MINUTES OF THE RANSKILL AND TORWORTH JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE RANSKILL BOWLS CLUB RANSKILL ON MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2026 AT 7PM

Present: Cllrs D. Simpson, P. Brown, J. Helliwell

Clerk: B. Kinsey

Members of the Public: None

Open Forum for Members of the Public

No members of the public were in attendance.

01/0126 **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs M. Pryce, R. Willis

02/0126 **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th of January 2026**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

03/0126 **Financial Matters**

a. To approve the bank reconciliation and accounts as at 31st December 2025.
The financial year end accounts and bank reconciliation were provided for scrutiny. The balances in the bank accounts as of 31st August were current account £1,234.95, reserve account £4,699.05. The accounts were approved. **Carried**.

b. Review of the accounts to the end of Q3
For the calendar year 2025 there was a higher level of activity with five burials and two cremated ash interments. Expenditure was normal, with one exceptional cost of £785.60 for the periodical memorial safety inspection. For the period as a whole there was a small surplus.

c. To consider a draft budget for 2026-27 financial year.
A draft budget was proposed showing a loss of £193.00. As usual the largest unknown and difficult to forecast is the potential fee income. We have used two burials and two ashes interment for the year. There is an allowance of £500 for maintenance, excluding grass cutting. The budget was approved. **Carried**.

04/0126 **Environment Issues**

The Chair reported that the Land Registry has approved the registration of the land and have been asked to expedite issuing the formal documentation. A copy of a resolution was presented to approve the registration and would need to be agreed and signed by each parish council. A draft will be circulated shortly.

05/0126 **Memorials**

a. A safety inspection is recommended to be conducted every 5 years, the last inspection was in 2020. The inspection was carried out during October, the report and completion letter have been circulated. There were 187 memorials tested, of which 25 are risk category 1 in need of immediate repair and 28 risk category 2, the remainder are considered safe. The Clerk has focused on risk category 1 and has displayed notices on the cemetery gates and the noticeboard asking families where a yellow warning sticker is attached to their memorial to contact the Board. To date seven families have been in touch. It was decided to wait until the summer to review the situation and decide on further action.

06/0126 **Consecration of the Cemetery**
We have not heard anything from the Diocese regarding our request for the type of mapping required. Since the cost is fairly high it was decided to request if the whole cemetery could be consecrated in one ceremony.

07/0126 **Information forwarded to the next meeting**
None.

08/0126 **To agree the date of the next meeting**
Monday 13th April 2026.

Signed as a true record:

Chair