

SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ABERYSTWYTH

MUNICIPAL

CEMETERY

GREENER ABERYSTWYTH GROUP

(January 2010)

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1. INTRODUCTION

Aberystwyth Town is reasonably well endowed with green spaces, most are in private ownership, some are associated with Institutions such as the University and National Library, a few are under the control of the County Council, while occasionally smaller enclaves are discovered with no known owner. Until quite recently very few of these green areas were being managed for purely environmental or landscape purposes, most were being maintained as flower gardens, lawns, playing fields or small woodlands, with one notable exception - the Plas Crug Avenue of trees which, since it was first established 18?? has been maintained as a municipal open space for the benefit of the townspeople of Aberystwyth.

With the dissolution of Dyfed as a local authority in 199? Ceredigion once again became a County Council, and since that time there has been an ongoing reappraisal of its land holdings in relation to management objectives. This led in due course to the discovery that many Council-owned sites supported features of notable ecological interest which could no longer be ignored as tended to happen in the past, resulting in the designation of two Local Nature Reserves, both in Aberystwyth - (Parc Natur Penglais (the first Man&Biosphere Urban Reserve to be designated in Wales), Pen Dinas a Thanybwich).

In its present state the Cemetery is not of outstanding interest as a wildlife site, but it does support features of historical significance to Aberystwyth town and a diverse flora. It is owned by the County Council and in the foreseeable future will no longer be used as a burial ground. New burials are at present restricted to close family members associated with graves already in existence. As demand drops, further burials will be diverted to Cefnllan (Llanbadarn Fawr), giving the County Council, as owners, greater freedom to manage the site in the best interests of the local community. With sympathetic management and given time there is no reason why the Cemetery should not develop into a valued wildlife asset enhancing the Aberystwyth network of Green Spaces.

In 2008 the County Council asked the Greener Aberystwyth Group for assistance in drafting a site management plan to prepare for the time when the Cemetery would be transformed into a Green Space, to complement the habitat management plan which the Council (Coast & Countryside Section) is producing for all cemeteries in the county as part of the Ceredigion Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

2. SITE DETAILS (see Figure 1)

Name: **Aberystwyth Municipal Cemetery** – also known as The Llanbadarn Road Cemetery (as distinct from the Cefnllan cemetery in Llanbadarn Fawr).

Location: Situated alongside the original turnpike road, now Llanbadarn Road, adjacent to the Vicarage playing fields and Plas Crug Avenue, within walking distance of the town Centre and of the Penparcau residential estates, situated in the Community of Aberystwyth Town.

OS Grid Reference: 'Cemy' Identified on Sheet 153:Aberystwyth at SN (22)591812.

Area: 6.75 acres. The original acquisition in 1860 amounted to 6 acres 5 perches; over the years some ground has been lost to road widening schemes, but in 1930 in the north east sector, further purchases were made to form the cemetery as it is seen today. With no traceable documentary evidence of current ownership the site boundary is taken to include the stone walls fringing the north and northeast sectors including the avenue leading from the main entrance gates, the low stone wall along the south east sector including the line of trees forming part of Plas Crug avenue, and the line of trees on the north west side separating the site from the University playing fields – see Map [insert].

Ownership: Ceredigion County Council; fifteen military graves managed under contract by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

Buildings: Two Chapels of Rest (demolished), Public Convenience (demolished), Entrance Lodge built originally as an office for maintaining burial records, later converted for human occupation (County Sexton). Two works offices & stores (temporary), one small shelter/storage facility alongside main entrance avenue.

Contact address: Group Manager, Property Maintenance & Facilities, Highways Property&Works Department, Ceredigion County Council, Llanbadarn Depot, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3RJ

Access & Rights of Way: Unrestricted pedestrian access open to the public through four points of entry (see figure 1); there are a number of formal/informal footpaths giving access to all parts of the Cemetery. Also, there is unrestricted vehicular access from Llanbadarn Road through the main entrance, but no formal parking arrangements.

Easements: The temporary offices used by the Sexton are serviced by electricity, water (?), Telephone (?).

3. DESCRIPTION

a. Establishment & Social History:

A comprehensive account of the history, establishment and management of the Cemetery is given in Appendix 1a (Aberystwyth Municipal Cemetery: Historical Reference 1857 – Present Day. M.Lloyd-Evans, 2009). The main points of relevance to the management of the site as an Open Space may be summarised as follows: -

1. First opened in 1860; in continuous use as a burial ground for 152 years (p.68).
2. Grave depth varies between 5-9 ft, or deeper if permission were granted (P.77)
3. Exclusive rights of burial granted in perpetuity or for a fixed period for erection of Monuments or gravestones (p.77).

4. Initially the cemetery was zoned to separate Church from Dissenters (non-conformists), each zone being sub- divided into three classes of burial differentiated by a fixed scale of charges for purchasing the exclusive right to bury. A total of 7378 burial spaces were identified, allocated equally between Church and Dissenters (p.73). The Anglican sector was consecrated in June 1873 (p.74)
5. Burials may be unmarked (paupers), or marked by a stone laid horizontally at ground level, by edge curbs with or without a headstone, or by a vertically aligned headstone with or without edge curbs; headstones vary in size from a simple upright stone slab to elaborate crosses or obelisks with or without wrought iron railings. All but a few headstones, footstones or curbstones carry commemorative inscriptions. By 1919 the original cemetery was nearly three quarters full and it became impossible to pre-purchase a grave space (p.78).
6. Aberystwyth cemetery provides a social context reflected in the cemetery landscape (p.80); not all family graves are adjacent, but some may occur as family groups.

With unrecorded graves known to occur on class3 land, the total number of interments in the cemetery is unknown. Records currently held by the County Sexton show 6944 occupied plots (consecrated 2912, unconsecrated 3133, extension 899) assimilating 15035 separate interments (consecrated 7489, unconsecrated 5764, extension 1782).

b. Geology

Natural Outcrops: none

Gravestone rock: There is considerable variation in the materials used for headstones and their origins. Dr Stephen Briggs of C.P.R.W. writes (Appendix 1b). . ' Among the nineteenth-century styles, Corris, Bangor blue and Bethesda purple slates are among the most prevalent memorial materials throughout. Some stone for the more unusual statuary derives from Italian quarries, including Carrara, though other types may also be represented. A good number of the older obelisks and crosses, however, are of the well-known Scottish and Cornish granites.

3.3 Flora

3.3.1 Lichens: The inert composition of the tombstones in Mid-Wales does not usually encourage lichen growth, which prefer calcareous substrates, but at Aberystwyth this is counterbalanced to some degree by the prevailing pollution-free atmosphere in which lichens thrive. As a result a survey undertaken in April 2009 (cf. Appendix 2: Lichens of Llanbadarn Road Cemetery, Aberystwyth S.P.Chambers, 2009) identified 54 lichens growing on various substrata, including siliceous headstones, stones & chippings, marble headstones and tomb surrounds, concrete/calcareous tomb surrounds and on bare ground. Records included five taxa worthy of special note - *Absconditella celata*, Nationally Rare - 6th British record, and *Amandinea lecideina*, *Caloplaca crenulatella*, *Catillaria atomarioides*, *Lecidea swartzioidea*, *Veizdaea leprosa* all Nationally Scarce; locations are shown on the aerial photograph (Appendix 2a)

3.3.2 Fungi: (Penny David) The following species were recorded on a single visit (24.11.09):-
Seven 'Waxcaps' including *Hygrocybe chlorophana*, *Hygrocybe coccinea*, *Hygrocybe pratensis*,
Hygrocybe virginia,

One clavarioid fungus or Fairy Club – fruitbody,

Two groups of pink gills - *Entolomataceae*

3.3.3 Flowering plants (A.O.Chater) The cemetery is remarkably rich in higher plant species with probably the greatest number in any of the c.300 churchyard chapel graveyards and cemeteries in the county with a total to date of 184 different kinds of which 112 are natives, 10 are archaeophytes (i.e. not native but introduced to Britain by man before AD 1500), and 62 are naturalised neophytes (i.e. not native but introduced to Britain since AD 1500) or planted aliens. It must be one of the most species-rich areas in Aberystwyth (see species list, App3).

The grassland at the west end, largely unoccupied by marked graves, is quite herb-rich. The co-dominant grasses are *Festuca rubra*, *Agrostis capillaries*, *Poa trivialis* and *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, while three others, *Holcus lanatus*, *Dactylis glomerata* and *Arrhenatherum elatius* are locally abundant. Locally abundant broad-leaved herbs include *Conopodium majus*, *Stellaria graminea*, *Leucanthemum vulgare* and *Trifolium pratense*. *Luzula campestris* is frequent, and *Centaurea nigra*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Lotus uliginosus*, *Veronica chamaedrys*, *Cerastium fontanum* and *Ranunculus acris* are occasional.

The varied mowing regimes in other areas, along the pathways, between the graves and in areas of lawn make for great variation in the plants present, and the graves themselves, with varied coverings of gravel, soil and turf, with varying amounts of cutting, weed killing and weeding also make for fascinating variations in plant cover. Especially interesting and attractive features include the various hybrids and back-crosses of Toadflax species *Linaria repens* and *L. purpurea*, varying in colour from pale pink to deep purple; the variety of Willow-herbs, *Epilobium*; masses of the cones of Horsetail, *Equisetum arvense*, in April on many of the graves; colonies of Oxeye Daisies, *Leucanthemum vulgare*; Keel-fruited Cornsalad, *Valerianella carinata*, abundant on and around many graves and increasing throughout the Aberystwyth area; and the delicate Rat's-tail Fescue, *Vulpia bromoides*, a railway alien recently spread here (cf. Appendix 4 for a species list of Higher Plants)

The walls have a number of ferns, notably the Rustyback, *Ceterach officinarum*, Wall rue, *Asplenium ruta-muraria*, and Maidenhair Spleenwort *A. trichomanes*.

3.3.4 Trees: Large trees occur alongside Plas-crug include Corsican Pines, Evergreen Oaks and Hollies, and elsewhere; chiefly along the entrance drive, there are also Yews, Portuguese Laurels, Cherry Laurels, and Wych Elms.

3.4 Fauna

3.4.1 Invertebrates

Casual observations indicate a poor invertebrate fauna, with relatively few species, low in number, with only two individuals of one grasshopper species (*Chorthippus vulgare*) found in August, along with two woodlice – *Oniscus asellus*, *Armadillidium vulgare*.

Butterflies are known to occur; five species were recorded on occasions in summer 2009 – Common Blue, Speckled Wood, Small White, Large White, Painted Lady and Meadow Brown. Moths were sampled in 2008/2009 using a mains light trap (MV 125w) over nine trap/nights sited near the Sexton's office; gravestones in the vicinity were also examined in daylight for resting moths. 170 individual moths, of 44 species were identified, all typical of moths found in the Aberystwyth district (see Appendix 4). Larvae of the Mullein moth, *Shargacucullia verbasci*, a noteworthy species, were recorded (2008 & 2009) feeding on virtually all the Verbascum plants growing in the cemetery.

Flowering plants, when left uncut, attract foraging Bumblebees (*Bombus terrestris*, *Bombus pratorum*). Nesting bumblebees have been recorded among the gravestones.

3.4.2 Vertebrates:

Reptiles & amphibians: Slow Worm and Common lizard were reported present in 2008/09

Birds: Suitable on-site nesting habitat is scarce; pairs breeding on adjacent land (Avenue, playing fields, gardens) use the cemetery as an important food source; berries in autumn (yew, holly) attract both resident and migrant species for limited periods. Records collected in 2009 include Song Thrush and Mistle Thrush (with young), Blackbird, Goldfinch, Chaffinch, Carrion Crow, Dunnock, Jackdaw, Wood Pigeon and Greenfinch.

Bats: unidentified bats known to be present

Small Mammals: known to be present.

3.5 Public Interest

There is little to interest the casual visitor, but relatives bringing flowers and tending to graves are in constant attendance. Individuals researching family histories must also spend time in the cemetery, including in 2008 a group from Malaya wanting to view the last resting place of the first Bishop of the Strait Settlements. The impending change of use is attracting local interest, and the possible removal or displacement of graves and headstones is giving rise to concern among local and national organisations (Ceredigion Historical Society, Aberystwyth Civic Society, Council for the Protection of Rural Wales, Welsh Historic Gardens Trust).

Pedestrians use the main footpath as a short-cut linking Llanbadarn Road and Plas Crug; parents collecting children from the two primary schools alongside Plas Crug also use the cemetery as a short-cut and may park vehicles unofficially for short periods along the entrance avenue.

There is an increasing level of anti-social behaviour, particularly at night and at weekends during the summer; vagrants sometimes remain overnight; damage to property and gravestones may occasionally be inflicted.

4. Evaluation

4.1 Social History: The cemetery supports a wealth of interest to the social historian. Jenifer White of English Heritage has drawn attention to the special nature of cemeteries and of their importance in the local and national context, and to the need to ensure that they are managed as an entity and with sensitivity (Monumental Problems? Conservation Bulletin Issue 61 Summer 2009). She describes how memorials can be '...very personal commemorations [representing] a biography of the community through the decades [reflecting] changing ideas... many are of... historic importance for their architectural or artistic interest, or for the person they commemorate.' White also refers to their social and aesthetic values. All these arguments can be applied to a greater or lesser degree to Aberystwyth cemetery. It is unfortunate that the siting of new graves in recent years has lacked cohesion, having been undertaken with little attention given to forward planning, resulting in rows of graves arranged in contiguous order along the length of former grass-covered access routes, thus interfering and often impeding access to earlier graves. Nevertheless, the original strategy for developing what would have been an open field with scrub into a formal burial ground is still apparent. The graves in each of the designated areas separating the religious denominations, and the social classes within these areas (based on affordability) give a valuable insight into the social hierarchy of the townspeople in the late 19th and early 20th Century, as also does the wide variety in size, architecture and composition of the memorials. Being able to see and appreciate the layout of these designations, notably in the older sections of the cemetery, is of particular interest and worthy of preservation.

Caroline Palmer, Welsh Historic Gardens Trust, in approaching the County Council and CADW to have the site appropriately graded in the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historical Interest considers the cemetery to be '... a particularly fine example of its kind, and a very intimate part of Aberystwyth's Victorian heritage...[being]...of substantial local if not national interest'. Features considered to be of particular note include the involvement of James Dickson of Chester in the original lay-out, the entrance gates, the grave zonations with associated memorial stones displaying many fine examples of the stonemason's craft, and the trees (Plas Crug, Entrance Avenue) – cf. appendix 1b.

Dr Stephen Briggs, Council for the Protection of Rural Wales, refers to the cemetery as 'a most unusual communal historic monument.' – cf. appendix 1c

4.2 Wildlife: The cemetery has traditionally been managed as a municipal garden, with closely cropped lawns, a few flower beds and shrubs, and scattered trees; herbicides are applied in the vicinity of graves but elsewhere the use of artificial chemicals has been minimal,

giving rise to a remarkably diverse flora resulting in one of the richest sites for higher plants in Aberystwyth town (2.3.2,above). The lichen flora is also worthy of special note with one Nationally Rare, and four Nationally Scarce species (2.3.1, above) and there is one locally uncommon moth (2.4.1). The avenue of trees at the entrance, and the mature Corsican pines marking the boundary with Plas Crug Avenue add interest and are valued as an amenity by local resident and visitors.

1. Vision Statement

In many ways the Cemetery is already a Green Space, open to the public. Over the years the area has been kept virtually free of constructional development, visitors have been granted unimpeded access, and only minimal pedestrian facilities have been provided, so it is not difficult to envisage the emergence in due course of an attractive, essentially green Open Space, not insignificant in size, albeit somewhat confined by surrounding trees but nevertheless having a peaceful ambience overlooking the adjacent University playing fields. Graves and headstones will continue to dominate the greater part of the site, interspersed by native wild flower meadows, lawns and scattered trees, which will further enhance the wildlife value of the site. Mown grass-covered footpaths will offer access to families visiting graves and to other visitors wanting to walk and rest among a rich assemblage of wild flowers. The closed- canopy tree-lined entrance avenue will continue to provide the visitor with an appropriate introduction to an area of hallowed ground, which will continue to be held in very high esteem by the citizens of the town.

6. Management Objectives

In theory conversion to an Open Space would appear to be relatively straightforward, but there are practical difficulties stemming almost entirely from the unsafe condition of some graves and headstones, and with some 7,000 known burial plots there is no simple solution. Before contemplating any change of use the cemetery has to be made safe for visitors; some graves are in a hazardous condition and need to be secured, re-enforced, repaired or re-aligned. Concurrently, new mowing regimes need to be selectively introduced to areas of open grassland to enhance diversity while cutting back on maintenance costs; trees may need to be replaced. With such a high level of personal and continuing attachment to graves by bereaved families, establishing and maintaining good relations with the local community is a high priority. It is expected that the management systems introduced as part of this plan will in due course be incorporated into the annual work programme for the site.

OBJECTIVE 1: TO MAKE THE SITE SAFE FOR VISITORS

As owners the Council issues a deed of exclusive rights for all new burials, enabling plots to be purchased and memorials installed; it is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure that memorials are kept in a satisfactory state of repair. Rights of burial are granted for a defined period, which is currently under review; in the past this period has varied between 50 years

(recent burials) and 100 years (older burials). When relatives cease taking an active interest, graves become neglected and fall into disrepair; headstones, often substantial pieces of stoneware, become unstable presenting a danger to visitors thus invoking Health&Safety considerations. After the expiry of the deed of burial, ownership and the associated liabilities revert to the Council which is then in a position to address grave safety. Graves can be moved to other locations, as has been done in other Cemeteries, thus creating an open space for alternative use while at the same time meeting Health & safety obligations at relatively low cost. But this does mean that while all memorial inscriptions would be preserved, the location, distribution, and dispersion of graves and grave classes – factors of considerable historical significance - would be lost. See 4.4.1 above

Council policy for managing graves is sensitive to the views and personal feelings of bereaved relatives; graves being regularly visited and maintained after the expiry of the deed of burial are still considered to be sacrosanct. Not surprisingly the latest burials receive the greatest attention, usually in the form of fresh flowers, weeding, refurbished inscriptions, or renovated stonework. In the early years, particularly in Class 3 zones, the latest interment was often the first and only burial whereas in Class 1 and class 2 zones burial plots were often purchased for on-going family use so later interments would be a new burial in an existing grave. The following analysis of Cemetery records shows clearly that all parts of the cemetery are in continuing use, and even in the last 30 years there have been almost 700 interments in the older section of the Cemetery in all three burial classes.

	CHURCH			DISSENTERS			Total
	1	2	3	1	2	3	
1909-1928	191	133	156	195	222	43	940
1929-1948	172	101	77	77	254	34	715
1949-1958	211	96	47	114	240	64	772
1959-1978	139	79	147	91	159	203	818
1979-2008	73	43	82	41	139	319	697

Fig 1. Date of latest interments – data supplied by M.Lloyd-Evans, 2009

Casual observation over the Easter weekend (2009) confirms these figures, when it became apparent that some graves in all parts of the Cemetery were being actively tended and maintained. One of the latest interments (July 2009) reopened a family grave (Dissenter, Class2) first established 60 years earlier (1945).

Thus clearing headstones on an area basis would inevitably affect grieving families, at least for the foreseeable future, and for this reason alone it is doubtful if such a proposal could be implemented in practice. In some situations, even the selective removal of individual headstones would seriously interfere with adjacent graves since over large sections of the Cemetery graves are contiguously arranged. The condition of the headstones in some areas has

now deteriorated to such an extent that remedial action is needed as a matter of urgency. Waiting until the cemetery ceases to function as an active burial ground is not considered to be a viable proposition. Possible courses of action for graves in need of repair are:

1. Re-erect/repair stones in situ to restore to the original condition: the preferred option for leaning or loose headstones, footstones and inscribed curbs which need relatively little attention and could be made safe with minimum effort at relatively low cost.
2. Realign stones into a horizontal plane: a possible option for large headstones, for fractured stones and for stones needing specialist repair equipment. Relocating to other parts of the cemetery would be difficult, cumbersome and costly; inevitably, having to remove stones across adjacent graves of more recent origin in a good state of repair would increase the chances of causing lasting damage.
3. Replace with a layer of turf: a few isolated graves with no headstone and no inscription may have loose curbstones marking the grave extremities, which could be removed without loss.

All graves, and trees, should be inspected regularly; a risk assessment should be undertaken and if necessary implemented to ensure public safety.

OBJECTIVE 2: TO ENCOURAGE WILDLIFE

Grassland Areas of mown grass exist in a number of locations, reportedly masking unmarked graves probably of great age. There are also many inscribed headstones scattered randomly throughout these grasslands, an unknown number being laid horizontally, some covered by sward, others visible and legible. Scattered headstones also occur as isolated memorials, giving an attractive, informal appearance to the grassland habitat. By adopting a strict management regime, whereby grass-cutting on most areas is delayed until mid-late July and all mown grass is removed, the existing sward will gradually develop naturally into a herb-rich meadow supporting a variety of grasses and wild flowers. Development should be monitored annually; invasive species should be controlled; a suitable seeds mixture should be introduced to any under-developed areas. A series of carefully aligned mown footpaths, one metre wide, would allow access through areas of taller vegetation for public appreciation; grass verges, 1 metre in width, bordering tarmac footpaths should also be regularly mown.

Woodland: The line of trees fringing southern boundary (part of the Plas Crug Avenue) and the western boundary overlooking the University Sportsfield, lie within the boundary of the Cemetery. These two lines of trees add ecological diversity and should be maintained as a woodland strip.

The avenue of trees inside the main entrance gates should also be retained and managed to perpetuate its present form as an arboreal archway. This avenue provides the visitor with an impressive introduction to the cemetery, in keeping with the magnificent grandeur of the recently restored Victorian cast iron entrance gates.

Graves: The grave habitat (headstones, surrounds, surface chippings) dominates the cemetery, occupying some 75 % of available space; it offers a distinctive niche for a variety of specialist plants being one of the main reasons why the site is considered to be the most diverse site in Aberystwyth, and the richest graveyard in terms of plant species diversity in Ceredigion. Slow worm, lizard, woodlice, grasshopper, and bumblebee are all also closely associated with, and dependent upon, this grave habitat; many other invertebrates are probably also present, but have still to be recorded.

OBJECTIVE 3: TO INVOLVE THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Many local residents continue to have a close personal interest in many of the graves, and so any on-site management having a direct bearing on these interests will inevitably be very closely monitored. Thus, it is in the interests of both the Council and the local residents to maintain a close regular liaison to exchange information and to discuss management proposals. This could be achieved in many ways, both formal and informal, most conveniently by convening an Advisory Group comprising representatives of the Council, Local History Forum, , Aberystwyth Town Council, Llanbadarn Community Council and the Greener Aberystwyth Group.

OBJECTIVE 4: TO MAINTAIN THE ESTATE FABRIC

Buildings, graves, walls, paths, gates, fences, water/electricity supplies, and designated parking areas will be regularly maintained in a good state of repair in accordance with existing Council practices.

7. Prescription

For management purposes the site is divided into seven compartments, comprising graves, grassland and trees – [see insert aerial photograph with overlay].

Objective 1: To make the site safe for visitors

Survey:

Undertake Risk Assessment of all graves (headstones, footstones & curbs) and determine cost of repair. Examine records to establish location and distribution of recent burials.

Management:

Identify and isolate all graves likely to endanger the welfare of visitors
Mark and repair unsafe graves

Administration:

Establish contact with plot owners, and maintain a database of names & contact details.
Negotiate rights for toilet use with Gorwelion and/or the Aberystwyth Leisure Centre.

Objective 2: To encourage wildlife

Survey:

List grassland species and monitor development.
Survey trees to determine age, species distribution, risk.
Monitor roosting and feeding bats, annually.
Monitor breeding birds, annually.
Survey invertebrates, reptiles and mammals.

Habitat Management Grassland:

Compartment 1: Cut grass and remove mowings annually in mid-late July; where necessary, scarify approved seeds mixture into areas of bare soil. Maintain inscribed horizontally aligned headstones. Introduce individual trees to add variety. Assess demand for access, cut and maintain footpaths (1 metre in width) accordingly; remove mown grass.

Compartment 2: as for Compartment 1

Compartment 3: as for Compartment 1

Habitat Management Trees

Compartment 4: Any trees found to be unsafe should be selectively felled and replaced as necessary in order to retain sustained woodland cover. Plant specimen trees in selected areas.

Compartment 5: as for Compartment 4.

Compartment 6: Maintain closed-canopy avenue.

Habitat Management graves

Compartment 7: Manage on a ten-year cycle. To maintain floristic diversity control weedy growth on unattended graves; when necessary use acceptable chemical sprays (Glyphosate - Roundup) sparingly.

Species Management:

Reptiles: Establish hibernacula (earth/stone banks, compost heaps).

Moth: Encourage spread of *Verbascum*.

Bats: Erect and maintain roosting boxes, monitor annually.

Birds: Erect and maintain breeding boxes, monitor annually.

Objective 3. To foster relations with the local community:

Convene Site Management Advisory Group to include CC Properties & CC Countryside Section, GAG, Local Historical Societies, Town Council, Community Council

Provide Information: Re-organise arrangements for receiving visitors; provide and display essential information centrally. Re-design and annotate a large-scale map showing main features of interest, including designated car-parking areas, rubbish collection points etc. Draft leaflet describing main features for general circulation.

Objective 4. To maintain Estate

Control vehicular access: Close main gates during hours of darkness

Monitor access: Overnight use of the Cemetery should be monitored and brought under control. Establish routine patrols; maintain a close liaison with Dyfed-Powys Police.

8. Work Programme

Implement Prescription in accordance with County Council priorities

