

## PADDOCK WOOD CEMETERY REMOVAL OF CONIFER HEDGE

Following concerns regarding the removal of the old conifer hedge in the Cemetery Paddock Wood Town Council would like to assure residents that this area will be remaining as a cemetery.

When it became clear that there would be increased development the Town Council enquired about additional burial grounds for the future. The Town Council was advised that due to the high level of the water table in the surrounding areas there would be no feasible sites for a new cemetery. Therefore, the existing cemetery needs to be utilised as best it can be whilst ensuring legislation is adhered to.

The burial area to the right is nearly full, and burials will shortly need to take place to the left of the driveway.

Improvements will also be made to the new children's burial area so that it can be utilised fully.

The conifer hedge roots were limiting the areas that can be used for burials.

Drainage was installed in 2021, and trees and landscaping will be included in the future plans, along with improved parking.

The removal of the hedge is the start of longer-term improvements.

The Town Council must maximise the space available in what is likely to be the only burial space available within the Parish in the future.

Residents are also reminded that dogs should be kept on leads in the cemetery. Improved signage will be installed shortly.