

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**NEIGHBOURHOOD, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES
CABINET MEMBER**

WOODLANDS CREMATORIUM ENHANCEMENT FUND

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the Cabinet Member's approval for the Service Director to draw from the Woodlands Crematorium Enhancement Fund to fund the creation of a new path and concrete base to create a new ash vaults facility at the site.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Over a number of years, visitors to the chapel at Woodlands Crematorium have donated various sums of money to the facility's Enhancement Fund. In recent years the Fund has been used to pay for small projects such as a path from the overflow car park to the crematorium, which is suitable for use by wheelchair users.
- 2.2 In recent months some members of the public have been making enquiries as to whether ash vaults (alternatively known as above ground vaults) are available to lease. At present we do not offer this facility at Woodlands but, in response to public demand, neighbouring authorities have introduced ash vaults and they have proved to be very popular. We have, however, had some examples on display in the cemetery grounds and they have generated significant interest.
- 2.3 The vaults have room for two sets of cremated remains and are typically leased for a period of 20 years. Appendix A contains an example photograph. They represent an alternative to the scattering of cremated remains and to the interment of urns. A suitable area in D Section has been identified in the cemetery grounds.
- 2.4 At the end of the 20-year period the family can either renew or make arrangements for the cremated remains to be scattered.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 That the Cabinet Member agrees to use the Woodlands Crematorium Enhancement Fund to create the infrastructure to develop a new ash vaults facility to be created on the site.
- 3.2 That the Cabinet Member does not agree to the use of the Enhancement Fund for the above purpose.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 There is a clear public demand for an ash vaults facility to be created at Woodlands. The use of the Enhancement Fund is suitable for the development of the infrastructure associated with this development.
- 4.2 We will not be able to satisfy public demand for this facility if the request is not agreed.

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

- 5.1 We have been given a quote of £8751.40 + VAT from a company on the council's preferred list of suppliers to carry out this work.
- 5.2 Currently the Enhancement Fund contains a sum of £29,024.
- 5.3 It is proposed that the basic purchase price to the public would be £570 for a 20-year period. This price would include the front tablet inscription of up to 80 letters. Extra letters above 80 to be charged at £1.50 per letter with badges, motifs etc to be charged as per manufacturer's costs. These charges are in line with similar charges made by other neighbouring authorities.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

- 6.1 The introduction of ash vaults will give bereaved families a wider choice of facility to lay their loved ones to rest.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

- 7.1 No formal consultation has taken place as this is a service development.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the use of the Woodland Crematorium Enhancement Fund to provide a path and base for the creation of an ash vaults facility as described in this report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: None.

