

# ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

<b>Report to</b>	<i>Environment and Amenities Committee</i>
<b>Meeting date</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
<b>Report author</b>	Tim Badcock
<b>Agenda item</b>	8

## New Cemetery

### 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To update the committee on progress and obtain approval for next stage.

### 2. Summary

2.1 The councils contracted surveyor has supplied indicative quotes for the next stages of the project as requested.

### 3. Action required and recommendations

3.1 Members are requested to consider this report and instruct officers.

3.2 It is recommended that officers instruct CDS to carry out the tasks detailed in the attached fee proposal.

3.3 Members are requested to approve expenditure of £8280 from the new cemetery budget 203/4633.

### 4. Link to strategic plan and objectives

4.1 KO3: to manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.

4.2 KO1: to respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency.

### 5. Background

5.1 At the September meeting of this committee it was requested that CDS be instructed to –

1. Determine whether a positive view might be forthcoming from the Vale of White Horse District Council's Planning Department;

2. If positive, check there are no restrictive covenants on the land;

3. If positive, determine the willingness of the landowner to dispose of the site at a reasonable price, subject to a groundwater survey giving positive results
4. If positive, provide the Council with indicative costs of carrying out a groundwater survey at the site.

6. **Key information and options**

- 6.1 CDS have provided the attached fee proposal
- 6.2 Groundwater risk assessments would cost between £5,000 to £7,500 exc. VAT per site for which it will only be necessary to carry out once a preferred sites suitability is confirmed.

7. **Climate change/green implications**

- 7.1 A new cemetery will secure land as greenspace within the town. Proposed short term uses prior to it's intended use as a cemetery could promote carbon capture and climate friendly activities.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

- 8.1 203/4633 has funds to cover this stage of the project.

9. **HR implications**

- 9.1 No substantial additional HR implications from this report

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

CDS proposal.