

HALLS, CEMETERIES & ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Date: 12th July 2021

Title: Windrush Cemetery – Memorial Gate Request

Contact Officer: Cemeteries, External Contracts & Compliance Officer – Tracy Minns

Background

A request was made at the previous committee for a memorial gate to be installed at the entrance to the ashes path at Windrush Cemetery. The gate is to be in memory of a young woman from Witney. Her family have money donated in her memory and the gate would be funded from this and supplemented through crowd funding if needed.

Committee asked the family to provide details such as a design and a quotation for the work involved and to present at the next Halls, Cemeteries and Allotments Committee.

A plan 'B' was also discussed and this is to install a memorial bench on Oxlease (a location the young woman walked through on her way to work). The exact location would be decided between the family and the Maintenance and Environmental Services officer should this be the preferred option.

Current Situation

The family have submitted a design of the gate along with details of costs. (Attached). Although the cost of the gate exceeds the quotation received the family plan to crowdfund for the difference.

Plan 'B' would be more achievable as the budget currently available would cover the whole cost and provide much needed seating to the wider community. The family would also have the benefit of a second memorial in a different location which would be more accessible to the public.

Environmental impact

To replace a perfectly serviceable gate could be considered not a good use of materials.

Risk

A precedent could be established for further requests.

Financial implications

The Council will not be making a financial contribution.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note this report and

1. Permission for the memorial gate.
2. Permission for the memorial bench.