



Annual General Meeting 2015

Muslim Community Centre
Cambridge Road
Huddersfield

Saturday 30th January 2015 5.30pm
Presiding for AGM: Dr. NHS Hasnie

Present:

Masjid Raza: Sharafat Ali, Banaris Hussain

Masjid Anwar-e-Madina: Azher Lateef, Tahir Aziz, Shazad Hussain

Masjid Umar: Fakir Mohammed, Abdul Majid, M. Aslam, A.Nazir

Masjid Noor: N/A

Masjid Bilal: N/A

Masjid Usman: M.T. Khan

Masjid Shah Jalal: Abdul Wahid

Masjid Abu Bakr: Karamat Hussain, M. Ismail

Masjid Madni: Karamat Hussain

Masjid Ghausia: M.Rafiq, J.Shahid, W.Akhtar

Masjid Salafia: Ahsan Haneef, Mohammed Ramadan

Masjid Hanafia: Imran Sarwar, Faruk Kidiwala

Masjid of Elland: F. R. Tariq,

Muslim Burial Society: F. R. Khan

Muslim Funeral Society: Altaf Hussain, J. Iqbal

HMBC Committee:

K. Khan (Chairman)

A. Khaliq (Treasurer)

A. J. Ahmed (Secretary)

Dr Nasim Hasnie



Topic	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
1. Quran Tilaawat	Completed by Abdul J Ahmed		
2. Apologies	Sabir Hussain (Madni Masjid), Abdul Majid (Masjid Noor), M. Yasir Hayat (Elland Masjid)		
3. Minutes of last meeting	Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a correct account Proposed by: F R Khan Seconded by: F R Tariq		
4. Matters arising	a. Digital Autopsy This was included in item 8.		
5. Burial Ground Update	This item is included in the Chairman's Report.		
6. Chairman's Report	<p>The Chairman spoke to the report.</p> <p>The new cemetery has been in operation for some time now. Purchase of a new cemetery for Muslim burials is no further as land is too expensive at the moment. Support from the Muslim community will be required to fund a suitable purchase.</p> <p>Digital scans as a method of post-mortem as opposed to an intrusive autopsy was introduced in November 2014 by the Coroner's office at the public mortuary in Bradford. The HMBC team visited to understand the whole process and its implications on the Muslim community. The Chairman referred to a presentation under item 8 that provided more information on the digital Post-Mortem that will be offered to relatives of the deceased.</p> <p>The Chairman was pleased that HMBC will not increase their charges. Kirklees Council have increased their prices (normal grave now £2070). A grave for the burial of religious scripts will now cost (£938), a method of charging the community will be drafted in due course.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the HMBC team for their efforts that are fi'sabilillah.</p> <p>The Chairman's report was accepted. Proposed by: F R Khan Seconded by: F R Tariq</p>		
7. Treasurer's Report	The Treasurer spoke to the Treasurer's report. Accounts were presented between 1/1/2014 –		



	<p>31/12/2014. There were 46 death incidents in 2014. The balance presented was identical to the balance in the bank. There was no price increase by HMBC for their services.</p> <p>The Treasurer's report was accepted. Proposed by: F R Khan Seconded by: F R Tariq</p>		
8. Digital Autopsy	<p>A presentation was made detailing the digital Post-Mortem/Autopsy. Most cases will be offered this option that costs £500 + VAT. A discussion and questions were raised surrounding the digital PM. These were mainly focussed around the typical cases when a coroner would be likely to request a PM. This occurs when a death is 'sudden' or 'unexpected'. If somebody is terminally ill, it is advisable that they are seen by their GP within every 14 days. This would allow the GP to certify their death should they pass away at home.</p> <p>The discussion raised the concern that the majority of the Muslim community were unaware of what they should do in case a relative passes away. More effort needs to be made by member masajids to ensure attendees are aware of the religious rituals and procedural issues that apply with local authorities.</p>	Make presentation available on HMBC website	Secretary
9. Brief guide to burial	<p>The previous discussion highlighted the need for educating the Muslim community in both religious and procedural tasks towards burial for the family of a deceased.</p> <p>This guide was in the process of production and should be ready later this year.</p>	Burial guide	HMBC team
10. Update of issues raised by local Imams	<p>Local imams were invited for a consultation in October whose views were very important. They raised three issues to discuss with KMC (leveling of graves, maintenance and fouling). These issues were raised with due gravity and discussed at length with KMC. The first was leveling of graves. This issue of the grave leveling itself or by KMC staff has been prevalent for over the last 30 years in the</p>		



	<p>case of Muslim burials. HMBC requested that our members required a 6-inch 'hump' to remain at the site of each grave. KMC explained that the leveling occurs naturally as the soil and mud settles on each grave. In fact, the hump is initially left to settle but with the progression of time, the grave surface sinks and needs additional topping-up with soil from time to time. Weed and other plant growth results in an unpleasant grave. It causes difficulty to visitors and does not appear to be a well-kept cemetery. Maintenance becomes difficult and locals often complain due to the overgrowth of plants if left alone. Furthermore, the site at Hey Lane is a 'Green' cemetery as part of the initial approval and thus, must be maintained accordingly.</p> <p>Maintenance of the graves was raised by HMBC in the discussion with KMC. HMBC raised the point that it is disrespectful to the deceased that people walk over their grave. KMC explained that 13 cuts to the grass are made at each burial site between April and September. A one-time pass over the graves is not possible but they will work to minimise the walking on the graves. They explained that they receive more complaints from the overgrowth of grass and weed when it is not cut. This further causes difficulty for visitors at each site. HMBC urged the importance of this issue and KMC agreed that they would consult the teams responsible to find a solution.</p> <p>A short discussion surrounding this issue emerged. As present, the Muslim community cannot provide a suitable solution to KMC that would be easy to implement and meet the community's expectations.</p> <p>The final issue was that animals foul on graves at each cemetery. KMC were</p>	<p>Invite suggestions from members so HMBC committee can continue dialogue with KMC for a mutually beneficial solution</p>	<p>HMBC Committee Members</p>
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	<p>concerned with this and explained that there are warning signs for owners of animals that foul in the cemetery. The signs are clearly displayed and have a telephone number on them for the Burial Services division. If an animal is seen fouling in the cemetery, KMC suggested that we take note of the vehicle number plate and report it to them.</p>		
11. Disposal of religious Scripts	<p>KMC suspended the burial of religious scripts until a suitable protocol was established after the graves for this purpose were misused in North Kirklees. The new controlled process will involve the opening of the grave supervised by KMC staff to ensure general waste is not dumped in the designated grave and a charge of £938.00 will be made for each grave. HMBC objected to this charge but KMC was not willing to compromise. After discussion around reducing the cost, KMC agreed a process where each grave (where possible) would be 10 feet in depth and the amount of fill would be recorded. This will allow re-use of the same grave more than once. These graves will be available twice a year (June and December). KMC will also check for the possibility of reusing some of the graves that have been used in the past for the possibility of re-use. In the meantime, HMBC will decide on a method to fund this cost. Attendees mentioned that masjids could be charged by each bag that they bury or an equal share of the total cost. The possibility of using the green bins for the disposal of religious scripts was raised. This issue is ongoing.</p>	<p>HMBC to provide a method of paying for the grave.</p> <p>Investigate the possibility of using green bins for this purpose</p>	<p>HMBC Committee</p> <p>HMBC Committee</p>
12. Burial Fees	<p>This year there was no increase on HMBC burial fees. Posters were provided for each masjid to put on to their notice boards.</p>		
13. Any other Business	<p>FR Tariq thanked HMBC. Made a request that Previous minutes and the agenda should be sent out with the invitation for the next</p>	<p>Send out appropriate documentation</p>	<p>Secretary</p>



	<p>AGM. FR Khan also conveyed his thanks to the HMBC.</p> <p>Muhammad Ali welcomed Maqsood and Adam to the HMBC team as volunteers.</p> <p>The HMBC Chairman conveyed his thanks to the Muslim Community Centre for the use of their premises.</p>	prior to the next AGM	
14. Date of next meeting	This will be at a similar time next year.		