

**REPORT TO: THE PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
28 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**REPORT BY: THE CLERK TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE MANAGER
AND REGISTRAR**

PROVISION OF INTERNET BROADCASTING OF SERVICES

Purpose

1. To update the Joint Committee on the outcome of further discussion with RSInnovations into the provision of the internet broadcasting of services, where this has been specifically requested by a family.

Recommendation

That the current situation outlined in this report be noted and no further action be taken at this time.

Background

2. At the meeting on 22 June 2009 there was a report on the position that had been reached by that date with regard to the proposal from RSInnovations, a company offering to web cast services at the Crematorium.

3. In summary, following an approach by Mr Reynolds, the proprietor of RSInnovations, the Joint Committee in June 2008 agreed to officers investigating the provision of the Internet broadcasting of services and ways and means by which this could be achieved. A further report was submitted to the Joint Committee in December 2008 updating members and requesting further investigation regarding quality, technical, security and related issues.

3. At the Joint Committee meeting on the 2 March 2009 members were again updated on progress the company was seeking to make, including trials that had, and were, being undertaken to address the issues of concern to the Joint Committee. Following this meeting Mr Reynolds was again reminded of the need to settle satisfactorily the range of outstanding matters.

Progress since June 2009

4. At the meeting of the Joint Committee on 2 June 2009 the Clerk reported that the company had indicated a security system was now in place, and that both the Manager and Registrar and Clerk would be arranging to meet Mr Reynolds to see a further demonstration. We wanted this to include remote accessing via the internet using the security system proposed. Members indicated they would like to see the proposed

system demonstrated, and it was suggested the most satisfactory arrangement would be for members to view 'on line', using a security password, as if they would be remotely watching a service.

5. The Manager & Registrar and Clerk subsequently met with Mr Reynolds to ascertain progress and outline the suggestion regarding an 'on line' demonstration. Clearly, the time that has elapsed since Mr Reynolds first brought forward his proposal in 2008 has allowed certain technical improvements to be developed. Whilst there has been a 'desk top' demonstration in Mr Reynolds office of the security arrangements and picture quality it has unfortunately not been possible for this to be demonstrated 'on line' in the way we envisaged, for various reasons. Mr Reynolds did suggest that, at his company's cost, he would be prepared to arrange for a special telephone line to be installed in the Crematorium chapel to enable the equipment and system to be installed on site for a demonstration period. Given that we were seeking a demonstration of the security aspects and technical quality, it was felt it would be inappropriate to take up the suggestion at this stage.

Conclusion

6. Whilst Mr Reynolds remains enthusiastic about the possibility of web casting services, we are concerned that there is still no proven demand for such a facility, either from enquiries received or experience elsewhere. Mr Reynolds is seeking to continue to develop his web casting business in respect of other projects. We feel at this stage, however, that we can take the proposal no further in respect of web casting from Portchester Crematorium.

James Clark
Manager and Registrar

John Haskell
Clerk to the Joint Committee

Background List of Documents –
Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 - None

JH/me
14 September 2009