

**ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORT**

<b>NAME:</b>	Gill Forman
<b>TOPIC:</b>	Cemetery
<b>DATE:</b>	February 2025
<b>UPDATE SINCE LAST REPORT:</b>	<p>The total number of interments for 2024 was 20. There were 10 burials and 10 cremated remains Interments, plus there was 1 unauthorised scattering of ashes, this is not recorded because there are no details of the death.</p> <p>The project to replace the Lych gates is now bigger than just replacing the gates. It was noticed that there are cracks in the support walls and in the stone plinths that support the roof structure.</p> <p>There has been a preliminary inspection of the whole structure which has indicated that although there appears to be no structural damage to the roof the shingles are completely shot and need to be replaced. The stone plinths will need to be repaired along with the support walls and once this is completed, the gates themselves can be replaced.</p> <p>We are currently waiting for a detailed inspection to ascertain the costs involved in the repairs.</p> <p>The lawful transfer of the exclusive right of burial continues when the need arises and a further 3 transfers have been completed since the last report.</p> <p>Storm Darragh left its mark on the Cemetery where 2 Lawson Cypress trees were blown over. These trees were swiftly removed and because they were in the conservation area we will need to replace them. The SDC landscape &amp; forestry officer has suggested Yew trees as a suitable replacement.</p>

**FUTURE  
PLANS:**

No further work has been carried out on the removal of the wall between the old and new Cemetery, but this will need to be completed so that the re-siting of the storage container can be facilitated. The budget for 2025/26 includes funds to acquire a new storage facility for the top of the Cemetery.