

**Report to:** Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee

**Report by** Horticultural Consultant (Dave Stribling)

**Date** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009

### **General Maintenance**

I feel the regular maintenance is progressing well both to standard and to schedule and that the gardening team continues to provide an efficient quality service.

### **Improvements**

Planting of the additional bulbs throughout the gardens and bulb borders was completed in December and many are starting to grow despite the cold winter, and should provide colour and interest throughout the year.

Shrubs and plants to replace those around the gardens that have died or require replacement have been ordered and will be planted within the next couple of weeks. These are predominately within non-internment areas.

I have ordered some shade tolerant grass seed mix to re-instate the bare areas under the trees. This will be carried out as soon as weather conditions allow, probably during late February and early March. Any bare grass areas along path edges will also be re-instated at this time.

### **Rock Garden / Pond Area**

I was hoping to carry out some renovation to this area but due to the poor weather conditions this winter I propose to put this off until next autumn.

**RECOMMENDED that the report be received and noted.**

*Background list of documents –  
Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 – None*