

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**HIGHWAYS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS  
CABINET MEMBER**

**WOODLANDS CREMATORIUM  
PROPOSED BUILDING REFURBISHMENT AND ALTERATIONS**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To approve building refurbishment and alterations at the Crematorium.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 This year Woodlands Crematorium celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A number of initiatives have already taken place to mark this milestone, including:

- An open day in September that attracted over 100 visitors.
- The confirmation again of the crematorium's Green Flag status.
- A 'Friends of Woodlands' group established.
- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Media coverage in the local press, TV and radio.

- 2.2 The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary seem to be a good opportunity to also address a number of building related issues that would enhance the crematorium and the customer experience, such as:

- Refurbishing the chapel to include new floor coverings, improvements to lighting, new ceiling tiles, re staining pews and general redecoration.
- Remodelling the existing reception and office to allow customers to be taken to private areas to discuss sensitive and emotional issues.
- Minor improvements to the rear of building to assist with the transferring of floral arrangements to the appropriate area effectively and more sympathetically.

- 2.3 The estimated cost of the works outlined above is £43,000. The works can be carried out before the end of the financial year.

- 2.4 The Crematorium has an enhancement fund generated from donations received from the public. The fund has in the past provided a new

waiting room and a water feature within the crematorium. Its balance currently amounts to £36,358. The shortfall of the works costs of approximately £8,000 can be met from the council's property minor works budget as could any works costs not covered within the terms of the enhancement fund.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **3.1 Option one**

3.1.1 That the works outlined in the report are approved. That a sum of £35,000 is made available from the Woodlands enhancement fund and that the balance of approximately £8,000 is met from the minor capital works budget.

#### **3.2 Option two**

3.2.1 Refurbishment works are not undertaken at Woodlands.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 In support of option one utilising the Enhancement Fund will enhance the chapel and provide an improved customer experience and environment in the office and reception areas. It will also complement the works already completed as part of the 50th year celebrations.

4.2 The project will address some minor health and safety issues, such as the transferring of floral arrangements from the coffin after the service.

4.3 In support of option two, although the work is necessary, without the utilisation of the enhancement fund the project would not automatically progress at this time.

### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 The funding of this project would be met from the following

- Woodlands enhancement fund £35,000.
- Minor capital works of approx. £8,000.

### **6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 Not applicable.

### **7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 Staff at the Crematorium were consulted and are supportive of the work especially as it enhances the environment for customers at funeral services and provides private places where meetings can be

held with bereaved families prior and post services to discuss arrangements.

- 7.2 The Friends of Woodlands were also consulted on the proposals which were met with a favourable response. It was felt that the fund should be utilised and there should be a means of informing the public about how the donations have been used to make the changes.

## 8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the use of the enhancement fund to support the refurbishment and alterations outlined in the report.

### DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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