

## Great Hale and Little Hale Joint Burial Board

### Benjamin Ward Trust

Also known as Hale Magna and Hale Parva Joint Burial Committee.

Registered Charity Number 501760

Registered address: 9 Forum Way, Sleaford NG34 7FF

#### Trustees:

Mr Paul Rooke– Chairman

Mr Robert Needham

Mr John Cope

Mr Alan Broom

Mr Harry Needham (appointed 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023)

Mr Maurice Barnatt

Mr Mike Prior (retired 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023)

Mr Michael Priestley

Mr Peter Nickols

Clerk: Mrs Debbie Scott

Auditor: Mrs Alison Bourne, Helpringham

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Sleaford

Insurance arranged through Came & Company (Gallagher).

The Burial Board was created by the Parish Councils of Great Hale and Little Hale in the 1890s; it reports back to the Parishes annually but Trustees are no longer required to be appointed by the Parish Councils. Because of this disassociation, the Burial Board is not eligible to re-claim VAT under the Parish Councils' arrangements with HMRC, nor is it subject to the Smaller Bodies Annual External Audit regime. The Board continues to report annually to the Charity Commission.

The Burial Board's stated activities are to provide the area and maintain the same for the burials of its present & past inhabitants of the two parishes. The cemetery also provides a place for people to visit the graves of loved ones.

During 2023-24 the Board continued to undertake work parties for seasonal maintenance as required and contracted with PJ Haynes of Waddington for the regular cutting of the grass in the Cemetery during the growing season. Additional cuts were undertaken by Trustees themselves to supplement Mr Haynes' work.

The Board met twice, in April 2023 and November 2023, at Parva House in Little Hale.

During the year the Commonwealth War Graves Commission offered new signage for Burial Grounds where there were War Graves. In August 2023, the Clerk to the Board applied for an official sign for the front fence and this was duly installed by the Commission during the summer of 2023.

Burials were carried out and paid for during the year by local Funeral Director JE Severs (3), and Dignity - David Holland of Grantham (1) and memorial applications by Wm Kent (4) were approved. In addition, five further plots were purchased for future use.

At their meeting in November 2023, the Trustees agreed to move the long-term funds and the £10,000 reserve to a new account to take advantage of the higher interest rates. After due diligence, a 5-year fixed-term bond with Cambridge & Counties Bank, was opened in January 2024, after withdrawing £14,305.77 from the NS&I account. Interest rates had already started to fall at that time but a favourable fixed rate of 4.7% was secured.

The Board continues to appreciate the support it receives from Great Hale and Little Hale Parish Councils towards its grass-cutting costs.

Approved by the Burial Board on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

# Hale Magna and Hale Parva Joint Burial Board

## Summary of Accounts 2023-24

Opening balances	2022-23	2023-24
<b>Short Term Funds</b>		
Lloyds	£3,638.91	£4,474.01
National Savings	£18,445.72	£18,445.72
	<u>£22,084.63</u>	<u>£22,919.73</u>
<b>Income</b>		
Plot Purchase	£450.00	£960.00
Interment Fees	£610.00	£480.00
Interest	£297.80	£690.07
Memorials	£815.00	£185.00
Contributions from Parish Councils	£500.00	£500.00
	<u>£2,672.80</u>	<u>£2,815.07</u>
	£2,672.80	£2,815.07
	<u>£24,757.43</u>	<u>£25,734.80</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Staff costs	£400.00	£450.00
Grass cutting	£660.00	£840.00
Other Burial Expenses, Insurance, audit etc	£777.70	£500.57
	<u>£1,837.70</u>	<u>£1,790.57</u>
	£1,837.70	£1,790.57
	<u>£22,919.73</u>	<u>£23,944.23</u>
<b>Closing Balances</b>		
Lloyds	£4,474.01	£5,498.51
less unrepresented cheque	£4,474.01 *	£5,498.51 *
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£0.00	£10,000.00 **
National Savings Income Bond	£18,445.72 **	£8,445.72
	<u>£22,919.73</u>	<u>£23,944.23</u>
<b>Long Term Investments</b>		
National Savings Income Bond	£4,305.77	£0.00
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£0.00	£4,305.77
	<u>£4,305.77</u>	<u>£4,305.77</u>

\* includes £74.00 held for the War Memorial future maintenance

\*\* includes £10,000 from Business Support Grant

Debbie Scott  
Clerk to the Burial Board  
6th April 2024

Alison Bourne  
Internal Auditor

*Alison Bourne*  
12/04/2024

*Debbie Scott*