

**O & S 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

**RE: Proposed New Cemetery Information**

**What have we done historically?**

A new cemetery is required due to the lack of new burial space at Abbey Cemetery, limited provision within Edgioake Lane and the social, economic and health benefits of providing a community resource to support the grieving process.

Work on the viability of a new cemetery site has been ongoing since late 2010 and has progressed with a number of investigations over various sites within the Borough. Most latterly the investigations showed that the land adjacent to Ipsley Church Lane was the most favourable to develop from a technical & ecological view. Other areas that have been investigated were discounted due to items like drainage, high voltage cables and transport accessibility issues.

**What are we doing currently?**

A planning application has been made to request a change of use of the land adjacent to Ipsley Church Lane from open grassland to a cemetery.

More details in relation to this application can be found via the planning portal below using the reference 20/00863/FUL

<https://publicaccess.bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk/online-applications/>

The proposed site would have the capacity to provide 7000 to 8000 burial spaces depending on landscaping and grave spacing. This would equate to 60 – 70 years provision at current new burial rates

**What will we be doing in the future?**

Subject to the outcome of the planning application a further report to full council may be required to detail development options, costs and potential income which might be used to fund a phased development if appropriate. Decisions such as type and style of development would be a matter for approval by members subject to the outcome of the planning process.