Compton Cemetery – Unoccupied Areas Project Report

I was asked to produce a cost estimate to investigate, define and map the allocation of new interment Plots to complete the remainder of the current cemetery estate. I submitted that costed Proposal in August 2025 and have been working on it alongside the Clerk since that time.

The project received approval on 17th September and is now complete. I attach my invoice for the work undertaken – which is directly in line with the August proposal (although a great deal more time was spent than has been billed).

The soft boundaries, undulating terrain, planting, pathing, hard and soft landscaping and gardeners' work zones in this area, made allocating interment sites in an orderly, cemetery-manner, quite challenging.

There is no doubt that this Southerly section of the estate is presented in an attractive park and garden style, with a relaxed almost woodland feel to it, clearly designed to be an area for walking, reflection and quiet thoughts. Which, while very pleasant, doesn't immediately lend itself to an efficient cemetery layout.

However, as laid out in my August proposal, these aspects are expected to remain and consequently, new burial sites have been inserted where thought appropriate and manageable, while retaining the overall unregimented nature of this part of the estate (very different from much of the rest of the cemetery).

Given all of the above and in an effort to maximise the use of available space (and contrary to the August Proposal), Sections P and M now include a small number of ashes plots. Section R has not been extended the full length of the boundary (due to trees and work zones and while Section Q does have room for some additional ashes plots, these have not been squeezed in for aesthetic reasons.

David Herbert

13th October 2025