

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 Alan Broom - Chairman
Mr Robert Needham
Mr John Cope
Mr Peter Nickols

Mr Maurice Barnatt
Mr Paul Rooke
Mr Michael Priestley
Mr Harry Needham

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. During 2024-25, the Board agreed to investigate setting up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation to regularise its constitution and work on that is ongoing.

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

During 2024-25 the Board continued to undertake work parties for seasonal maintenance as required. The contract with PJ Haynes of Waddington for the regular cutting of the grass in the Cemetery was terminated after the first two cuts in 2025 at Mr Haynes' request. For the rest of the year, grass cutting was undertaken by Trustees themselves, for which the Board was extremely grateful. However this was clearly not sustainable so a new contractor was sought and an arrangement negotiated with Sleaford Town Council for the 2025 season.

The Board met twice formally, in April 2024 and November 2024, and once informally, using either Parva House in Little Hale, or Mr Needham's office at Home Farm, Little Hale.

Burials were carried out and paid for during the year by local Funeral Director JE Severs (2), and payment was not received by the end of the year for a further one. Memorial applications by Wm Kent (4), Dignity (1) and Set In Stone (1) were approved. In addition, one further plot was purchased privately for future use.

The first interest payment on the 5-year fixed-term bond with Cambridge & Counties Bank, opened in January 2024, was received in February 2025.

The Board appreciates the support it has received from Great Hale and Little Hale Parish Councils towards its grass-cutting costs up to 2024 and welcomes the new arrangement with the Parish Councils to meet the higher costs of the Sleaford Town Council contract in 2025.

Approved by the Burial Board on 28th April 2025

Hale Magna and Hale Parva Joint Burial Board

Summary of Accounts 2024-25

Opening balances	2023-24	2024-25
Short Term Funds		
Cambridge and Counties Bank		£10,000.00
Lloyds	£4,474.01	£5,498.51
National Savings	£18,445.72	£8,445.72
	<u>£22,919.73</u>	<u>£23,944.23</u>
Income		
Plot Purchase	£960.00	£120.00
Interment Fees	£480.00	£240.00
Interest	£690.07	£989.74
Memorials	£185.00	£645.00
Contributions from Parish Councils	£500.00	£500.00
	<u>£2,815.07</u>	<u>£2,494.74</u>
	<u>£25,734.80</u>	<u>£26,438.97</u>
Expenditure		
Staff costs	£450.00	£500.00
Grass cutting	£840.00	£283.10
Other Burial Expenses, Insurance, audit etc	£500.57	£561.08
	<u>£1,790.57</u>	<u>£1,344.18</u>
	<u>£23,944.23</u>	<u>£25,094.79</u>
Closing Balances		
Lloyds Statement	£5,498.51	£6,649.07
less unrepresented cheques		
Lloyds actual	£5,498.51 *	£6,649.07 *
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£10,000.00 **	£10,000.00 **
National Savings Income Bond	£8,445.72	£8,445.72
	<u>£23,944.23</u>	<u>£25,094.79</u>
Long Term Investments		
National Savings Income Bond	£0.00	£0.00
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£4,305.77	£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 2025

Alison Bourne
Internal Auditor

Alison Bourne
12-04-2025