

MARGAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND REGISTRAR C.Phillips

7 December 2018

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All Wards

50th Anniversary of opening of Margam Crematorium

Purpose of the Report

1. To obtain approval from members for a programme of events and tributes acknowledging the 50th anniversary of the anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium.

Background

2. Members will be aware that the Margam Crematorium was officially opened on the 25th April 1969.
3. Members will also note that the Margam Crematorium has now become a Grade II listed building included for its special architectural and historic interest as a fine example of a post-war crematorium, which was a new building type of the twentieth century. The building is especially imaginative and creative in responding to the design challenges of the building type, with a plan and layout that skilfully handles the circulation of users through the building and separates its functions, and with a simplicity of design and detail that helps to create a sense of spirituality appropriate to its purpose.
4. Members resolved at the recent meetings of the Joint Committee of the Margam Crematorium that a programme of events to acknowledge the

same be held in 2019 and some form of permanent memorial be acquired.

5. To date the Superintendent and Registrar of Margam Crematorium has developed a series of events to acknowledge this event, some of which have included:
 - (a) the holding of an ecumenical service to be held in May 2019, which would allow for contributions from all faiths/non faiths and led by members of each denomination. On the 25th anniversary in 1994, the then Archbishop of Wales attended and provide an address. Attempts will be made to arrange an event of a similar standing. The cost of arranging this would be of a similar amount as that put in place for the annual Palm Sunday service and the upcoming Christmas Carol concert.
 - (b) a brochure/booklet be prepared and published on the history of the Crematorium over the last 50 years. A member of the Cremation Society of Great Britain, Dr Hilary Granger, some years ago prepared a paper and presented it to the FBCA/CSGB conference on Crematoria of the 60's and 70's and featured Margam in the paper. Dr Granger is willing to waive a fee for the work but has requested a donation to a charity of her choice, which is proposed to be in the region of £200. Dr Granger has asked for her travelling fees to be met and for accommodation of up to two nights to be provided. With the cost of printing involved of any brochure/booklet, it is suggested that the overall costs for preparation and production (including the expenses above) will be in the region of approximately £1,000.
 - (c) a lecture on the evolution of cremation in the area (to include an opportunity to view the cremation area of the Margam Crematorium), using the same as an education event. It is proposed that Professor Douglas Davies a member of the Cremation Society of Great Briton be invited to deliver this. Professor Davies has again agreed to waive any fee for this event but would request a donation of in the region of £200 for his attendance.
6. To commemorate the event it is also proposed that an anniversary plaque commemorating the 50th anniversary be erected in the Margam Crematorium, in a style similar to that produced on the opening of the Margam Crematorium. Quotations are currently being sourced from

suppliers of these items, which have indicated the cost for the provision of such items will be in the region of £1,500.

Equality Impact Assessment

7. There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Financial Impact

8. The potential costs involved in holding of these events are as set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 of this report. These costs will be accommodated from the Margam Crematorium budget for the 2019/2020 financial year and provision has been earmarked accordingly. In summary however a budget provision of £3,500 has been allocated.

Workforce Impacts

9. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

10. There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Consultation

11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

12. That members agree the event programme set out in paragraph 5 of this Report to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium and that delegated authority be granted to the Superintendent Registrar, in consultation with the Chair of the Joint Committee of Margam Crematorium, to agree the design and final cost of an anniversary plaque and the purchase of the same.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

13. To acknowledge the milestone of the 50th anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium

List of Background Papers

14. None

Officer Contact

Mr C Phillips – Superintendent & Registrar

Tel. No. 01639 883570

e-mail c.phillips1@npt.gov.uk