karenza Heald <theclerk@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>, Don Wood <don.wood@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>, Nicky Roberts <nicky.roberts@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>, Petra Polák <petra.polak@millbrook-pc.gov.uk>

Hi all

I met with Karenza on Monday in the PC graveyard and we discussed several concerns.

1. Path.

Mr Weekes had suggested a new path running directly to Pauline Woffendens seat rather than extending the existing path. I advised against this as passed near to large trees and was more than double the length so would be more costly.

Extending the existing path by approx 16 m in length will reach the seat.

I suggested taking it close to the bank edge and around her small garden area.

Specifications should stipulate expansion joints and root barrier membrane to be used. The existing path has a crack probably caused by driving a digger over/along it. The path was specified for foot traffic only and Weekes be asked to avoid using it as and access path for grave digging machinery.

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Any overhanging branches along the bank edge need to be removed to a height of 3m to allow free access to the graves and path. Soil arisings from grave digging, currently tipped in the hedge need spreading out. We need to talk to Weekes about having a designated area to dispose of earth spoil.

I considered it unnecessary to extend the path past the seat to the end gate as the existing path parallel to the road is suitable for current use.

2 Grass cutting

There are areas of uncut grass that look untidy. The adjacent old graveyard adequately provides wild grassland habitats. I suggest the new contract specifies that vacant grass plots should be kept to a maximum height of 15 cm but that a 2 m headland inside the hedge between the seat and the gate at the top end be left uncut. Then flailed back to the bank and hedge line on an annual basis in September.

Grass cutting around and over the graves has been an issue. I suggested paths should be maintained along the top and bottom of each row of graves and between every second grave so that each is accessible on three sides. Cut should be done with a mower on high setting rather than a strimmer which can cause damage to grave furniture. Grass cutting needs to be monitored on a monthly basis and issues raised with the contractor.

3 Bonfire

There is a large pile of branches and debris from when Steve Creese used to burn rubbish and green waste. This needs to be cleared and allowed to revert back to cut grass. A designated area for green waste is needed that can be collected by Cornwall Council when they are doing house collections. The P C may have to pay for this.

4 Trees

Most trees are in reasonable condition but could do with cleaning up. This would mean pruning back of torn branches and removal of lower dead wood over the paths. Some consideration might be given to new tree planting but this needs to be planned carefully around future grave plots. There is room to gap up the hedge at the far end with some standard native trees.

Some trees from the old closed graveyard need attention where they are overhanging the current one. These are the responsibility of Cornwall Council but we have the right to cut back any overhanging our side. I suggest we contact C C and advise them saying that we will do the work and bill them if not completed within a specified time frame.

5 Seating

There are opportunities for additional memorial bench seating in the graveyard. Siting should not impact on existing or future grave plots.

Feel free to edit Karenza if I've missed anything.

Thanks

Bruce