

2022-23 FEES AND CHARGES – CEMETERIES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 As part of the annual review of budgets, decisions are required to agree any non-statutory fees and charges for the forthcoming financial year.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The decisions over fees and charges must be within the constraints of the overall financial framework and the medium-term financial plan. At the same time, decision making regarding the fees and charges must reflect a 'commercial' environment where there is a need to react swiftly and proactively to changing conditions. As a result, power to agree fees and charges, or to make formal arrangements for the setting of fees and charges within a Portfolio, is delegated to the Portfolio Holder.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES

- 3.1 Cemeteries charges have been reviewed and adjusted to reflect the changing costs of this service. The service maintains the cemetery standards, ensures health and safety responsibilities in our cemeteries are met and the complexities of interment administration are completed legally and respectfully. Where above inflation increases are proposed these fees and charges are comparable to our neighbouring authorities.
- 3.2 The family organised interment fee has seen the largest increase, this reflects the increased cost incurred during the interment process. The Cemeteries Office acts as the funeral director providing essential and comprehensive advice with the standard paperwork, the risk assessment and method statement, and statutory requirements, including cemetery visits with families.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The increase in charges is intended to meet service costs. Any financial implications will have been or will be reported as part of ongoing budgetary control.

5. CRIME & DISORDER, ENVIRONMENTAL, EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The service continues to ensure that our cemeteries are maintained respectfully in the natural environment. We continue to look for opportunities to increase Biodiversity at our cemeteries where this is practical, to provide habitats for wildlife without compromising site presentation for the bereaved and their relatives/friends

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 That the fees and charges attached as Appendix 1 be agreed and adopted from the dates shown.

7. PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S ENDORSEMENT

I agree to the recommendation in this report.

Sign: Cllr David Russell

Date: 10 March 2022

For Further Information Please Contact:

Iain Park
023 8028 5833
Grounds and Street Scene Manager
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Date on which notice given of this Decision – 10 March 2022
Last date for call in – 17 March 2022

PEOPLE & PLACES PORTFOLIO

PROPOSED SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2022/23

| | Current Charge 2021/22 £ | Proposed Charge 2022/23 £ | Increase £ | Increase % |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>CEMETERIES*</u> | | | | |
| <p>The fees shown below are applicable to those who have resided within New Forest District. Those who qualify for the Resident Fees will incur the 50% discount. Non-Resident Applicants will incur the Fee in full. For a full breakdown of the criteria qualifying Resident Fees please consult the current Cemetery Regulations.</p> | | | | |
| Interment Fees | | | | |
| Interment of ashes in cremated remains section | 308.00 | 325.00 | 17.00 | 5.5 |
| Interment of ashes in a grave or woodland grave | 308.00 | 325.00 | 17.00 | 5.5 |
| * Child (up to and including 17 years). NFDC claim all child-related fees from the Children's Funeral Fund for England. These fees are for information only. | Fee dependent upon interment | Fee dependent upon interment | n/a | n/a |
| <i>Person over 17 years:</i> | | | | |
| Single / double depth grave | 665.00 | 700.00 | 35.00 | 5.3 |
| Single / double depth grave in a traditional kerbed section - within specific sections and cemeteries | 845.00 | 890.00 | 45.00 | 5.3 |
| Use of memorial garden | 102.00 | 105.00 | 3.00 | 2.9 |
| Burial chamber for un-coffined burials | 1,575.00 | 1,655.00 | 80.00 | 5.1 |
| Postponement or cancellation (less than 48 working hours-notice) | Interment Fee | Interment Fee | - | - |
| Burial on Saturday | Interment Fee + 50% | Interment Fee + 50% | - | - |
| Purchase of Exclusive Right of Burial (EROB) | | | | |
| Cremated remains section | 328.00 | 360.00 | 32.00 | 9.8 |
| Woodland cremated remains section | 430.00 | 470.00 | 40.00 | 9.3 |
| * Single depth child grave within the Children's Section. NFDC claim all child-related fees from Children's Funeral Fund for England. These fees are for information only | 430.00 | Fee dependent upon plot type | n/a | n/a |
| Lawn and woodland sections | 800.00 | 885.00 | 85.00 | 10.6 |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------|------|
| Eling lawn section with memorial ground support | 900.00 | 985.00 | 85.00 | 9.4 |
| Traditional kerbed section - within specific sections and cemeteries | 1,280.00 | 1,395.00 | 115.00 | 8.98 |
| Purchase of a burial plot requiring 2 grave spaces | 2 burial plot Fees | 2 burial plot Fees | - | - |
| Additional Administration of Exclusive Right of Burial | | | | |
| Family organised interment - administration | 110.00 | 130.00 | 20.00 | 18.2 |
| Location of burial plot selected by purchaser | 215.00 | 230.00 | 15.00 | 7.0 |
| Assignment / Transfer of EROB | 130.00 | 140.00 | 10.00 | 7.7 |
| Re-issue of EROB | 55.00 | 57.00 | 2.00 | 3.6 |
| Surrender or cancellation of EROB - pro-rata refund | No Charge | No Charge | - | - |
| Memorial Fees | | | | |
| Permission to erect or amend a memorial | 164.00 | 175.00 | 11.00 | 6.7 |
| * Permission to erect or amend a memorial in any section (up to and including 17 years). NFDC claim all child-related fees from Children's Funeral Fund for England. These fees are for information only | 164.00 | 175.00 | 11.00 | 6.7 |
| Permission to erect or amend a memorial with kerbstone in designated traditional sections only - with application | 328.00 | 350.00 | 22.00 | 6.7 |
| Permission for offsite repair or maintenance of memorial - with application | 55.00 | 57.00 | 2.00 | 3.6 |
| Permission for <i>insitu</i> repair or maintenance of memorial - with application | No Charge | No Charge | - | - |
| Purchase of a woodland plaque and vase with plinth +VAT - with application | P.O.A. | P.O.A. | - | - |
| Purchase of a woodland or a memorial garden plaque only +VAT - with application | P.O.A. | P.O.A. | - | - |
| Purchase of an NFDC owned memorial bench plaque only +VAT - with application | P.O.A. | P.O.A. | - | - |
| Sundry Fees | | | | |
| Use of chapel - included in interment fee and subject to availability | No Charge | No Charge | n/a | n/a |
| Research fees per hour - minimum 1 hour | 55.00 | 57.00 | 2.00 | 3.6 |

* NFDC claim **all** child-related fees from Children's Funeral Fund for England. These fees are for information only.
For further information: <https://www.gov.uk/child-funeral-costs>

NOTE: VAT. Charges are exclusive of VAT.
Charges which are zero rated or not subject to VAT are marked * either individually or by service.