

**STRATEGIC CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM
DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of Meeting of 10th April, 2017

Members Present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);
Alderman Sandford; and
Councillors McCabe and O'Neill.

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Toland, Assistant Director, City Services,
Mrs. C. Sullivan, Policy and Business Development
Officer, and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 6th March, 2017 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest were reported.

**Update on Permanent Memorial to mark
Plot Z1 in the City Cemetery**

The Policy and Business Development Officer provided the Working Group with an update on the proposal to erect a permanent memorial at Plot Z1, commonly known as the "Baby Public," in the City Cemetery. She reported that the project had moved to stage 3 committed expenditure within the Council's Capital Programme, with a maximum budget allocation of £50,000. The Members were advised that the Council was undertaking currently a procurement process to appoint an artist to design, produce and erect a piece of memorial artwork for the plot and that it was anticipated that the successful artist would be appointed by April, 2017.

As part of the design process, it was reported that a number of workshops would be undertaken to seek the views of relevant parties on the proposed design of the memorial and that the date of the workshops would be published on the Council's website. It was reported that it was anticipated that the completed memorial would be erected in the City Cemetery by late Summer of 2017 and that Members would be provided with regular updates on the progress thereof.

Noted.

Update on Memorial Management Policy

The Assistant Director provided the Working Group with an update on the Council's Memorial Management Policy and sought permission from the Members to explore the possibility of agreeing set prices with memorial sculptures in regard to the procurement of their services. The Working Group was reminded of the results of the Memorial Safety Inspection Programme and was presented with a copy of a report in the matter which had been presented previously at its meeting on 6th March, 2017.

The Members raised concerns in respect of the cost to bereaved families of the costs associated with undertaking funerals and also the cost associated with undertaking remedial work to unstable headstones. In response to the concerns raised, Members

agreed that officers would conduct exploratory discussions with sculptors with a view to agreeing set prices associated with undertaking both the erection of memorials and associated remedial works, where necessary.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group agreed that its next meeting be held on Wednesday, 3rd May, 2017 at 4.30 p.m.

Chairperson