

MINUTES OF THE CEMETERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE ARUNTA MEETING ROOM - CIVIC CENTRE, 93 TODD STREET ON TUESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2020

PRESENT

Mayor Damien Ryan
Councillor Glen Auricht
Councillor Jimmy Cocking (Chair)
Ms Meredith Campbell
Pastor Rod Holmes
Mr Mark Mossop (*arrived 12:14 pm*)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Manager Technical Services
Mr Ben Fitzgerald - Manager Works
Ms Stephanie Dominguez - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Cemeteries Advisory Committee (CAC) - Attendance List 2020/2021					
	6 Oct 2020	1 Dec 2020	2 Feb 2021	4 May 2021	6 Jul 2021
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	✓			
Councillor Glen Auricht	✓	✓			
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓	✓			
Councillor Matt Paterson	✓	A			
Ms Meredith Campbell	✓	✓			
Mr David Hewitt	✓	A			
Pastor Rod Holmes	✓	A			
Mr Mark Mossop	✓	✓			

✓ Attended
A Apology received
-- No attendance and no apology recorded
Not on the Committee at this time

The meeting opened at 12:14 pm with a quorum

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor Matt Paterson
Mr David Hewitt
Pastor Rod Holmes

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

3. CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Email from David Hewitt - Unmarked Grave of WW1 Veteran at Alice Springs General Cemetery

Raised in General Business under Agenda Item 7.1

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the previous meeting held 6 October 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes from the Cemeteries Advisory Committee meeting held 6 October 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Moved: Mayor Ryan

Seconded: Councillor Auricht

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 Under 20 Weeks Garden - Alice Springs Garden Cemetery

The Director Technical Services provided an update in regard to the signage for the “Garden of Angels”. The Committee discussed the process and layout for the garden.

Action:

Officers to write to Alice Springs Hospital after the signage is complete and garden is ready

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Website Development - Cemeteries

6.1.1 Burial details including location

The Director Technical Services advised that the concept of an app had been discussed with Mark Mossop from Centre Funeral Services, and Council’s ICT department, with another solution ultimately devised. A page will be created on the ASTC website where the public can search and locate details in regard to their loved ones. The Director advised this was in initial development stages and hoped to update the Committee in the new year.

6.1.2 Cemeteries Public Notice - ASTC website

Council has set up a *Cemeteries Public Notice* page on the ASTC website. Centre Funeral Services will have access to the page to post funeral notices in this location. Council’s Media department will (tastefully) promote the page within the Alice Springs Community to ensure people have the relevant and timely information they need in regard to these services.

The Committee was shown the page on Council’s website which currently displays some test notices. Feedback was received in regard to the layout.

Action:

Officers to discuss layout of Cemeteries Public Notice page on ASTC website with Media Unit and report back to the Committee at the February meeting

6.2 All Abilities access gate - Alice Springs Garden Cemetery

The Director Technical Services advised that the pedestrian access gate at the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery had been modified after feedback was received from members of the Community that the gate was heavy and difficult to operate. Council engaged a local contractor to replace the gate and concreters were in the process of finishing a section of the inside path.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 WW1 Veteran - Unmarked Grave - Alice Springs General Cemetery

The EA Technical Services advised that an email was received from David Hewitt in regard to an unmarked grave of a WW1 Veteran at the Alice Springs General Cemetery. David had been contacted by the family who were interested in having a headstone installed.

Officers contacted the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) and obtained information about *Unmarked First World War Graves program*:

The Office of Australian War Graves, within DVA, has established a program whereby individuals or associations might apply for funding to assist in marking an unmarked grave (where they meet certain eligibility criteria).

Information about the program can be found on the Department of Veterans' Affairs website: <https://www.dva.gov.au/recognition/events-and-reminders-all-who-served/office-australian-war-graves/program-mark-first-O>

This information, in addition to information about Council's permit process for installing headstones, will be passed on to the family through David Hewitt.

Action:

1. EA Technical Services to respond to David Hewitt and provide information received from OAWG, and information about Council's permit process for the family of the WW1 Veteran.
2. EA Technical Services to circulate information received from OAWG, and information about Council's permit process, to the Committee.

7.2 Alice Springs Garden Cemetery - Opening daily during the holiday period

Mayor Ryan reiterated a request for the Garden Cemetery to be open daily through-out the Christmas Holiday period.

Action:

Manager Works to ensure Garden Cemetery is opened daily during through-out the Christmas Holiday period.

7.3 Lone Pine - Alice Springs Garden Cemetery

Councillor Auricht enquired how the Lone Pine was doing at the Garden Cemetery. The Director Technical Services advised that it would soon be replanted along the avenue to the Anzac Centenary Memorial, and the centrepiece would be replaced with a newer Lone Pine seedling.

The Committee expressed their appreciation to the Cemetery team for their great care of the facility.

7.4 Alice Springs General (Memorial) Cemetery

Councillor Cocking enquired about the maintenance of the facility, and the possibility of installing shade at the Alice Springs General Cemetery. The Director Technical Services advised that while it wasn't possible to install permanent shade, temporary structures were set up for any grave-side services, and that the Cemeteries Team had maintenance works scheduled at the Cemetery prior to Christmas.

Action:

The Director Technical Services took an item on notice in regard to some incomplete concrete works in the babies' section.

8. NEXT MEETING

12noon, Tuesday 2 February 2021

Arunta Meeting Room, Civic Centre - 93 Todd Street

Meeting closed at 12:34 pm.