

CABINET

DATE OF COMMITTEE

13th October 2011

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Review of Cemetery Regulations

EXEMPT INFORMATION

No

PURPOSE

Review the restriction on vehicular access within Tamworth's cemeteries.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to approve:-

To continue to leave all cemetery gates open for pedestrian access as previously approved, and

To restrict vehicular access to all cemeteries with the exception of Wigginton Road Cemetery and to authorise the necessary amendments to the Cemetery Regulations be made.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or physical resource implications arising from this report.

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk of resident challenge for those cemeteries able to be accessed by vehicles. However there have only been two enquiries for vehicular access across all of the other cemeteries during the 12 month period.

As Wigginton is the largest cemetery and is subject to expansion for the future, consideration has been given to reinstate vehicular access.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None

CONCLUSIONS

The level of public opinion gave rise to the gates at Wigginton Road Cemetery being left open for vehicles on a trial basis at the request of the Portfolio holder. No issues of concern have been raised during this time however, in future, parking within the cemetery by people not visiting graves will be monitored for potential misuse.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At their meeting of the 20th October 2010 members approved revisions to the cemetery regulations, a new fee structure and a 12 month trial period for the cessation of the locking and unlocking of Cemetery gates within Tamworth.

During the trial period there have been numerous enquiries from residents and visitors requesting vehicular access to Wigginton Road Cemetery. There have only been two other requests for Wilnecote New Cemetery. There is no vehicular access at either Amington or Wilnecote Old Cemeteries and limited access at Glascote Cemetery.

Given the level of public opinion on this matter, a trial period of leaving the gates open at Wigginton Cemetery has been ongoing since the end of August 2011 at the request of the Portfolio Holder. There have been no cases of abuse or damage reported during this time. It

is therefore recommended that the cemetery regulations are amended to reflect this and allow vehicular access to this one cemetery.

REPORT AUTHOR

Sarah McGrandle

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Cabinet report 20 October 2010

APPENDICES

None