

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham and Frilford Joint Burial Committee held on Monday 8th June, 2026 at 7.00 p.m. in the village hall, Barrow Close, Marcham.

Present: Sheena Bigden, Keely Ewart-Brookes, Mark Harvie, Michael Hoath, Ruth Mander, Andrew Mason, Tanya Rosenfeld, Neil Rowe.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin

1 member of the public

11/ 2026 Owing to the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Michael Hoath took the chair for the commencement of the meeting.

12/2026 Election of Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for a Chairman to hold office until the next annual meeting. It was proposed, seconded, and

RESOLVED: nem con.

that Mr. Murray MacLean be elected Chairman until the next annual meeting of the Committee

13/2026 Election of Vice – Chairman

Owing to the absence of the Chairman, Michael Hoath continued as Chairman, and called for nominations for a Vice- Chairman to hold office until the next annual meeting. It was proposed, seconded, and

RESOLVED: nem con.

that Michael Hoath be elected Vice- Chairman until the next annual meeting of the Committee

14/2026 Michael Hoath continued as Chairman for the duration of the meeting.

He welcomed all to the meeting, particularly Neil Rowe as a newly appointed member by the Parish Council, and to Shaun Forrestal, as a member of the public.

15/2026 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Murray MacLean and Joe Withers.

16/2026 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

17/2026 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March, 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March, 2026 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

18/2026 Matters Arising

Cemetery memorial testing

A question of a date for memorial testing was raised. The clerk had not been advised of the specific date, and would contact the appointed firm.

Cemetery Wall

It was noted that the cemetery wall had been repaired, and there was no further deterioration.

19/2026 Future Burial Area

General discussion took place regarding an area for future burials. All possible options for creating more space within the existing cemetery, extending the cemetery, or a new area elsewhere, would need to be considered. Other topics raised were costings of new land, use of other land in the ownership of the Parish Council, and use of columbaria. The Chairman invited the member of the public to speak. He indicated that Frilford Parish already paid an annual sum to the Joint Burial Committee and asked how the adjacent parish could help. It was thought that to discuss all necessary details during a Burial Committee meeting would not be possible and it was therefore

RESOLVED:

- (i) That a working party comprising parish councillors from Marcham Parish Council – Mark Harvie, Michael Hoath Ruth Mander, together with Neil Rowe from the Parochial Church Council, and Murray MacLean and Shaun Forrestal from Frilford parish be formed.
- (ii) That the terms of reference for the working party be to consider the long-term use and capacity of burial provision, and investigate new possible burial areas.

20/2026 Accounts

The Committee noted that the balance in the cemetery account as at 31st March, 2026 was £49652

21/2026 Quotation for Cemetery tidying

The Committee noted the quotation for cemetery works, and discussed the aspect of strimming long grass areas left uncut on family plots. Checks would be made as to the obligations on the grass cutting contractor as to where he was required to mow and cut.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the quotation in the sum of £2500 from ADM Trees be accepted, to include £240 for strimming overgrown graves.
- (ii) that checks be made as to the obligations for the grass cutting contractor as to whether that firm should strim family plots.
- (iii) that if it is found that there was an obligation to strim family plots, that the sum of £240 be deducted from their next invoice.

22/2026 Matters raised by members
No further matters were raised.

23/2026 Date of next meeting
The next meeting would be held on Monday 14th September 2026 in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 7.40 p.m.

Signed Date.....