

COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE - FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2026

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY - VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2026 AT 14:00

Present

Councillor G John – Chairperson

Present Virtually

JC Spanswick
E Caparros

P Davies

H Griffiths

B Stephens

Officers:

D Jones
M Morgans
J Hamilton
M Pitman

Accountant – Financial Control and Closing
Head of Service – Public Realm
Bereavement Services Manager and Registrar
Democratic Services Officer – Technical Services

75. Apologies for Absence

Decision Made	Apologies were received from Councillors C Stallard and H Bennett
Date Decision Made	6 March 2026

76. Declarations of Interest

Decision Made	None
---------------	------

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE - FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2026

Date Decision Made	6 March 2026
--------------------	--------------

77. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of a meeting of the Joint Committee dated 5 September 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	6 March 2026

78. Crematorium Business Plan and Fees

Decision Made	The purpose of this report presented by the Bereavement Services Manager and Registrar, was to present to the Joint Committee for approval the Crematorium Service Level Business Plan 2026-27 (at Appendix 1 of the report), together with an increase in fees for the same period. The Business Plan is presented annually to the Joint Committee for approval which includes service objectives and proposed maintenance and improvement projects to enhance and maintain the Crematorium grounds and buildings for the forthcoming period. The total number of cremations for the 2025 calendar year was 1,458, made up of 892 from Bridgend, 396 from Rhondda Cynon Taff and 118 from the Vale of Glamorgan, with 52 non-residents (outside of the three constituent authorities of the Crematorium Joint Committee). An agreement with the Princess of Wales Hospital for the cremation of non-viable foetal remains (NVF) had resulted in an additional 6 communal cremations. A further 12 individual NVF cremations were arranged directly with families. Statistical records for the period from January to December 2025 and 2024, were included in the Business Plan for comparison. The table in paragraph 3.4 of the report, indicated comparison on current (2025-26) cremation fees for adjoining crematoria. The report recommended that the cremation charges and fees for 2026-27 be increased by inflation from £845.40 to £872.45. This was in line with the Fees and Charges Policy and relates with the most recent CPI figure published in November 2025.
---------------	--

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

	The Bereavement Services Manager and Registrar then, for the benefit of members, gave a resume of some of the key information that was detailed in the Service Level Business Plan appended to the report, including upon:- • Having been awarded the Green Flag for the 16th year in succession; • The fact that the Service remained financially sustainable and self-sufficient; • Excellent Performance Indicator statistics in respect of the service; The Bereavement Services Manager and Registrar also gave an outline of the works that were proposed in the coming year(s). Members commended the report with pleasure and supported the increase in fees which were in line with inflation. <u>RESOLVED:</u> (1) That the Joint Committee approved the Service Level Business Plan 2026-27 (at Appendix 1 to the report). (2) That the Joint Committee further approved an increase in all fees of 3.2% for 2026-27
Date Decision Made	6 March 2026

79. Financial Performance 2025-26 and Proposed Revenue Budget 2026-27

Decision Made	The Accountant Financial Control and Closing presented a report, the purpose of which was to:- • Outline the projected Financial Performance for 2025-26 and the proposed revenue budget for 2026-27 for the Joint Committee. • Reflect in the Financial Performance report current income and expenditure levels, together with a projected budget surplus of £345,258 for 2025-26. • The proposed budget for 2026-27 for approval with a proposal for fees to be increased by 3.2% in line with the Council's Fees and Charges policy as shown in Appendix 1 of the report. • Advise that the Annual Accounting Statement for 2024-25 has been returned and audited by Audit Wales with no amendments. (Appendix 2 of the report refers).
---------------	--

COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE - FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2026

	Table 1 in the report, showed the financial position as at 31 January 2026 and the projected outturn for 2025-26. Table 2 in the report, then reflected a breakdown of the Planned Capital Maintenance budget, along with the projected outturn and variances for 2025-26. In paragraph 3.3 of the report there was included a Table 3, which showed the proposed revenue budget for 2026-27. The remainder of the report included information on Planned Capital Maintenance Spending requirements, Fees and Charges and the Impact on Accumulated Balance of the proposed Budget for 2026-27. A member noted from Table 3 in paragraph 3.3 of the report, that there was a contribution from BCBC in the sum of £38k. He asked what this was for. The Accountant Financial Control and Closing stated that this was for re-chargeable costs, though he would check this was the case and reply to the member outside of the meeting. Finally, a member referred to Table 5 in paragraph 3.9 of the report and asked what the significance was of the figures listed in that table being in brackets. The Accountant Financial Control and Closing confirmed that the bracketed figures indicated that this was incoming income. <u>RESOLVED:</u> The Joint Committee:- (1) Noted the projected financial performance for 2025-26. (2) Confirmed and approved the revenue budget for 2026-27. (3) Approved a 3.2% increase in fees and charges with effect from 1 April 2026, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.
Date Decision Made	6 March 2026

80. Urgent Items

Decision Made	There were no urgent items
Date Decision Made	6 March 2026

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#).

The meeting closed at 14:37.