

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
Monday 14 June 2010**

REPORT BY: THE HORTICULTURAL CONSULTANT

Pond Repair Scheme

The refurbishment of the Pond and Rock Gardens is now complete with the exception of the planting. We now have 2 water falls and have received many compliments regarding the quality of the work. We do have some oxygenating plants in the pond and the fish have been returned. It is my intention not to plant the rockery until September to give us a chance to remove any perennial weeds that may come up during the summer; this is because it is almost impossible to remove perennial weeds from groups of Alpines.

It was originally reported to Members in September 2009 that the cost of the works would be £15,725 utilising £9,000 from the Garden Improvement Fund with the remainder of the funding being met from the general grounds maintenance budget.

While the contractors were on site I took the opportunity of having additional works carried out, some of which were not related to the pond works, but still paid to the contractor under this scheme heading with the total cost being £19,650 and the breakdown of how this has been financed is as follows:

Ground maintenance budget 2009/10 £8,696. Because of the timing issues with the contract, the GM budget was over spent by £1,900 but the 2010/11 budget will be reduced by the equivalent sum.

Garden Improvement Fund 2009/10 £9,764

Ground maintenance budget 2010/11 £1,190

Other works

The spring bedding lasted longer this year and was in flower for many months. Summer bedding displays have just been planted which will provide a colourful entrance to the Crematorium.

Our contractor Brighstone Landscapes continues to maintain everything to a high standard. The start of this year has been very unpredictable, however they have managed to weather the problems.

Roger Young
Horticultural Consultant

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

RY/rl
2 June 2010