

Embleton Joint Burial Committee

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/embleton>

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | clerk@embletonparishcouncil.gov.uk | 07455 004164

**Minutes of the Meeting of Embleton Joint Burial Committee held on Monday 23rd February 2026,
6:00pm at the Ladies Room, Creighton Hall, Embleton**

Present:

Councillors: Terry Howells (chair), Ann Fettis, Derek Gerrard, Karen Greenhoff, Derek Moss,
John Roper

Clerk Sarah Trushell

Members of the Public: 7

37/25 Apologies for Absence No apologies received. It was noted that Cllr D. Cooper is no longer a member of the Committee following his resignation from Embleton Parish Council.

38/25 Declaration of Interests. No declarations of interest were made.

39/25 Minutes of Last Meetings
The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2025 were deferred as members had not had an opportunity to review them.

40/25 Matters Arising from the Minutes
There were no matters arising that were not already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

41/25 Gateway Cottage
a) Update on any matters for maintenance / repairs
There were no new maintenance matters reported.
b) Correspondence and questions from constituent councils
The Chair summarised the questions received from constituent councils and the responses issued on behalf of the Committee.
Members discussed the current management arrangements for Gateway Cottage. It was agreed that Bernicia should be asked to continue pursuing the outstanding rent from the previous tenancy and to review the management arrangements.
The Clerk was asked to confirm whether a fully signed copy of the management agreement exists and to request an update from Bernicia regarding the six-month tenancy review.
Members agreed to review any restrictions relating to grants previously received for the property and to seek further information regarding insurance arrangements and rental valuation.
Alternative management options will be explored, with potential managing agents to be contacted for information on the services they could provide.

Cemetery Maintenance

a) Grounds condition and works required

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Members discussed the current maintenance costs of the cemetery grounds and whether these could be reduced.

The Clerk was asked to circulate the cemetery plan showing the remaining burial capacity. Approximately sixty plots remain available, although this may vary due to spacing requirements. The west side of the cemetery has not yet been fully plotted and will be assessed.

Members discussed whether volunteers could assist with some grounds maintenance and the implications for insurance and supervision. The cost of removing green waste was also noted.

Members also agreed that improvements should be made to the area used for the scattering of ashes and that examples of how other cemeteries manage this should be reviewed.

The possibility of holding an open day to encourage community involvement and promote the availability of burial plots was also suggested.

42/25 Financial Report

a) Bank Balance The current bank balance of £4,258.96 was noted

b) Transactions Report The transactions report was received and duly acknowledged

c) Payments to Approve The schedule of payments were approved:

* Clerk Wages REDACTED

43/25 Items for Information or Future Agenda

Management arrangements for Gateway Cottage and cemetery maintenance were noted for continued discussion at the next meeting.

44/25 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that meetings should move to a monthly schedule for the time being. The next meeting will take place on Friday 27 March 2026.