



**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

REPORT BY: THE HORTICULTURAL CONSULTANT

CREMATORIUM GROUNDS – GENERAL UPDATE

The Grounds have looked stunning through the summer months. The Dahlias and Cannas, both new additions in the Bulb border, have lifted the display and extended the growing season.

We did stop some mowing due to the drought conditions; this was balanced against the extra watering that we had to undertake.

The Roses have looked good through the summer months, although unfortunately some had died, and this did not become apparent until the spring when growth started and it was too late to replace them. These will be replaced during the autumn.

The Pond has improved and although the water is green the fish are in good health. There are lots of new young fish which is a good indicator of a quality habitat.

There has been a delay in the reduction of the Poplar trees on the North border. This has been caused in part by the need to remove the large number of unofficial memorials placed in the area of the proposed works. James has instructed his technicians to undertake the clearance and the trees will then be pruned. The tree work should be completed by the end of September.

I have not received notification of the result of the in-bloom judging; the comments on the day were very positive and the judges were impressed with the presentation of the site.

Brighstone the grounds contractor continues to work well and I am very pleased with their performance and commitment to quality. They are innovative and have started using some electrical equipment such as strimmers and blowers, and these are quieter and more environmentally friendly.

Ashley Humphrey,
Horticultural Consultant

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

AH/me
12 September 2019