

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
20th JUNE 2011**

REPORT BY: CLERK TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

CREMATORIUM CAR PARK – USE FOR ‘PARK AND STRIDE’ SCHEME

Purpose

1. To consider a request received from Northern Infant School to use the crematorium car park each morning between 8.30am and 9.15am for a ‘park and stride’ scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that the request from Northern Infant School be approved subject to the following main terms and conditions –

- (a) The use of the external overflow car park for a park and stride scheme is at the sole discretion of the Joint Committee, such use to be reviewed annually;**
- (b) The Joint Committee reserves the right to withdraw approval to the use at anytime;**
- (c) The Joint Committee shall have no liability arising from the use proposed;**
- (d) The Head Teacher of Northern Infant School to be responsible for co-ordinating with other schools in the area who may wish to join the scheme.**

Background

2. Attached is a letter dated 4 April 2011 received from the Head Teacher of Northern Infant School requesting use of the crematorium car park each morning for a ‘park and stride’ scheme.

3. I have spoken with the Head Teacher to clarify more of the detail of what is proposed, which can be summarised as follows –

- The suggestion brought forward by the school evolves out of a long standing School Travel Plan which seeks to encourage more children to walk to school, especially to reduce traffic flows in the immediate school vicinity;
- A lot of children attending Northern Infant (and the adjacent Primary) School live out of catchment and as a result their parents drive them to school;
- The school starts at 8.45am;
- It is not known at this stage how many parents might wish to participate - there has been no ‘sounding out’ of the idea amongst parents;
- If permission is granted to use the crematorium’s external car park the Head Teacher thinks the scheme could start from September 2011.

- The Head Teacher has suggested that it might be that Red Barn School, in Linden Lea, might also want to take part if a scheme can get off the ground.

Response to the Proposal

4. The Manager and Registrar, Engineer and Surveyor, and the Treasurer have no objection in principle to the proposal. The first funeral service each day is at 9am, and at this time it would be expected mourners would use the main crematorium car park.

5. The land upon which the external car park is constructed is leased from Fareham BC, whose Estates Surveyor advises that there is nothing obvious within the lease that would prevent it being used in the way proposed.

6. The suggested use has been notified to the Joint Committee's insurers – Zurich Mutual.

7. If and when the scheme develops it is suggested that other schools in the near vicinity might be encouraged by Northern Junior School to join the initiative.

Conclusion

8. The use of the external car park at the beginning of each day should not impact upon funeral services. However, it is important to keep such use under review.

9. By supporting this initiative, the Crematorium could be making a helpful contribution to the local community by assisting in seeking to reduce vehicular traffic in the immediate vicinity of school premises thereby assisting road safety and also contributing to healthy walk to school initiatives.

John Haskell

Clerk to the Joint Committee

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

JH/me
7 June 2011