Leigh on Mendip Parish Council

MEETING Date: ...Monday 20th March 2023.....

Agenda Item: Insert wording to appear on the agenda. Remember to make it clear what you are asking your fellow Councillors to do. "To	Discussion and possible proposals following the excavations to test whether the new burial ground is deep enough for burials
consider" "To note" "To review"	
Background Information: Insert as much information as possible so that councillors have the detail that they need in order to make an informed decisions	The Parish Council purchased a piece of land to be used as an extension to the Burial Ground, planning permission was obtained but due to no burials taking place the process has to be redone.
	During the time period between obtaining planning permission and today the rules and regulations on how Burial Grounds can open have changed.
	A sewage pipe was also installed into the ground so reducing the area available by about 30-40%
	Risk assessments need to be carried out such as Tier 1 Risk Assessment and confirmation of the depth of the ground.
	Sizes of the graves have also increased from 8ft x 4ft to 10ft x 5ft and 5ft also needs to be left between each individual grave.
	As a result of the above the number of graves that can be allocated to the area is now reduced to eight but they can be double graves.
	The current Cemetery has space for about five graves and five plots for burial of ashes.
Costs: Insert detail of any costs associated with the decision that you are asking the council to make	At today's prices the cost of a burial in the new burial ground would be £654.00 • ERB for lease of plot - £84.00 • Cost of Burial - £337.00 • Permission for a memorial - £149 • ERB for Memorial - £84.00
	8 Graves at this price would be £5232, these have only been costed at single graves, when another burial is required, it would be an additional £337.00 but there is no knowing whether the plot will be double or single until required.

Costs incurred so far on the Burial Ground

Grave Digger - £500.00

Tier 1 Risk Assessment - £269.80 but if burials are allowed there would be an extra cost of £625.20 Plans and planning permission – unknown at the moment.

Total Costs £1395 plus planning permission

The Burial Ground would be full again within maybe five years, whereas with burial of Cremations and remembrance plaques the area could be open longer.

Recommendation: The recommendation is for the area to become a Memorial Garden for cremations only with either trees or a small monument where ashes could be scattered and a plaque installed or plots of 18" x 18" for burial of the ashes covered by a small tablet.