

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 10

meeting date: THURSDAY, 25 MAY 2017
title: CLITHEROE CEMETERY
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: JUDITH PALIGA, CEMETERY AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Elected Members of the implementation of the new cremated remains plot which has been installed at Clitheroe Cemetery and for them to consider and agree the new cemetery charge which has been applied.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To recognise Clitheroe Cemetery as somewhere that meets with the expectations of the bereaved.
- Corporate Priorities – To give clear evidence to the bereaved and Elected Members that the cemetery service is continually moving forward.
- Other Considerations – To recognise that bereavement services are critical to the health of the nation. The therapeutic benefits of accepting and handling bereavement are immeasurable, influencing both the physical and mental well-being of us all.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The construction of the Clitheroe Cemetery extension was completed in 2016. This has provided much needed new burial space - 21 burials have already taken place within this area and a further 22 plots have been reserved.

3 INFORMATION

3.1 Approximately 72% of deaths involve a cremation based funeral which indicates a preference for this form of funeral. There is, therefore, a need to provide a designated section for the interment of cremated remains within the new cemetery extension to expand grave choice in this area.

3.2 The new cremated remains plot includes a beam at the head of the plot similar to the full burial plot. This provides a stable base for memorial plaques and allows for greater choice with regard to memorials. The area in front of the beam is lawned and each plot will accommodate up to four caskets.

3.3 The charge for each plot will be slightly higher (£133 rather than £98) to incorporate the cost of the beam.

4 SITE MAINTENANCE

4.1 All administration and grounds maintenance is undertaken by Ribble Valley staff. The new cremated remains area is turfed or seeded at ground level up to the beam. This ensures ease of maintenance and a neat tidy appearance.

5 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – None.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political and Reputation – Provides transparent and accountable information.

6 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

6.1 Note the report and approve the implementation of the new cemetery charge with immediate effect.

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