LODERS PARISH COUNCIL
Annual Parish Assembly 20 April 2021

Report on the Cemetery

The final mowing of the cemetery in 2020 set the plot up for the winter and spring, and at the beginning of 2021 the Parish Council was approached by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission with a request that they might place a sign at the entrance to the cemetery informing the public that there are Commonwealth war graves on the site. These two graves are from WW2 and mark the resting places of local lads T.S. Norman (aged 20) and G.W. Holmes (aged 19). They stand elegantly and proudly side by side, towards the west of the burial ground, and have the distinguishing and unmistakable features of the Commonwealth graves – simple Lutyens-style headstones with sharp lettering on Portland stone. The signage is due to be erected on the stone column at the entrance gate later this summer and will hopefully serve to help locals and visitors remember the great service of these two young local men whose untimely deaths ensured the freedom and peace for those of us who came after them.

The Parish Council is aware that the parking area serving both allotments and cemetery is in need of some attention. The boundary is muddy and the layer of gravel needs resurfacing. The perimeter hedge to the NW, whilst having been layered a few years back, needs to be attended to in the late spring. These jobs are on the 'to do' list and hopefully by next year's report I can let people know of the success of these projects. At the time of writing negotiations are underway to secure the contract for the grass cutting of the graveyard for this coming year. For those who are not yet aware, the site of both cemetery and allotments is a most peaceful place to pause and remind us of how lucky we are to live in this beautiful place.

Councillor Dr Peter Nardone, 14th April 2021