

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2019

REPORT OF THE CLERK & TECHNICAL OFFICER

EXTERNAL LIGHTING

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Joint Committee for the proposed installation of external lighting at the Crematorium.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate priorities:-

1. **Supporting a successful economy** – taking steps to make the county a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county.
2. **Helping people to be more self-reliant** – taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

3. Background

3.1 The Crematorium is an important work by a British architect of international reputation (Maxwell Fry) and is Grade 2* listed.

3.2 Since the opening of the site in 1971 there has been no external lighting installed within the grounds.

3.3. The crematoria that have been built in more modern times, such as the Crematorium at Barry, are incorporating external lighting into their facilities. It makes the sites more aesthetically pleasing while improving safety and security.

3.4 The lack of external lighting at Coychurch Crematorium impacts upon visibility when mourners and visitors are entering the grounds for

funeral services that take place late in the day during the winter months. It makes access to the chapels from carparks and along pathways precarious. When leaving the last funeral service of the day the mourners invariably return to their cars in the dark. This increases the risk of a trip, slip or fall and is especially difficult for those using wheelchairs or who are infirm.

- 3.5 The Crematorium currently installs temporary external lighting for evening events, such as the annual Christmas Service. This is costly and time consuming. It also involves the addition of temporary cables across the tree line and in through windows, which is aesthetically displeasing.
- 3.6 The lack of external lighting restricts the finishing time of funeral services during the winter months and so this is detrimental to the level of service provided by the Crematorium.
- 3.7 The lack of external lighting places the large number of vehicles parked in the carparks at a greater security risk.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

- 4.1 The Crematorium is regularly complemented by service users for the high standard of facilities provided and this is evident on the returned service questionnaires. The lack of external lighting, however, is an area that lends itself to improvement.
- 4.2 The installation of external lighting would reduce the safety risk and improve the Crematorium's ability to comply with the current disability access requirements of the Equality Act 2010.
- 4.3 The addition of external lighting would serve to improve the welcoming aspect of the Crematorium and assist to lead cars to the Crematorium's entrance and to the main car parks when it is dark.
- 4.4 It is proposed to install low level lighting bollards along the main entrance driveway and pathways, complemented by column lighting to the two main chapel and office car parks. The style of the lighting would complement the architectural style of the building, improving the aesthetics of the grounds.
- 4.5 The lighting scheme has been assessed by the Council's electrical engineers and an estimated budget cost calculated which has taken account of all associated fees for design works, planning applications, ecology reports, contract management and project management.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 None.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality implications arising from the report.

7 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment

7.1 This report seeks approval to investigate the feasibility of carrying out improvement works. At this stage there is no requirement for a well-being statement.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 The estimated budget cost of the above works is £300,000 and is covered in the Crematorium's Business Plan for 2019/20.

9. Recommendation:

9.1 The Joint Committee is recommended to approve, in principle, the provision of external lighting to the grounds at Coychurch Crematorium.

9.2 The Joint Committee is recommended to authorise the Clerk and Technical Officer to invite tenders in respect of the works to be undertaken and report back to the Joint committee with a view to commencing works within the 2019/20 financial year.

**ZAK SHELL
CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER
12th February 2019**

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Background Papers: Business Plan Report to the Joint Committee 8th March 2019 and
Project assessment information from BCBC's Electrical Engineers.