

# Rectory Lane Cemetery - Masterplan Proposals

Rectory Lane Cemetery is a historic 'detached' church cemetery founded in 1842.

## Proposals to the Historic cemetery seek to:

- Conserve and enhance Heritage Value, through repair, restoration, reconstruction and enhancement of historic features in the cemetery (including, memorials, walls, pliers, gates and buildings).
- Respect the historic layout and enhance this through surfaced footpaths, and opening up of historic entrances and views.
- Improve accessibility around the cemetery through provision of a variety of well designed steps, and surfaced ramps. Provision of car parking for blue-badge holders of Rectory Lane.
- Open up views out of the site (tree removal) and provide seating and a Garden of Remembrance with open views to Berkhamshead and the countryside beyond.
- Open up the cemetery to memorial services and interment of cremated remains
- Provide necessary infrastructure in the cemetery to accommodate and promote temporary events.
- Renew bins and benches and provide interpretation through a variety of media.

## 1. Rectory Lane Cemetery, Welcome and Parking

Restoration and repair to gate pillars and gates new surfacing, storage sheds and parking for bluebadge holders.

Storage Shed: Symptomatically coated with existing paving and to avoid adverse impact on existing trees and root protection areas  
To: Berkhamshead High Street

## 2. The (Old) Rectory and Cowper's Well

Opening up of historic link from the (Old) Rectory to the Cemetery

Re-opened entrance (old steps and ramp) to Rectory Lane and Cowper's Well

Cowper's Well (and located in Lobby Scheme)

Area of grass reinforcement for accessible short term parking. Blue-badge holders only.

## 3. 1842 Foundation Stone and Inscription

Cleaning of Commemorative Stone and Inscription. Planting, seating, surfaced footpaths and steps enhance setting and views.

Memorial Arch to 1900 and Seat of Remembrance (erected 1934)

Area of grass reinforcement for temporary reliefment. Mowk and seating

## 10. Health and Nature

Area managed for biodiversity and well-being

Boundary Walls repaired Cowper's Well restored to original condition with replacement of the well

Replacement stone steps and new footpaths

New Seat with Views Through Private Arch

New Irish Yew Trees to accentuate Memorial Arch and Seat of Remembrance

## 5. Activity and Events Area

Promotion of events, demountable water proof canopy. Using historical or glass hard standing as viewing areas.

Boundary Wall and miling repairs

## 6. Historic Cemetery Boundary, 1842

Improved setting, restoration, enhancement and cleaning of Memorial Arch. Surfacing to seating paths. Interpretation of historic entrance (steps) to Highfield House (now Three Cross Lane). Management of existing Irish Yew trees and planting new trees to strengthen the screen and ensure succession.

Future excavation to repair of historic cemetery entrance including removal and reposition of the Old Governor (not located in Lobby Phase)

## 7. Contemplation and Remembrance Garden

New Remembrance Garden (Memorial Wall, War Memorial, Planting and seating with views out of the cemetery)

## 8. Interpretation, Welcome and Drop off

Access to the Cemetery from Three Cross Lane. Restoration works to existing gates, with new surfacing, welcome and information board

St. War Memorial

Main Entrance, Welcome / Information signage and information

## 9. Sexton's Hut Memorial Shrine

Restoration of Sextone Hut for use during memorial services.

New Private seating to be located on new variable length of existing stone footpaths

Seaf Sculpture Carved from on site timber

Existing Dutch vegetation retained in situ

Replacement stone steps and new footpaths

Cluster of infert Grasses

New Tree Planting to cover Falls from Cemetery

Tree Removal and Management in Upper Cemetery to be carried out in accordance with recommendations contained in arboriculture survey



### KEY

- Proposed Zones (See reference numbers)
- Rectory Lane Cemetery, Welcome and Parking
  - The (Old) Rectory and Cowper's Well
  - 1842 Foundation Stone and Inscription
  - Seating/ Picnic Area with cluster of architecturally significant memorials
  - Activity and Events Area
  - Historic Cemetery Boundary, 1842
  - Contemplation and Remembrance Garden
  - Interpretation, Welcome and Drop off
  - Sexton's Hut Memorial Shrine
  - Health and Nature

- Existing Views and Vistas
- Potential Views and Vistas
- Key Zones
- Existing
- Existing Trees (coniferous)
  - Existing Trees (broadleaf)
  - Boundary Walls and Railings (Repaired)
  - Memorials and Headstones
  - Grave depressions
  - Contours (1m intervals)

- Proposals
- Natural Stone Paving
  - Paving Trims and Walls and Steps
  - Location of new Benches (design subject to competition)
  - Bound Gravel Footpaths
  - Grass Reinforcement for Accessible
  - Parking and temporary cafe/look
  - Mown Grass Paths

- Location for Architectural Lighting
- Location for Water/ Electric hook up
- Railing and Gates
- Trees to be removed (subject to tree survey)
- New Tree Planting (indicative locations shown)
- Ornamental Planting
- Wildflower/ Meadow



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