

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE HELD IN ROOM 2/3, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND ON FRIDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 2.00PM

Present:-

Councillor G A Cox – Chairperson
representing Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council

Representing Bridgend County Borough Council

Councillor E Dodd
Councillor D Pugh
Councillor J C Spanswick
Councillor K Watkins

Officers:

Mr R Fletcher	-	Technical Officer
Mrs S Hooper	-	Principal Bereavement Officer
Mrs J Hamilton	-	Crematorium Superintendent and Registrar
Mr K Fowler	-	Group Accountant
Mr J Hughes	-	Senior VAT & Financial Control Accountant
Mr M A Galvin	-	Senior Cabinet and Committee Officer

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following Members:-

Councillor A J Preston	-	Prior engagement
Councillor W C Vaughan	-	No reason given
Councillor R K Turner	-	Scrutiny Chairpersons' Network Meeting
Councillor C Westwood	-	Mayoral engagement

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2008, be approved as a true and accurate record.

16 SERVICE LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN

The Clerk and Technical Officer presented a report, advising that at a meeting of the Joint Committee on 1 February 2008, the Crematorium Service Level Business Plan was approved by the Joint Committee.

The document was attached at Appendix 1 for information for new members of the Committee.

Appendix 2 of the report showed a plan of the design of the proposed extension to extend the memorial gardens, for which land had already been purchased. It was pointed out that tenders for the scheme would be invited in the next few months and be reported to the meeting of the Committee in February 2009, for a start on the works early in the next financial year.

RESOLVED: That the Joint Committee noted the report.

17 MERCURY EMISSION – STATUTORY DIRECTION

The Clerk and Technical Officer presented a report on the above matter.

He outlined some background to the report, reminding members that the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) had previously advised of its plan to reduce mercury emissions from UK crematoriums by 50%, effective from the end of December 2012.

The report then confirmed the previous decision of the Joint Committee for Coychurch Crematorium to opt for the 'burden sharing alternative' rather than to install mercury abatement facilities (Minute 60 of the Joint Committee refers), for the reasons outlined in paragraph 2.3 of the report.

The Welsh Assembly Government has issued a Statutory Direction to Welsh Authorities: Regulation of Air Pollution from Crematoria. The current licence has been revised by the Environmental Health Service of Bridgend CBC in accordance with the requirements of the statutory direction

RESOLVED: That the Joint Committee noted the report.

18 CREMATORIUM ROOF

The Clerk and Technical Officer presented a report on the recent replacement of the covering of the Coychurch Crematorium roof.

He advised that the repairs to the roof had been successfully achieved and that the cost for the installation of CCTV for security and monitoring purposes at the Crematorium, had been financed and completed from 2007-8/09 budgets.

He added that the CCTV recording system was in operation for 24 hours, but only monitored when the Crematorium was open. It was anticipated however, that sometime within the next six, the CCTV unit would be linked to the Council's main CCTV Section in Bryncethin, where 24 hour surveillance would be achievable.

RESOLVED: That the Joint Committee noted the report.

19 AGREEMENT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

The Clerk and Technical Officer advised that the Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee Agreement, executed in 1967, now required some updating and revision.

The Legal Department of the Council was currently considering a re-draft of this Agreement, which would then be forwarded to the Vale of Glamorgan and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Councils for their perusal, prior to it being executed.

The Clerk and Technical Officer confirmed that the above would hopefully be achieved in time for a further update to be submitted to the next Joint Committee meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Joint Committee noted the report.

20 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT – 1st APRIL – 31st JULY 2008

The Treasurer presented a report on the Revenue Monitoring Statement for the first four months of the financial year.

Paragraph 1.1 showed a table which gave details of income and expenditure for this financial year and a projection of the final outturn.

The Agency/Contractors' expenditure had increased by £5,000, due to the recent roof repairs at the Crematorium and the Officer advised some smaller schemes, earmarked to be undertaken this year, would roll over to next year due to monies spent on the roof and CCTV installation.

He concluded by stating that the budget surplus by end of year was now likely to be in the region of £70,000 (rather than around £55,000 as stated in the report).

RESOLVED: That the Joint Committee noted the report.

The meeting closed at 2.25pm.