

# **FIVE YEAR SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Rotherham Crematorium and Municipal Cemeteries

2022-2027

## Overview

Dignity Plc and sub-contractors Glendale are committed to their working relationship with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and continue to collaborate in order to develop the service, and to bring the best possible outcomes to the community of Rotherham through our Crematorium and Cemeteries.

The five-year service development plan has been developed to demonstrate collective commitment to ongoing projects, future projects, and overall grounds maintenance.

The performance and maintenance of this plan will be managed through monthly meetings and reviewed by RMBC. Considerations will be given to the current progress of the proposed developments, and the plan will be updated and amended where required. The detailed plan for the current year's developments will be discussed during the monthly performance meetings with the plan being refreshed and submitted annually. This will be presented at the Improving Places Select Committee each year as part of the annual Bereavement Services update.

# Plan key





The key below indicates the extent of progress of the respective projects over the 5-year period.

New projects have been added as the current ones have been achieved. Some areas have been carried forward as priorities change or as competing demands are introduced.

	Future Projects 2025-2027
	In-year projects 2024-25
	Previous projects 2022-2025
✓	Completed projects
✗	Projects which have not been achieved – these have either been carried forward or are no-longer relevant

Future Service Improvements 2025-2027 (All sites)	✓ / ✗
<p><b>Green Recycling and Biodiversity All Sites</b></p> <p>A Biodiversity and Sustainability Policy has been produced by Dignity this year, in-line with national requirements and Green Flag renewal expectations for East Herringthorpe. The implementation of this policy will commence in 2026. The focus will be on reducing plastics on site and improving green recycling and composting options where possible.</p>	
<p><b>Heritage activities and preservation</b></p> <p>All cemetery sites hold significant historical detail which is of great interest to the local community dependant on their specific interest. Working with local historians, Friends Groups and local schools, Dignity and Glendale ensure the safety and preservation of memorial for the future. Research and community engagement will be an on-going project throughout the duration of the contract to maintain and enhance the interest. Dignity and Glendale have commenced work with local schools by supporting projects which will hopefully commence a life-long engagement with the local cemetery offering interest, support and commitment to preservation by future generations.</p>	
<p><b>Open events</b></p> <p>Dignity continues to ensure that the community is supported in their bereavement journey by hosting a number of events throughout the year to support, with memorial events which enable the celebration of life or just reflection if needed.</p> <p>Diary Planner for 2025-2026 – Remembrance Day celebration (11.11.25), Christmas Memorial Service (04.12.25), Chapel Memorial/Reflection time (21.12.25). To be arranged are Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter event and Grounds Opening events. In addition, all specific national day memorial events will be recognised – a recent memorial process for Baby Loss Awareness Week was very well received.</p> <p>In addition, Dignity will be repeating the Open Day event in 2026 which was extremely well received this year. This gives the opportunity for the community to observe 'back-of-house' in the crematorium. The feedback received from this year's visitors stated the sense of comfort it had given to bereaved knowing the process.</p>	
<p><b>Partnership with other agencies (support networks)</b></p> <p>Dignity have developed several links with local schools, hospitals, local GP, agencies within The Council and charity agencies to ensure knowledge, engagement and communication. This will continue to increase the support and availability to all during and beyond the bereavement process. Dignity will give particular focus this year on further supporting young people who have suffered loss. Links with local schools has commenced this process and has include support from Glendale to assist with up-keep of memorial areas within a local school for a pupil who died.</p>	
<p><b>Drainage Surveys All Sites</b></p> <p>CCTV drainage surveys to be undertaken in all cemeteries to assess the condition of existing drainage and complete any remedial work required. The drainage surveys will be included in the Asset Management Plan going forward.</p>	
<p><b>Asset Management Plan</b></p> <p>Dignity have submitted a drat Asset Management Plan for consideration. All future requirements will be undertaken in-line with the contract requirements and definition of The Council Asset Management Team.</p>	

<p><b>Produce a strategic plan for burial capacity to the end of the contract term</b></p> <p>Dignity have produced a strategic 35-year plan for future burial provision. The plan is designed to give insight into future burial capacity for the borough. It provides an understanding of the needs and challenges which The Council may need to consider continuing providing burial provisions for future generations. The report explains the potential to expand within existing cemetery boundaries, but it also highlights the needs to investigate new developments for certain local areas within the borough. Dignity will continue to work alongside the cemetery wardens and Glendale to establish burial capacity within each site. A revised operational plan has been submitted, which details the burial space available with particular focus on, East Herringthorpe, Maltby and Wath. Continuous improvement in recording of data to give more accurate risk ratings will include re-opened burials and pre-paid plot status.</p>	
<p><b>Customer experience</b></p> <p>Work is taking place on all sites to enhance the customer experience and re-act to the changing requirement of both users and occasional visitors. Feedback cards (including a QR code survey link) are provided to all users of the serviced along with annual surveys to Funeral Directors. This information will dictate future development and provide evidence for service improvement direction and current journey success.</p> <p>Initiatives commenced included partnerships with Dementia services at Rotherham Hospital to assess how friendly sites are, Alzheimer's Society, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, local schools and care homes in addition to the existing Friends of Groups.</p> <p>Facebook page is active weekly and 2026 should see the introduction of an Instagram account to enhance engagement.</p>	
<p><b>Letters to Heaven Post-box roll-out</b></p> <p>The roll-out of the Letter to Heaven post boxes has commenced with installation being completed at East Herringthorpe and Greasbrough Lane Cemeteries, evidence shows they are in regular use (amount of mail). The process for the mail received is to compost and return to the earth to support the growth of flowers in the respective cemeteries.</p>	

In Year Service Improvements 2024-2025 (All Sites)	✓ / ✗
<p><b>Provision of Natural Burial options</b></p> <p>Significant work has been achieved on this project in 2025 which resulted in the Natural Burial Area being opened for burials in August 2025. The area is within the East Herringthorpe Cemetery and is a section which has not been maintained for 30 years making the prospect for interested users as natural as possible. The area has been cleared of brambles; a natural bark path put in place along with a Sundial to maintain the Sundown naming theme. The area offers beautiful sunsets and sunrises over the fields, along with a variety of animal and insect habitats. The burial plots extend along the boundary of cemetery towards the beehives. The boundary fence will gradually become a logged feature which will be formed from the trees which have had to be removed from the cemeteries. Wildflower growth will be nurtured in this area. The markers have been identified from Peak stone to ensure there is minimal footprint.</p> <div data-bbox="203 475 1912 932">     </div>	✓
<p><b>Drainage Surveys All Sites</b></p> <p>CCTV drainage surveys to be undertaken in all cemeteries to assess the condition of existing drainage. This is an annual requirement.</p>	Partial
<p><b>Dignity's contractual Asset responsibilities</b></p> <p>Dignity have continued to manage the Assets within sites and provide updates to the Council on activities through the Performance Management Framework. The progress is monitored as part of the monthly Council performance meetings. Dignity have provided documentations on boundaries, benches and other facilities conditions within cemeteries throughout the year.</p>	✓
<p><b>Customer Information</b></p> <p>The Council website includes all information regarding cemetery and crematorium opening times, directions and general information to ensure visitors are supported in their enquiry should they not be aware the facilities are not Council managed. Dignity will maintain the CMG website, ensuring all changes are made in a timely manner. Facebook has been employed successfully for over a year to ensure immediate engagement with customers if work is taking place or there is a concern in a particular cemetery – this is enhanced in effectiveness by the monitoring of Friends webpages to enable re-action to immediate concerns. For non-Facebook users the noticeboards are updated weekly.</p>	✓



### **Community Engagement**

Dignity has continued to strengthen its relationships with local schools and community groups through a variety of initiatives. Over the past months, teams have been working with schools and residents to take part in spring planting projects and support the development of the children's memorial area at Rotherham Crematorium, providing a meaningful space created in collaboration with local pupils. Work was also carried out in Herringthorpe Junior School, to work on improving their outdoor garden space, where the children can continue to plant flowers and vegetables.



<p><b><u>Adequate performance management of sub-contractor using KPI's specified within the Facilities Management Agreement implemented by Dignity for Sub-Contractors Glendale.</u></b></p> <p>Management meetings take place weekly to ensure operational requirements are clear, with formal meetings take place with Glendale monthly which are pre and post Council Performance meeting. A recent addition has been meetings with the direct moving to monthly to ensure a clear understand of standards and expectations along with sharing ideas and solutions, discussing performance framework and updating the 5-year plan. Dignity have also worked to improve the cemetery site weekly inspection log, which is sent to Glendale every Monday/Tuesday detailing expected outcomes and the performance monitored weekly.</p>	✓
<p><b><u>Restoration of and re-drafting of cemetery plans in line with agreed proposals.</u></b></p> <p>This target was completed in October 2024.</p>	✓
<p><b><u>Ongoing Involvement with local Cemetery Friends Groups</u></b></p> <p>Dignity will continue meetings on a monthly/bimonthly basis and have become more actively involved with the groups. Dignity supports all the friends' groups where needed. Dignity will aim to provide support in clean up events, examples being litter picking and grave clearance as well as community events. Dignity have continued plans to be proactively involved and engaged with local friends' groups.</p> <p>A calendar of all meetings and other locally booked events will be sent to The Council monthly. This will demonstrate Dignity's keen desire to work with the community. Any requests or feedback will be reported to The Council to monitor the working partnership. Glendale will continue to hold a seat at those meetings, which demonstrates a unified approach. This allows transparency and honest conversations to take place within the community.</p> <p>Below is a small snapshot of examples of collaborative projects undertaken in 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dignity supported and attended the two events commemorating the 100th anniversary of the miner's disaster at Maltby, in partnership with the local friends group.</li> <li>• A new blue plaque was unveiled by John Healey MP for the late Sir Charles John Stoddart. Dignity worked alongside the Rawmarsh friends' group in helping to get this advertised throughout the community.</li> <li>• Dignity is working to get more Councillors involved within the Friends Of Group meetings.</li> </ul>	✓
<p><b><u>Improved Customer Feedback Analysis</u></b></p> <p>Dignity will utilise online survey forms to capture customer views of funeral services provided for both burials and cremations, this will allow for greater accessibility for service users to provide feedback. All notice boards within the cemeteries have been updated to explain how service users can undertake this. Alongside this work a QR code has been produced which will link visitors to an online survey. This will be accessible to all cemetery users to provide feedback. The layout of the questionnaire has been considered to assist cemetery users avoiding the question appearing to only include customers using only one service.</p>	✓
<p><b><u>Improved working with Faith leaders to provide reasonable adjustments and engagements during religious festivals.</u></b></p> <p>Dignity have established a list of key religious festivals and dates with Faith leaders. Reasonable adjustments have been recorded to help facilitate them. Meetings have taken place prior with Faith leaders before these key events.</p> <p>Dignity have been regularly meeting with members of the Muslim Community, and considerable efforts have been made to visit each of the mosques within the area, this is still ongoing. So far, the visits have gone a long way and have been received well with the community. Dignity in recent months in partnership with the community, have installed a handrail at the entrance of the Muslim section, to make paths more accessible to visitors. Additional taps where possible have also been installed. Landscaping will continue in the new year to improve the overall feel of the site.</p> <p>Improvements are being identified across the entire estate and a rolling programme identifying key areas is under way. All faiths and beliefs are considered, and the improvements are not isolated to just within the Muslim section of the cemetery. Consultation with all local friends' groups is a rolling programme and Dignity welcomes all feedback. Dignity continues to support religious events and attend all The Council by request</p>	✓



<b>Digitized capture of registers to be made available on the internet In line with agreed proposals.</b> The Digitalisation of the burial registers has been completed in conjunction with TownsWeb. This work was completed in 2024 but will continue to be maintained and hosted by TownsWeb. This allows the searching electronically of the burial registers; however Dignity will still action any requests direct to the office to support family searches.	✓
---	---

Previous service improvements achieved (2022-2025) (All sites)	✓ / ✗
<b>Faith based events</b> Dignity will continue to work with faith leaders and make reasonable adjustments where required during different religious events and will arrange for any events that require additional access to the cemeteries outside normal hours being one example. Dignity have been having regular meetings with faith leaders and other community members to better understand the needs of the communities.	✓
<b>Dignity's contractual asset responsibilities</b> Dignity will undertake a survey of the assets they have responsibility for, as defined within the contract throughout all cemeteries and will provide reports and updates to The Council. This will include any remedial works and commencement dates where applicable.	✓
<b>Customer information</b> RMBC Bereavement Services have already improved The Council website to keep the community fully informed on matters regarding the Cemeteries. Dignity will also update their own websites to reflect the same information as The Council	✓
<b>Adequate performance management of sub-contractor using KPIs specified within the Facilities Management Agreement.</b> To be implemented by Dignity for sub-contractor Glendale by the 31 <sup>st</sup> of October 2022. Updates by exception to be provided to Council in the monthly performance meetings held with Dignity after this date.	✓
<b>Improved working with faith leaders to provide reasonable adjustments and engagements during religious festivals.</b> Dignity will establish a list of key religious festivals and dates with faith leaders and reasonable adjustments recorded to help facilitate them. Meetings with faith leaders will be held before these key events.	✓
<b>Restoration of and redrafting of cemetery plans in line with agreed proposals</b> This work is currently being undertaken by Dignity and is on target for completion by Autumn 2023	✓
<b>Digitized capture of registers to be made available on the internet in line with agreed proposals.</b> This work is currently being undertaken by Dignity in conjunction with TownsWeb and is on target for completion, regular meetings to be had with TownsWeb in order to keep track on progress and make sure everything is going as planned. Meeting with TownsWeb on 10/08/2023, currently on phase ¾ of process.	✓
<b>Tree Works</b> Year on year in March, Glendale will assess all tree works at all cemeteries. A maintenance plan will be scheduled for each month of the year to maintain the trees. All emergency tree works will be carried out within 24 hours. Meetings with Glendale will now be taking place, so Dignity can fully understand all the works to be carried out in all sited moving forward. First meeting to be on 14/08/2023	✓
<b>Out of hours burials fees</b> Dignity has reviewed its cemetery prices in Rotherham, and after consulting The Council and the local community, has decided to waive the additional fee of £481 for out of hours and absorb the extra costs. Dignity also plans to refund any grave owner that has previously paid the additional weekend fee.	✓

<p><b><u>New equipment</u></b></p> <p>Glendale continues to invest in new equipment to be used in maintaining cemeteries roads and footpaths and to keep them clear from moss, blossoms and other growth. Meetings with Glendale and updates provided where needed to advise of current machinery and for what purpose.</p>	✓
<p><b><u>Cemetery notice boards</u></b></p> <p>RMBC Bereavement Services have installed lockable notice boards within each cemetery which RMBC, Dignity have access to these to relay messages, events and other important notices to visitors as needed. This improvement will help information reach a wider audience as many will not regularly check webpages, particularly if it is somewhere they visit often. This is being utilised at all sites except Haugh Road as the sign needs to be re-fixed back onto the post. This will be fixed and back up in the site by the end of 2023</p>	✓









## Tree Works Schedule 2025/26

Maltby	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>A Section-</b> Poplar deadwood over drive  <b>B Section-</b> Deadwood over drive  <b>D Section-</b> Deadwood poplar over drive</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months -</b>  <b>B Section-</b> Remove poplar with bark inclusion  <b>C Section-</b> Lift Hawthorn hanging over toilet block  <b>E Section-</b> Whitebeam tree, sever Ivy  <b>G Section-</b> Reduce limb of Cherry tree drooping over property  <b>L Section-</b> Ash tree, sever Ivy  <b>M Section-</b> Reduce Pine limb by 3m over grave.</p>	Greasbrough Town Lane	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>B Section-</b> Remove Ash with fungal bracket  <b>D Section-</b> Remove dying Oak tree with hseer crack in stem</p>
	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>DD Section-</b> Sycamore deadwood  <b>FF Section-</b> Fell Silverbirch with signs of decline.</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months-</b>  <b>M Section-</b> Sycamose, sever Ivy</p>	Moorgate	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>1st new FF Section-</b> Deadwood Beech tree by path  <b>1st New PP Section-</b>Lift Lime tree encoraching on path 4m  <b>3rd New G Section-</b> Aea by path/boundary, deadwood sycamore  <b>5th New D Section-</b> Removal of dead Hawthorn</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months-</b>  <b>Old Ground C Section-</b> X2 Limes, x1 Conifer, sever Ivy  <b>2nd New E section-</b> Remove dead Hawthorn  <b>2nd New P Section-</b> Sever Ivy on x3 Sycamore trees  <b>3rd New F Section-</b> Reduce limb of decaying Willow stem by 6m  <b>3rd New G Section-</b> Lift mature Cherry by 3m, x2 sycamore lift 3.5m  <b>5th New A Section-</b> Sever Ivy on x12 trees</p>
Wath	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>H Section-</b> Removal of dead Laburnum  <b>P Section-</b> Oak Deadwood  <b>V Section-</b> Sever decay on X2 encroaching Hawethorne trees, remove both  <b>W Section-</b> Removal of x3 Maples with dead stems, removal of Ash tree with split crown, Pine tree with hanger to be removed, Beech tree with hanger to be removed.  <b>May Section-</b> Removal of Ash, x2 Ornimental Cherry  <b>June Section-</b> Maple deadwood  <b>August Section-</b> Oak deadbrach, Ash deadwood and Weeping Willow deadwood</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months-</b>  <b>V Section-</b> Reduce extended Maple limb  <b>March Section-</b> Apporimatley x8 trees deadwood  <b>May Section-</b> Removal of declining Birch tree and Maple tree  <b>August Section-</b> Lift Cherry tree over driveway</p> <p><b>Within 12 Months-</b>  <b>F Section-</b> Pollard Willow tree  <b>G Section-</b> Pollard Willow tree  <b>P Section-</b> Remove leaning poplar  <b>W Section-</b> Fell leaning poplar over drive  <b>NN Section-</b> Remova Sycamore by wall/memorials  <b>Northern Boundary-</b> Pollard poplar by house, removal of x2 dying poplars by childs section on boundary, removal of unbalanced poplar with basal damage on boudary.</p>	Greasbrough Lane	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>B Section-</b> Lift Ash over grave  <b>C Section-</b> Ash lift 4m, deadwood  <b>CR Section-</b> Ash by boundary hedge lift 4m, deadwood</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months-</b>  <b>C Section-</b> Remove multi stem on Ash tree</p>
		High Street	<p><b>Within 3 Months-</b>  <b>Section 2-</b> Reduce Weeping Ash with cavity in bough by 4m  <b>Section 3-</b> Sycamore large deadwood over path  <b>Section 9-</b> Sever Ivy on Horsechestnut by boundary wall  <b>Section 11-</b> Deadwood Sycamore over path  <b>Section 13-</b> Deadwood x2 Sycamores over path  <b>Section 18-</b> Deadwood sycamore over path</p> <p><b>Within 6 Months-</b>  <b>Section 6 &amp; 19-</b> Crown lift x3 trees over driveway by 4m  <b>Section 17-</b> Crown lift Lime tree by etrance by 4m, sever Ivy at base of x2 Ash tree</p>
East Herringthorpe			

## East Herringthorpe Crematorium and Cemetery

Proposed Future Projects 2025-2027	✓ / ✗
<p><b><u>Green flag Award retention</u></b></p> <p>Green Flag status was achieved in 2025, a Management Development Plan is in place which will be inspected, and progress observed going forward. Many of the objectives on the Plan link-in to other long-term aims of the Dignity Team. An example being the Biodiversity and Sustainability Policy. In addition, the engagement with communities, schools and visitors to the site is stated in the Plan but also is a current objective with the Council to review the Customer/Visitor experience. Retention of the award will be a further independent assessment/reflection of the standard of the cemeteries managed by Dignity.</p>	
<p><b><u>Refurbishment of old Office block</u></b></p> <p>An option appraisal has been submitted to The Council.</p> <p>Feedback from the community, including local Councillors and schools has evidence the requirement for a community room to support a variety of local groups.</p>	
<p><b><u>Cemetery Expansion – all faiths</u></b></p> <p>In-year agreement has been achieved to expand the Muslim Section of East Herringthorpe Cemetery. This has created additional capacity to meet the needs of the community. A future to expand this area further has commenced and with early community involvement.</p> <p>Work is continuing to consider the current un-used areas of the cemetery to ensure capacity is available for all faiths for burials.</p>	
<p><b><u>Enhance the exit area from the crematorium</u></b></p> <p>Work has commenced to improve the overall appear of the area where families exit the crematorium to the cemetery. Removal of the temporary disabled ramps for visually pleasing permanent features, improvements to the flower room access for all users, replacement of bins, removal of dead hedges, renovation of the fellowship memorial and the installation of key lock memorials will commence these activities.</p>	
<p><b><u>Cremator Replacement</u></b></p> <p>Planning has commenced for the replacement of the cremators at East Herringthorpe. The project will have a lead both from a works perspective and operational continuity. The timescale for this is expected to be confirmed in early 2026.</p>	
<p><b><u>Chapel refurbishment</u></b></p> <p>Capital expenditure has been agreed to undertake a chapel refurbishment to ensure that the Chapel appearance is maintained and updated on a regular basis. The extent of the refurbishment will be confirmed as part of the ongoing discussions with the Council.</p>	



In Year Projects 2024-2025	✓ / ✗
<p><b>Achieved green flag award</b></p> <p>Following significant work by Dignity and Glendale in partnership and an inspection, the Green Flag Award was confirmed for East Herringthorpe Cemetery. The Award was celebrated by the team and some of the Pupils from the local Primary School who had helped with the renovation of the Baby Memorial Area throughout the year. The pupils and school have continued their links with the Cemetery by attending Remembrance Day events where they met and discussed historical events with members of the Royal British Legion.</p> <div data-bbox="208 418 1897 786">     </div>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>Baby Section</b></p> <p>A proposal to improve this area has been submitted for capital approval (July 2024). This includes the removal of two large cherry trees which create darkness and prevent any floral growth. Following work with families the curb plaques currently located will be removed as the period has expired. The families will be offered an alternative of a new plaque on the proposed butterfly memorial.</p> <p>Further work is ongoing with a local artist to undertake a memorial carving which will add to the 'Butterfly Garden' and will hopefully be the first of similar activities within the cemeteries. Following a meeting with Dan Fleetwood at Barnsley to discuss his previous project 'The Forget You Not Garden' communication has continued, with a view to Dan and his wife assisting with the process for 'Letters for Heaven' commencing within this area.</p> <div data-bbox="275 1136 1904 1343">     </div>	<p>✓</p>

### **Muslim Burial Area**

Dignity have undertaken significant developments within the Muslim burial section of East Herringthorpe Cemetery to improve drainage in the existing burial section. A gabion wall and additional burial tombs were installed.

Regular meetings have taken place with the Muslim community on how we can improve this section of the cemetery. It was discussed that there could be a potential for flowers on the gabion wall leading up to the top section.

Dignity have taken some feedback from the community and purchased 2 grave covers. This has been advantageous for Glendale and the community, always having 2 graves prepared minimises any potential delays. The feedback from these covers was received with a positive response from the community, as this was one of the points mentioned in the meetings held with community members.

Dignity will work with the Muslim Community, to establish needs regarding the landscaping of the existing area, whether this is by adding potential bedding areas and shrubs to provide an aesthetic change to this section. Lights have also been provided for the use of the communities during late night burials. Actions have already been taken to remove some of the safety equipment nearby, and it was discussed by some Architects visiting the site, that a potential station could be made within the area and other areas within East Herringthorpe, where gardening tools and water cans etc can be kept, which limits how much equipment is on the floor.





### Signage

Dignity has 'de-cluttered' the main directional signs for visitors to the car park to ensure that inappropriate parking on site is managed allowing better access to the crematorium chapel for funeral corteges.

Dignity will look at installing signage throughout the cemetery which will indicate which section visitors are in. This will support directions to sections and plot location. In addition, work to provide a map for visitors to East Herringthorpe will commence.



### Beehives



Dignity wishes to encourage as much biodiversity within all sites as much as possible, research is being done in the feasibility of having Beehives in East Herringthorpe, an area has been identified which would provide a suitable home for some beehives. The relevant risk assessments and health and safety will be taken into consideration for staff working with the bees as well as families visiting the site. Dignity have had several meetings and discussions with Local Beekeepers and have potentially found two beekeepers who are willing to provide some beehives as well as tend to the bees.





### **Private garden Features**

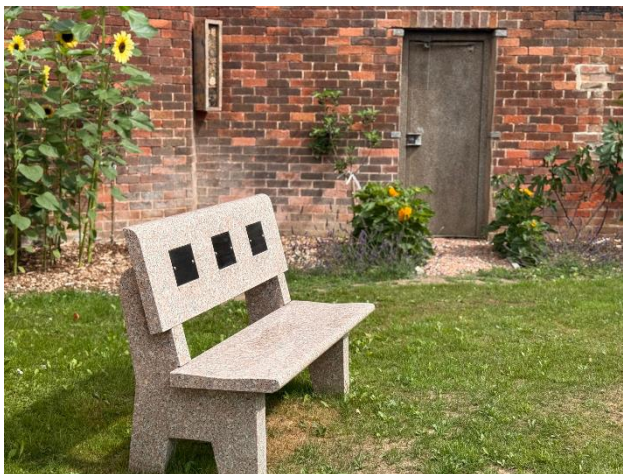


Work was carried out by the onsite Gardener for Dignity, to completely clear out all the old water in the fountain area, ready for the new installation of the Private Gardens water feature. Pond Lilies were also added into the pond once completed. Having this new fountain has made such a difference to the area and offers a relaxing and calm area for families to reflect.

As well as the new fountain, a small scattering area has been made in the Ribbon Plots, which allows families who have bought a plaque in the Ribbon plots to scatter their loved one's ashes, the central piece is a granite bird bath, which encourages biodiversity within the area.



### **Installation of contemplation area - Entrance**



**Sunflowers and seating**



**Area after clearance of brambles**

The area to the right of the entrance gates has been a project this year to transform from brambles to a seated contemplation area for anyone needing a moment before or after visiting the site. In the summer months the sunflower received significant attention and Dignity we pleased that so many visitors found this area comforting when they needed it.

This area will continue to develop, and the flowers and space will be used to support visitors when they need a quiet, but easily accessible space.

The door has been used as a feature following advice as a support symbolism.





Projects Achieved 2022-2024		✓ / ✗
<b>Roads and Footpaths</b> Dignity have undertaken significant works within East Herringthorpe Cemetery to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths. This work was completed in 2022		✓
<b>Installation of tombs</b> Dignity have undertaken significant developments within the Muslim burial section of East Herringthorpe Cemetery to improve drainage in the existing burial section. A gabion wall and 32 new burial tombs have been installed, with a further 73 to follow.		✓
<b>Children's area and Fellowship area</b> Glendale will create additional flower beds at the top of the cemetery near the children's section and tidy up the Fellowship area which is situated in the August section of the Gardens of Remembrance.		✓
<b>Café/Florist</b> Dignity will propose innovative ideas to either renovate the old office block and seek to install an onsite Florist and Café for visitors or provide a suitable alternative. Initial plans to be re-visited and discussed.		✓
<b>Signage</b> Dignity have installed improved signage to direct visitors to the car park to ensure that inappropriate parking on site is managed allowing better access to the crematorium chapel for funeral corteges. Looking at sourcing another company for signage moving forward.		✓
<b>Burial provision</b> Dignity will ensure that a review is undertaken of all potential burial land in other areas of East Herringthorpe and prepare this for burials or ashes interments to commence, this will be completed by Autumn 2023		✓
<b>Cemetery Expansion</b> Dignity will complete Cemetery expansion works and open the new section for burials by 31st December 2024. Planning was submitted on 30th September 2022.		✓
<b>Compost and recycling</b> Glendale re-use most of the soil in the cemeteries, the rest of the soil and green waste is collected locally. Glendale's aim is to increase their recycling program and create a plan of how this will be implemented.		✓
<b>Room at gate entrance</b> Dignity will look to reinstate the old memorial building at the entrance gate as a Friends Group Room.		✓

## Maltby Cemetery


	✓ / ✗
<b>Unmarked Graves</b> It was mentioned from the meetings had with the community, about having remembrance plaques installed within the cemetery for the babies buried in an unmarked grave, and for the miners who lost their lives in the Maltby Mining Disaster. This will be a project that the Community and Dignity can work together to achieve.	
<b>Burial Capacity</b> Dignity continues to survey the site and consider all options to enhance burial capacity left within Maltby. Work to consider the pre-purchase and re-open capacity of the site will take place along with working with The Council on plans to develop an additional site within the Maltby area.	
<b>Customer Experience</b> Dignity will become more actively involved with the Maltby Friends group and will arrange events and activities with the group throughout the year, each year, with a goal to encourage the Friends group to operate autonomously. Dignity will attend a minimum of four meetings or events of the friends group per year with the hopes of having these on a more regular basis, once per Month.	
<b>Re-cycling</b> Dignity and Glendale to assess the feasibility of recycling any waste within the cemetery at a local level and produce an appropriate plan for implementation.	

In Year Projects 2024-2025	✓ / ✗
<b>Friends of Maltby Cemetery</b> Dignity have been actively involved with the Maltby Friends group. Dignity has regular meetings and are in communications on a periodic basis with the Group. The friends of Maltby have become quite an independent group, however they will always reach out to Dignity if they need any support with events or activities. The friends Group worked with the community in getting a memorial tree placed within the Cemetery during the Christmas period, which had the support of Dignity and Glendale. Families were able to place a memorial heart on the tree in memory of their loved ones. This is something that Dignity hope to support for the foreseeable future. The friends of Maltby have already started to implement the wreath recycling as mentioned in the Future projects above.  There was a grave associated with an historical event involving some children, where the friends of Maltby have worked together with Dignity and local councillors, to get this memorial cleaned and renovated.	✓










Projects Achieved 2022-2024	✓ / ✗
Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Maltby cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will commence 5 <sup>th</sup> of September 2022 and is estimated to be complete by March 2023. Works completed Feb 2023	✓
Dignity surveyed the boundary wall of Grange Lane and Maltby Cemetery. The re-pointing of the wall was completed in August 2022. The remaining works to stabilize the pillars was completed in November 2022	✓
Collaborated with the Friends Group to ensure the restoration of John Donoghue	✓

## Moorgate Cemetery


Proposed Future Projects 2025-2027	✓ / ✗
<b>Graves</b> Discussions with the community have identified the desire to having remembrance plaques installed within the cemetery for the babies buried in an unmarked graves. This will be a project that the Community and Dignity can work together to achieve.	
<b>Monthly clearance activities with Friends Group</b> Following improved communication with the Friends of Group the monthly clearances involve Glendale and Dignity in the organisation. This enables a joint plan to be executed on improvements and supports the Friends Group in the activities which are more difficult to achieve without machinery or access to funding.	
<b>Bedding areas</b> There are numerous bedding areas located within Moorgate Cemetery, Glendale will work to uncover these and clear any overgrowth, as well as planting new bulbs and wildflowers within these areas. This is a partnership project with the Moorgate Friends Group	
<b>English Heritage Site</b> Dignity will work with English Heritage regarding grade 2 listing of the Cemetery and gain a greater understanding of what significance that holds and identify any works to further enhance the Cemetery.	
<b>Path Maintenance</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Moorgate cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.	

In Year Projects 2024-2025	✓ / ✗
<p><b>Green Paths</b></p> <p>All green paths to be seeded and returned to nature. A site meeting took place in July 2022 with The Council and Glendale to discuss converting some paths into green paths, other meetings have taken place which have confirmed the paths located throughout Moorgate Cemetery. These paths were seeded and soiled 21/06/2024</p>	✓
<p><b>Moss Clearance</b></p> <div data-bbox="203 432 943 922">  </div> <p>Research into the most effective solutions of moss removal have been done by Glendale. There have been numerous methods trialled and tested of moss clearance. Lawn sand has been a good method of removing moss, however, can be quite a lengthy process. Glendale is looking into the feasibility of clearing the moss with a jet washer and have already started to test this on one section within the cemetery. (See images to the left)</p> <p>Jet washing has proven to be the most efficient way of removal to date, however the only obstacle being access to the taps within the site, and vehicle access down some of the tighter areas. Moss clearance will be an ongoing task in the winter months. When the new paths have been laid within the site, this will reduce the amount of moss growth greatly. Once the paths are clear from moss, regular clearance and maintenance can be done to prevent growth in the future. A plan created by both Dignity and Glendale has been sent to The council to look at other options for Moss removal.</p>	✓
<p><b>Uncovering of Hidden Memorials</b></p> <p>A project plan to support the activities of the Friends of Moorgate was produced and implemented in 2024-25. This work involved monthly focused clearance by Glendale to ensure careful removal of overgrowth and enable the continued maintenance of the respective areas. The Friends Group are extremely active and have continued through this period to undertake clearance activities. Dignity and Glendale have maintained the communication with the group to ensure that all activities dovetail. Although there has been a specific implementation plan in 2024-25 this will be an ongoing project within the site.</p>	✓



<b>Perimeter Clearance</b>		<p>There has already been some clearance started with the help of the community payback services, alongside the friends of Moorgate. Glendale will continue the work that was started by these communities and aim to clear section by section. Meetings to take place with Glendale about how this can be broken down in stages throughout the cemetery. For example, clearing one section at a time, this will help the workload to become more manageable alongside other scheduled tasks. The entire cemetery works will be aimed to be completed by April 2027, times may be shorter or longer, depending on any issues encountered in the process. Discussions will take place with Glendale, to establish a timescale for all areas to be completed. Glendale started some clearance of the perimeter on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2024</p>	
<b>Projects Achieved 2022-2024</b>			 / 
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Moorgate cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.			
<b>Green Paths</b> In July 2022 - Dignity, RMBC Bereavement Services and Glendale visited the cemetery to identify which pathways will be left as 'green pathways' at Moorgate cemetery. Dignity is undertaking updates to the cemetery maps to reflect those remaining as green pathways and those which will be re-instated.			
<b>Memorials in the Cemetery</b> Dignity and Glendale will work with the Friends group to identify headstones that have fallen face down and need to be turned over. Dignity and Glendale will work together and help turn these headstones over wherever possible if it is safe to do so.			
<b>Friends of Groups</b> Dignity will continue to work with the Friends group to improve the relationship and encourage cohesive working between all parties through different events and activities undertaken within the cemetery. Dignity will, as part of this undertaking, continue working with the Community Payback.			
<b>War Grave and Remembrance</b> Commonwealth war graves to be commemorated as at other cemeteries on key dates such as VE Day and Remembrance Day. Dignity will work on getting a list of key dates together in order to better plan around these events and contribute wherever possible.			

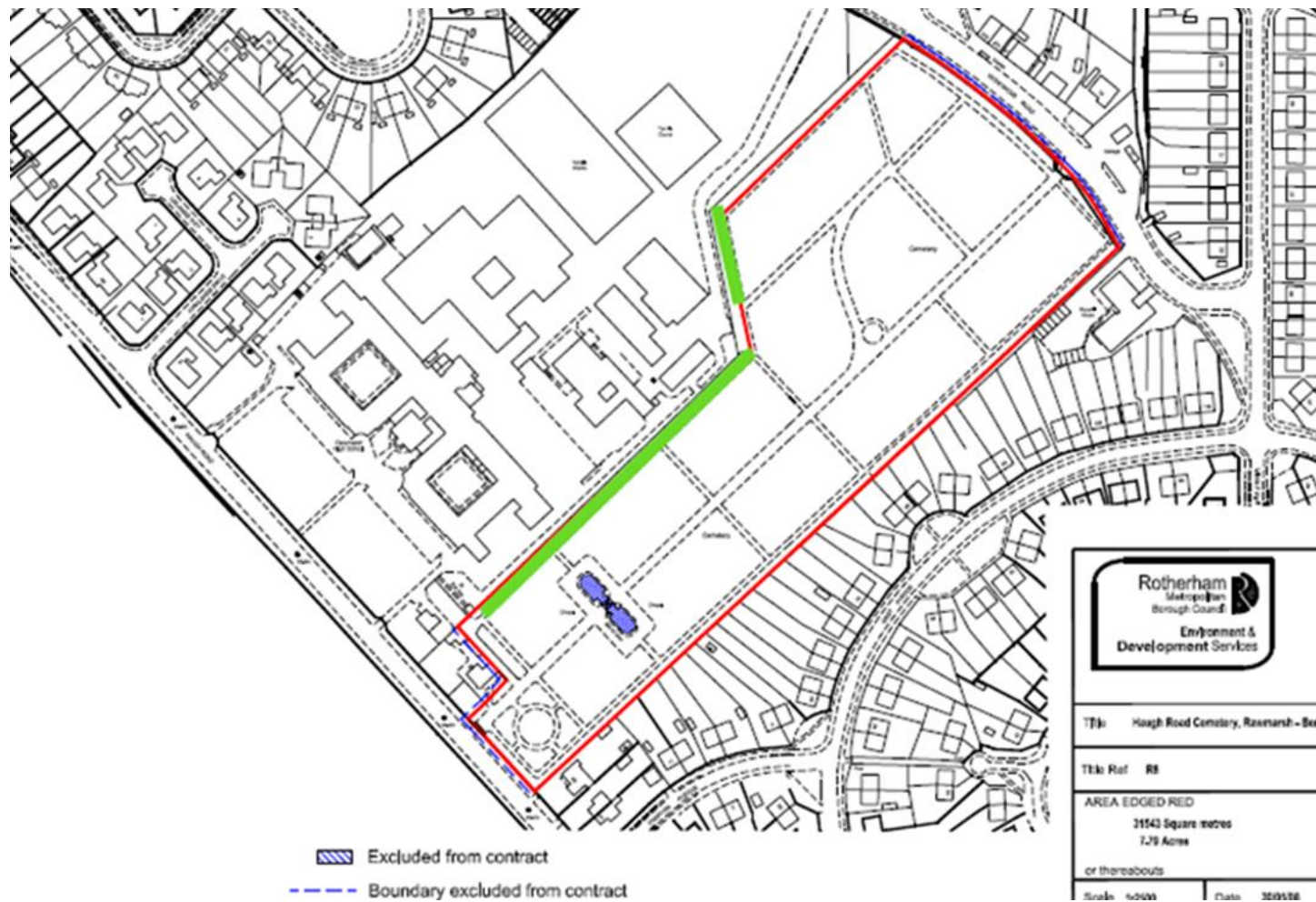
## Haugh Road Cemetery, Rawmarsh


Proposed Future Projects 2025-2027		✓ / x
<b>Customer Experience</b> Dignity will become more actively involved with the Rawmarsh Cemeteries Friends Group and will arrange events and activities with the group throughout the year. The increased interest has allowed a partnership approach to events which link the Cemeteries within the area to demonstrate historical value. Links with the Rawmarsh Academy have also enhanced this work, and Dignity will continue to improve the experience for all visitors to the site.		
<b>Re-cycling</b> Dignity and Glendale to assess the feasibility of recycling any waste within the cemetery at a local level and produce an appropriate plan for implementation.		
In Year Projects 2024-2025		✓ / x
<b>Identification of water area</b> There has been a patch of land within J section of the cemetery, this area has shown to have some water retention. This work has been concluded and the area is no longer an issue to users of the site		✓
<b>Engagement with users</b> This site has previously experienced anti-social behaviour. Recent work to improve overall maintenance and remove overgrown boundaries has increased the appearance and use by visitors. In addition, Dignity have reached out to the new resident in the house on Haugh Road who has become an additional security presence. The improvements have been commented by the Rawmarsh Friends group and work continues to ensure this site remains safe and in regular use by all of the community.		✓
<b>Boundary replacement</b> Following discussion with Rawmarsh Academy, the boundary fence which runs alongside the school and grounds has been removed due to safety issues and replaced to support the security and safeguarding of the site. This activity was undertaken in close liaison with the school to always maintain security and safeguarding concerns during the works.		✓
		



### Green Paths

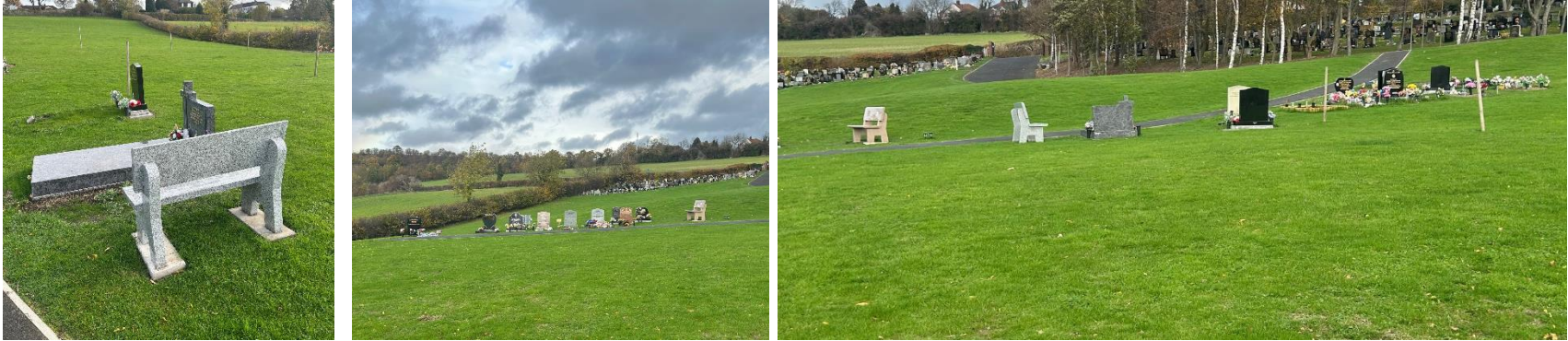
There have now been green paths recognised within the Cemetery, these have already started to be taken back by nature. These paths were soiled and seeded on 21.05.2024



Projects Achieved 2022-2024		✓ / ✗
 <p><b>Taps</b> Dignity had previously enquired about getting 'anti-vandal' taps installed throughout the whole of the cemetery as it has been more common for taps to be vandalised within this site. The taps will operate via a push button system. One has already been installed and has been a great success up to date. Contractors came out to site and installed new push taps throughout the cemetery, which limits the risk of vandalism of the taps.</p> <p>These taps were installed within the cemetery on the 14/12/2023.</p>		✓
<p><b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Haugh Road cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.</p>		✓
<p><b>Green Paths</b> In July 2022 - Dignity, RMBC Bereavement Services and Glendale visited the cemetery to identify which pathways will be left as 'green pathways' at Haugh Road cemetery. Dignity is undertaking updates to the cemetery maps to reflect those remaining as green pathways and those which will be re-instated. A plan will be in place for re-seeding areas in 2024 at the appropriate time.</p>		✓
<p><b>Friends of Groups</b> By the end of March 2023 Dignity will be more involved with the Rawmarsh Friends group to improve the working relationship and encourage cohesive working between all parties through different events and activities undertaken within the cemeteries. The aim is for Friends groups to become autonomous. Dignity will be contacting all the Friends Groups in order to re-establish relationships.</p>		✓



## Greasbrough Lane Cemetery

Proposed Future Projects 2025-2027		✓ / ✗
<b><u>Establish a Friends of Greasbrough Lane</u></b> There is already an established friends' group that look after Haugh Road and High Street Cemetery. Dignity will look at reaching out to the community again to try and establish a group that will be able to get involved with Greasbrough Lane and Greasbrough Town Lane. New posters will be made and added into the notice boards, as well as through the crematorium and on social media.		
<b><u>Tree Planning and overall appearance of expansion area</u></b> Dignity and Glendale to consider the tree coppice area and how that area could be better maintained or used. Consider planting more trees, wildflowers. All works to be done with the final vision in mind to make the area more practical for maintenance, more aesthetically pleasing and increase the biodiversity of the Cemetery.		
<b><u>Re-cycling</u></b> Dignity and Glendale to assess the feasibility of recycling any waste within the cemetery at a local level and produce an appropriate plan for implementation.		
<b><u>Site Planning and Proposal of works to maximise the burial space</u></b> Dignity will commence work at a strategic level to ensure the development and expansion of this site is undertaken in a co-ordinated and planned manner. The newly appointed Corporate Cemetery Team have been engaged to work on the ground activities which may be required for this site.		
In Year Projects 2024-2025		✓ / ✗
<b><u>Tree areas in the site</u></b> There are some areas within the site that have numerous trees planted, the aim is to have all these identified areas, finished and topped up with wood chippings to help with the overall presentation of the site. This will also help encourage some growth of mushrooms as well as creating new wildlife habitats. The wood chips are re purposed from any trees that are cut back or removed as part of the operational tree works schedule.		✓
<b><u>Expansion of the burial grounds</u></b> The initial section of this site has now been occupied and work has taken place to develop a new section. This has been well received and proving popular with the community.		✓
		
<b><u>Post Boxes-Letters to Heaven</u></b>		✓

		<p>The post box was erected this year to allow visitors to post a letter to loves ones who have passed to support the bereavement journey. The letters from this post box are shredded and compost and then returned to the earth to allow fertilisation and support growth of flowers and vegetation in the cemetery.</p> <p>Dignity have received feedback that this is particularly supporting children. Adults have commented on the ability to post cards for birthdays, mothers and fathers days. being comforting.</p>	
<b>Projects Achieved 2022-2024</b>			✓ / x
<b><u>Roads and Footpaths</u></b> Dignity created a new temporary footpath at Greasbrough Lane cemetery to help rectify the damp ground conditions. This was only ever intended as a short-term solution, with a more substantial and permanent path planned to replace it. Work will commence on the path in quarter four and will be completed within the same period.			✓
<b><u>Roads and Footpaths continued</u></b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Greasbrough Lane cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established. Original repairs to paths completed on 6/2/23, remaining works for additional paths completed on 20/03/23			✓
<b><u>Drainage</u></b> Dignity have completed a site survey to improve the drainage system at Greasbrough Lane cemetery. Plans have been drawn up following this survey and works to implement a new drainage system will commence on 5th October 2022. It is important for these works to become operational prior to extended periods of inclement weather through the Autumn and Winter period where historically it has made the cemetery quite inaccessible. Work completed December 2022			✓

# Wath Cemetery

Future Projects 2025-2027	✓ / ✗
<p><b>Roads and Paths</b></p> <p>Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Wath Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.</p>	
<p><b>Wath Cemetery Expansion</b></p> <p>Dignity's planning consultants submitted an application to The Council to expand Wath Cemetery and were granted approved in October 2023.</p> <p>The plan below details the area which will be developed.</p> <p>This area is just over one acre in size and with capacity for circa 500 Grave Plots which is essential to service the capacity needs of the local community.</p> <p>Acting with goodwill, Dignity have continued to progress this development and are at a stage where detailed designs are completed, including suppliers provisionally appointed, quotations received and method statements in work.</p> <p>Dignity are now in the final stage of reviewing aspects such as budgets required and final searches and hope to authorise start-on-site works in December 2025 / January 2026.</p> <p>Dignity's current intention is to start works in Q1 of 2026, Finish in Q2, and be open and operational by Q2/3 of 2026, to meet the planning permission and dates granted.</p> <p>However, a meeting with the council will be required before this can progress to the on-site works stage, to naturally conclude open topics such as the ongoing contract discussions &amp; any final open topics related to the expansion of this site.</p> <div data-bbox="241 852 934 1334"> </div> <div data-bbox="1010 874 1469 1334"> <p>WATH - SITE - TODAY</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1476 868 1830 1339"> </div>	





In Year Projects 2024-2025		✓ / ✗
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Wath Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		✗
<b>Customer engagement</b> <div>   </div> <p>Following discussion with members of the community a decision was made to install decorative corner railings in specific areas within Wath Cemetery to prevent encroachment onto the grassed area. In addition, signs have been placed on the larger gates advising that vehicle access is for authorised vehicles only. This is an example of Dignity reacting to support the concerns of the community and visitors to the cemetery.</p>		✓
Achieved Projects 2023-2025		✓ / ✗
<b>Friends of Groups</b> Dignity will encourage the Wath Friends group to become more pro-active and involved. This will improve the working relationship and encourage cohesive working between all parties through different events and activities undertaken within the cemetery led by Dignity. The aim is for Friends groups to become autonomous eventually with Dignity to support where needed.		✓
<b>War Graves and Remembrance</b> Commonwealth war graves to be commemorated as at other cemeteries on key dates such as VE Day and Remembrance Day. Dignity will work on getting a list of key dates together in order to better plan around these events and contribute wherever possible.		✓
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Wath Cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		✓
<b>Taps</b> An additional water tap was installed by Dignity in September 2022.		✓

## Masbrough Cemetery

<b>Future Projects 2025-2027</b>		✓ / x
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Masbrough Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		
<b>Dignity to undertake an assessment of whether there are any public graves on site, if so, commission and install a plaque to identify these areas.</b> Dignity will look into the possibility of having a plaque to let people know where there are public graves.		
<b>In Year Projects 2024-2025</b>		✓ / x
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Masbrough Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		x
<b>Achieved Projects 2023-2025</b>		✓ / x
<b>Burial Capacity</b> Dignity will attend the site with Glendale, to assess the areas which can be used as burial land within Masbrough Cemetery. This info will be incorporated into the already existing operational plan.		✓
<b>Vehicle access</b> Dignity to look at ways to manage vehicle access within the site, as issues still present of people using the site as a car park during school run hours as well as outside the cemetery. This can cause access issues to anyone wishing to visit the cemetery alongside staff members. Further discussion with the school will take place to understand options which do not create additional issues and hazards in the area.		✓
<b>Japanese Knotweed on site</b> Dignity and Glendale devised a plan to tackle the onsite Japanese Knotweed, and to dispose of this correctly. The treatments will take place in August 2023, 2024, 2025. Any knotweed will be monitored during the treatment process for 2 years following a successful treatment of the knotweed. First treatment on 11/09/2023 and the next treatment scheduled in for 11/09/2023.		✓
<b>Ward Graves and Remembrance</b> Commonwealth war graves to be commemorated as at other cemeteries on key dates such as VE Day and Remembrance Day. Dignity will work on getting a list of key dates together in order to better plan around these events and contribute wherever possible.		✓
<b>Friends of Groups</b> Dignity to engage with established Friends group. The group has been inactive, and Dignity need to be involved and encourage events and activities to take place in partnership with Glendale. Dignity will, as part of this undertaking, continue working with the Council's reparation service who will attend Friends sessions with young offenders.		✓

## Town Lane Greasbrough

Future Projects 2025-2027		✓ / x
<b>Establish a Friends of Greasbrough Town Lane</b> There is already an established friends' group that look after Haugh Road and High Street Cemetery. Dignity have had meetings with Borough Councillors and the community to form a Town Lane Friends Group. Although some meetings have been held there is a requirement to increase focus and understanding.		
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Town Lane Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		
In Year Projects 2024-2025		✓ / x
<b>Roads and Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Town Lane Cemetery, the survey highlighted all areas of the Cemetery that needed resurfacing, repairing, and improving where required. The commencement of the works to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled, and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		x
<b>Stone path</b> <div>   </div> <p>Regular inspection identified a potential tripping area within the cemetery. This area was not a designated pathway but has become a cut-through for visitors. The footfall use resulted in the exposure of tree roots, which then created a tripping hazard. Dignity and Glendale worked together to create a stone path which improved the overall appearance of the area and avoided any potential injury to visitors.</p>		✓



Achieved Projects 2023-2025		✓ / ✗
<b>Burial Capacity</b> Dignity will attend the site with Glendale, to assess the areas which can be used as burial land within Masbrough Cemetery. This info will be incorporated into the already existing operational plan.		✓
<b>Commonwealth War Graves</b> Commonwealth war graves to be commemorated as at other cemeteries on key dates such as VE Day and Remembrance Day. Dignity will work on getting a list of key dates together to better plan around these events and contribute wherever possible.		✓
<b>Paths</b> Dignity have undertaken a site survey of the roads and paths within Town Lane Cemetery. The survey highlighted all areas of the cemetery where resurfacing repairs and improvements are required. The commencement of the work to improve the condition of the roads and footpaths will be scheduled and timescales and dates will be published once these have been established.		✓
<b>Friends Group</b> Dignity to work towards establishing a Friend's group for this cemetery. This will be done through community engagement activities. Meetings will be held on a regular basis with the friends' groups, in order to offer support where needed. This work needs additional engagement going forward.		✓

## High Street Cemetery, Rawmarsh

Future Projects 2025-2027		✓ / ✗
<b>Biodiversity and sustainability</b> Following the production of the Biodiversity and Sustainability Policy, Dignity will assess what aspects can be implemented at High Street Cemetery. Dignity are currently managing the requirements of the competing interest of the faith groups, local historians and ecological objectives for this site. There are a number of projects which can ensure that all parties interests are included.		
<b>Overgrowth Around Graves and perimeter</b> There are a few memorials around the perimeter that have been taken over by overgrowth. We will work with the community and Glendale to help uncover some of these Memorials. The Friends of Rawmarsh are going to provide a key list of memorials to Dignity, which can be passed onto Glendale for clearance. Several of the memorials have local historical significance. Any graves within the central area of the cemetery can be cleared alongside grass paths mown up to the memorials of interest. Glendale are on track with clearing the overgrowth in each section of the Cemetery, and have already cleared the 5th new Section, this will now be on track for earlier completion.		
<b>Entrance area</b> Dignity will consider options to improve the entrance area which is in joint use by allotment and cemetery users. This activity will be undertaken with in discussion with all users. The intension is to avoid any damage to the memorials towards the entrance to the cemetery.		
<b>Self-sets tree growth within the cemetery</b> The community have raised concerns regarding self-set tree growth in the area, which have causing damage to the memorials located within High Street. Dignity will meet with the friend's group and Glendale, to highlight the memorials where the self-sets have created this problem. There are some memorials which are worse than others, so these will be the focus to begin with. The aim is to have all of these removed where possible by 31/12/2027. This can be a project where the community can work together to achieve.		

### Historical Memorial



There is a memorial located near the entrance of the Cemetery, which has some historical value to the community. It has been discussed with the friends' groups about the possibility of having this fixed. The friends of Maltby Cemetery have worked with the local councillors to achieve a similar project on a grave of historical importance within the Community of Maltby. Dignity will do another assessment of the memorial, to get a better understanding about the works that would need to be carried out in order to renovate and get this memorial fixed.

This grave is quite a large memorial, so the proper assessments will need to be carried out by a licenced memorial technician or stone mason. Once the assessment of this memorial has been done, Dignity can work with the community to create a project for the renovations of the memorial.

### In Year Projects 2024-2025

#### Plan for clearance

A specific plan was agreed for the clearance of High St. This has been achieved and the areas are now managed under the regular management schedule.

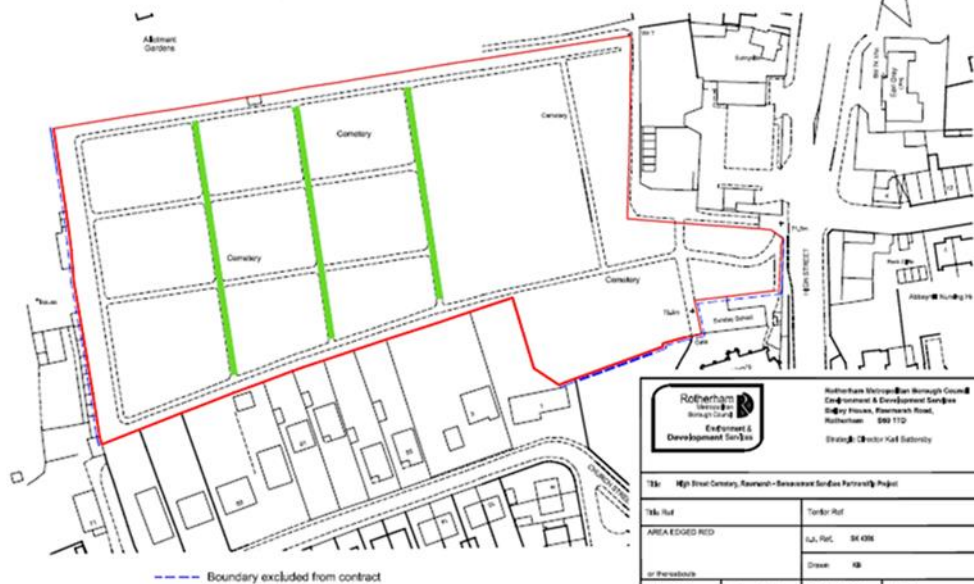
#### Green Paths/Mowed Paths

✓ / x

✓


✓

# PLAN REFERRED TO



<b>Rotherham</b> Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Environment & Development Services 64-66 Finesse, Finesse Road, Rotherham S60 1TD Strategy Director Neil Satterley	
<b>Title:</b> High Street Cemetery, Rotherham - Resurrection Services Partnership Project	
<b>Title Ref:</b> AREA EDGED RED	<b>Vendor Ref:</b> LA Ref: 04 438
<b>For the site:</b> Scale: 1:1000 (F.A.) Date: 05/05/20	<b>Drawn:</b> KB <b>Check No:</b> 101000 <b>Rev:</b> 0

All green paths to be seeded and returned to nature. Site inspections have taken place to highlight which paths will be left to nature. Green paths have now been recognized and highlighted and plans in place to get these areas seeded and soiled in March-April 2024. Glendale have mowed in paths through the cemetery to make access better for visitors. This work was completed on 21.05.2024.

Achieved Projects 2023-2025			✓ / ✗
<b>Historic Cobbled Paths</b>  <p>Dignity have gained the support from Community Payback Services to get the cobbled paths uncovered and cleaned throughout the site. The works have now been completed and this has made a drastic difference to the site. The council employed some contractors to do some work in the bottom half of the Cemetery, alongside this, the same contractors also laid a new path along this bottom section, which continue from the already existing cobbled path. This will now greatly improve maintenance throughout the Cemetery, and Glendale will continue to keep these paths Clear.</p>			✓
<b>Nettle Clearance and Central Clearance</b> A Glendale have been into the site and cleared the nettles around the perimeter, as well as doing clearance within the central section of the cemetery as scheduled in within the maintenance plan which was agreed with The Council in 2022. The central section was to be left to nature, and only having the scheduled cuts take place throughout the year.			✓
<b>Use of Chopped Down Tree</b> Within the cemetery there is a tree trunk that is laid down and has been cut into sections. The plan looks to be that this was going to be removed section by section. However, there are many ways in which this tree can be used. Ideas have been shared within the Friend Group meetings, about turning this into a home for insects and other wildlife, by drilling holes into the wood. There have been further discussions with Glendale about slicing up the logs and giving away to local communities/advertising as free fire wood, or using the wood for artists sculptures and carvings throughout the site and possible the other sites.			✓
<b>Front entrance area to be well maintained.</b> Rows of graves next to church to be kept in good order and overgrowth removed. Other graves in this area need uncovering and maintaining down to the access road and gates to the rear of the church.			✓
<b>Dignity will work in collaboration with the friend's group and local historians to establish a history trail.</b> This will include permanent markers at certain historically interesting graves, an interactive map (internet based with QR codes to descriptions). This could be adapted and changed for different events including celebrations for the Parkgate 200 anniversary.			✓
<b>Dignity will reinstate the fence in the entrance area between the cemetery and access drive to the allotments.</b> This is to prevent people using as a turning circle. This is churning up the ground. Dignity to consider tarmac being installed in this area which is used for cemetery parking also to create a more stable ground surface and improve facilities. This has been undertaken by the allotment society with support from Dignity to ensure the memorials were safe during the works.			✓

Commonwealth war graves to be commemorated as at other cemeteries on key dates such as VE Day and Remembrance Day. Dignity will work on getting a list of key dates together in order to better plan around these events and contribute wherever possible.	✓
--	---

