

Statement from Say No To The Cemetery – April 2024

This group was set up for the residents affected by the proposal for the cemetery on Blackburn Road in Oswaldtwistle.

The group is a not-for-profit community initiative group, and the three main purposes of the group are...

- 1. To help residents write a personal objection letter as and when the application is submitted.** For those who don't have access to a computer or prefer penning a handwritten letter, we will offer support.
- 2. Fundraising** - We will need to instruct planning professionals to have the strongest chance of stopping this application. These professionals come at a premium, and therefore your financial support for this is paramount to be able to cover these costs - the target is £10,000.
- 3. A membership group** – Membership is open for people living in Knuzden, West End, Stanhill or Oswaldtwistle.

Supporters of this group can also access and be part of the movement. However, for the sake of legal clarity around our membership criteria and to ensure that we have the best chance of winning our case, we have been advised to limit membership to those directly affected.

(FYI - Members and supporters can join by going to the website www.saynotothecemetery.com).

For those who wish to join and do not have internet access, we ask that you speak to any one of us, or email their details to admin@saynotothecemetery.com and we will add their names to the list of those who wish to be included in our formal response.

The group has no political affiliation, and local councillors from different parties have expressed their opposition.

At the meeting held at Oswaldtwistle Social Club on Monday 18th March 2024, many of you expressed your vehement opposition to the proposal.

- We want to ensure that we furnish Hyndburn's Planning Department with the technical planning reasons why the proposal should not go ahead, presented to have a solid basis for declining the application.
- Domain purchase, Website Management
- Email marketing software.
- Marketing materials, including the design and production of flyers, placards, and banners.
- Public Relations campaign which will include press releases to both local and national press.

Please note that no residents or volunteers have been paid or are due to profit from any work undertaken or due to be undertaken as part of this project.

Many volunteers have given hours of time and expertise to make this happen.

For that, we are grateful and humbled by the level of community spirit and the apparent unity of those involved.

Please note that any monies that are not spent will be offered back to a community-based project.

This would be a nice problem to have.

Our focus should now be on increasing awareness, growing our membership and raising funds.

Therefore, we ask you as our community to consider the following?

- How do we increase awareness for those who still are not aware of the scale of this proposal?
- Would you be willing to volunteer a few hours to support this cause?
- If so, how much can we as a community commit to funding?
- If your homes were to be devalued between 30-50%, what would that mean for you?
- How much are you able to pledge to help us all achieve this?

Say No To The Cemetery – The resident's voice of opposition.

