

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020 – 2021**

**LLWYDCOED CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE**

**16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

**REPORT OF THE BEREAVEMENT SERVICES MANAGER**

1. Agency Administration staff member

- 1.1. Members will recall that during the pandemic, a member of Agency staff was recruited to assist with the increased work load during this very difficult period. Thankfully there is currently a downward trend in cremation numbers, however, there is no surety in this respect that this may continue.
- 1.2. Members are asked to consider if they wish to continue with the Agency staff member as a precaution against a further increase in numbers and workload. This staff member will be able to assist with other duties.
- 1.3. If felt appropriate and members decide to continue with this post, then the continuation of this position can be reviewed once again, at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

**RECOMMENDED:** That members decide whether to continue with the current Agency administration staff member. If decided to retain this role, that the continuation of this role be reviewed at the next Joint Committee meeting.

## 2. Statistics

2.1. Below are the statistics to date.

<b>Cremations</b>	
1970-2015	50038
2016	1258
2017	1480
2018	1527
2019	1458
2020	1819
April – Dec 2020	1375
Jan 2021	194
Feb 2021	178
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>57952</b>
<b>Year to 31 March 2021</b>	
Adults	1737
Children	6
Stillbirths	4
NVF's	571
Body organs	1
Scattered	40
Interred	152
Released	1555
<b>Applications for memorials</b>	
Book of Remembrance	14
Memorial Cards	0
Plaques on Plots	154
Plaques in Garden	0
Rose Bushes	16
Memorial Leaves	10

**RECOMMENDED:** That the Crematorium statistics be noted.

### **3. General facility update**

#### **Grounds**

- 3.1. Members are asked to consider the general update in respect of the Crematorium moving forward.
- Work is continuing (weather permitting) with sanding the plots to improve the ground conditions. This will hopefully be undertaken twice yearly.
  - Ornate bollards are to be placed along the main drive to ensure there is no parking on the drive and to improve the appearance of the entrance.
  - The free replacement of all broken plaques on Cedar Lawn will be ongoing through the summer months.
  - The task of tree planting on the site will be investigated later in the year.

#### **Buildings**

- Decoration of the upper external elevations and the stack are to take place later this year.
- The interior of the building will be scheduled for decoration next year.
- The chapel pews and lecterns at both chapels will require refurbishing if/when we come to a period where disinfecting the chapel between services ceases. There is some discolouration due to the product used. A site wide deep clean will also be organised at the same time if/when we are able to re-introduce more seating and soft furnishings.
- We are awaiting a price for the damaged window in the chapel of remembrance. The corporate estates team are looking into this. The window has been made safe and secure.

#### **Broadband**

- There have been a number of broadband issues with the live streaming of services on site in recent weeks. Dialogue has been ongoing with IT and Communications to look into the possibility of changing provider and possibly extending the fibre optic from the office down to the main building. We are in discussion with all parties to try and speedily resolve this issue.

- 3.2. Members are asked to note the report.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the report be noted.

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