



CABINET - 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: REVISION OF CEMETERY REGULATIONS

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To recommend a revision of the current Cemetery Regulations.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 Under the provision of the Local Government Act 2000, local Authorities are empowered to make regulations to effectively administer and operate municipal cemeteries.

2.2 The current regulations were formally adopted by the Authority in 2006, but now require revision to incorporate new facilities and initiatives.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The Community & Leisure Services aim in its Service Plan for 2014/15 in relation to bereavement services is:-

“To provide a customer focused, sensitively delivered bereavement service and to achieve excellent standards in cemetery management and maintenance”.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 A copy of the proposed regulations are attached as Appendix 1 to this report. For the ease of identification, amendments are set out in bold and italic text.

4.2 A formal introduction has been included to clearly outline the purpose of the Cemetery Regulations.

4.3 Recently, new features/areas have been developed, which need to be included in the Cemetery Regulations viz;-

- (1) The new Memorial Garden at Danygraig Cemetery;
- (2) The Natural Burial area at Abercarn Cemetery;
- (3) The Children’s areas at Bedwas, Gwaelodybrithdir and Bedwellty Cemeteries;
- (4) The use of the Chapel at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery for funeral services.

4.4 In addition to the improvements listed in paragraph 4.3, the proposed regulations now include information for Funeral Directors who make amendments to funeral arrangements, which have already been made. These will safeguard the Authority from any misunderstandings that may arise.

4.5 Within paragraphs 16-18 of the proposed regulations, detailed information is clearly set out on the purchase and transfer of the Exclusive Rights of Burial.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no Equalities Implications to be considered as part of this report. The proposed amendments to the Cemetery Regulations relate equally to every user of the service regardless of their background or individual circumstances.

5.2 Comments in relation to Equalities and the way services are accessed have been incorporated into the proposed Cemetery Regulations.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The views of the listed consultees have been incorporated within this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That Cabinet approves the revised cemetery regulations set out in Appendix 1 (which includes changes highlighted in bold and italicised text) and takes into account those additions set out in section 4 of this report.

9.2 That previous regulations be rescinded and cease to have any effect.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To incorporate the revisions set out within section 4 of this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000 and Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977.

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Consultees: Mark S. Williams, Head of Community & Leisure Services
Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Councillor D. Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Derek Price, Parks and Outdoor Facilities Manager
John Rogers, Principal Solicitor
David A. Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Proposed Cemetery Regulations