

**STRATEGIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM
DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of Meeting of 14th March, 2018

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

In Attendance: Mrs. C. Sullivan, Policy and Business Development
Officer;
Mr. M. Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Apologies

An apology was reported on behalf of Councillor Murphy.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 28th February, 2018 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest were reported.

Request to film at City of Belfast Crematorium

The Bereavement Services Manager informed the Working Group that a request had been received by DoubleBand films to record a film entitled "Lost Lives" at the City of Belfast Crematorium. It was reported that the film company had wished to film a replica cremation involving the use of an empty coffin. The Bereavement Services Manager stated that, due to the sensitivities around the subject matter, it had been suggested that filming might take place outside normal operating hours and that the Council would be reimbursed for the use of its facility.

After detailed discussion in the matter, it was

Moved by Alderman Sandford,
Seconded by Alderman Rodgers,

That the Working Group agrees not to grant permission for
DoubleBand films to record a film in the non-public areas of the City of
Belfast Crematorium.

On a vote by a show of hands, two Members voted for the proposal and one against. The proposal was accordingly declared carried subject to the approval of the People and Communities Committee.

**Update on Provision of Water Bowsers
at Roselawn Crematorium**

The Bereavement Services Manager reported that two water bowsers had been provided at the crematorium, one of which had been located in the cemetery grounds in Section P and the other in Section S. In response to a question from a Member, he stated that a third water bowser had not been installed due to technical issues. He reported

however, that due to the recent heavy rainfall, there had not been a significant use of the water bowsers by visitors to the cemetery.

Noted.

Snow Clearance for Funerals and Cremations

The Bereavement Services Manager reported that Cemetery and Crematorium staff have been clearing snow and ice to allow safe access for burials and cremations. This winter, there have been four periods when snow has fallen and accumulated on cemetery sites. Cemetery and Crematorium staff have worked tremendously hard in all conditions to ensure that every burial and cremation went ahead at the appointed time and that mourners had safe access to these. The Bereavement Services Manager also updated members that Cemetery Staff had provided first aid to a lady who fell in snow at her mother's grave.

The Working Group noted the information provided and praised the work of the Council staff in regard to their snow clearance efforts across all Council cemetery sites.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group agreed that its next meeting would be held on Thursday, 12th April at 4.30 p.m.

Chairperson