

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

21 June 2021

Woodlands Cemetery

Keith Rennells and the Parks Ranger met with Rob Sekula, South Hams District Council (SHDC), and have reported the current position:

SHDC have received the contamination report back for Ivybridge cemetery extension. There are no issues – other than they've recommended leaving the easternmost 10m free of burials to satisfy an Environment Agency criteria.

SHDC will now commence the next phase of the ecological work now including all the reptile translocation and fencing.

SHDC are commissioning the Ecological Impact Assessment and might also get the Woodlands site assessed in conjunction with the extension site as a possible area for wildlife to be relocated. This should in theory be what is needed for planning purposes, so SHDC will start looking at the design/layout and aim to get a planning application in before too long.

Reptile capture/translocation season is spring to autumn, so they are looking for quick progress otherwise face a year delay.

SHDC is currently looking for an individual or company who can produce the drawings for planning. They will be working with Keith Rennells from ParkLife SW in coordinating the work in preparing the cemetery extension over the next few years.

It is still the aim to plant the new boundary hedge and carry out tree works next winter - 2021/22.

SHDC require 'a letter of intent' from this Council as to its commitment in managing/maintaining the extension area as part of the existing agreement.

It is therefore **recommended** that this committee requests the Town Clerk sends the letter of intent to SHDC, stating that any agreement will need to be subject to suitable terms for the extension area being agreed and subject to a final resolution of Full Council, as there will be budgetary implications.

Jonathan Parsons - Town Clerk