



Southam Town Council

The Grange Hall, Coventry Road,
Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 1QA
Telephone: 01926 814004 Fax: 01926 811414
e-mail: clerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk
Website: www.southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

Town Clerk Mrs Debbie Carro

SOUTHAM TOWN BURIAL GROUND CONSULTATION SENT TO ALL SOUTHAM RESIDENTS

The churchyard in Southam at St James Church is now full; therefore residents will not be able to be buried in Southam unless a new burial ground is developed. The internment of ashes and burial plots already purchased are not affected. There is a cost to develop and run a new burial ground in Southam and the purpose of this consultation is to ascertain whether Southam residents will be prepared to pay for this from an increased council tax.

The proposed burial ground will be a natural burial ground. This means open space with landscaping and pleasant surroundings, but no gravestones or other furniture. Grave areas will be marked with oak posts and laid out on a grid system for identification. The surrounding area will be landscaped with trees and meadow flowers, making it a pleasant place to visit and walk. It will have car parking and seating for visitors.

The cost of developing a new burial ground in Southam will be in the region of £300,000. The Town Council will need to take out a loan from Central Government for this cost. The loan, including interest, will be repaid via the local council tax. On current estimates, the annual repayment will be £34,000 per year. In addition, there will be annual running costs estimated around £30,000 per year. To cover both these costs, the Town Council part of the local annual council tax will need to increase by approximately 18% per year. For the average Band D property, this will mean an increase from £80.45 (2018 rate) to £95.00 per year.

Every household is being sent two response forms to be completed by adults only (18 plus). Please go the website above to download any further copies required for your household. **The deadline is Friday 9th November 2018.**

RESPONSE

Please state your postcode.....

1. Do you want a new burial ground to be developed in Southam and pay for it by way of an additional increase in your annual council tax? (Tick one box only)

YES

NO

Please return this response in the FREEPOST envelope provided to
Freeport RTJX-GHEE-ZUCS, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Consultation Unit,
Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HX. Stratford DC is
being used as an independent body for processing the responses. No personal
information is asked for, other than your postcode to ensure you live in Southam Town
Council area. This information will be kept confidential.