



**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE -
Monday 28 September 2020**

REPORT BY: THE HORTICULTURAL CONSULTANT

CREMATORIUM GROUNDS – GENERAL UPDATE

Due to Covid 19 and staff shortages I have been overseeing the contractor carrying out grounds maintenance at the crematorium. If members have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Although this has been a very difficult year with the Covid pandemic and extreme weather conditions we have experienced, I believe the gardening staff have continued to provide a first class service completing all scheduled tasks plus a few items of additional works and the grounds have continued to look good all through the year.

We have had a problem with the flower bed next to the conservatory where the Zinias were attacked by a specific pest that attacks this species - we will amend the planting scheme next year to avoid susceptible species. All other beds have been unaffected and are still looking very good particularly the car park bed which even in mid-September still looks stunning.

The grounds have again been awarded a gold award in the South and South East in Bloom in the large Cemetery and Crematorium section where we achieved the highest points tally we have ever received. Unfortunately there is no overall category winner this year, due to our scoring we think we may have won this.

The flowering bulbs have been delivered for the winter bedding displays and also to enhance the bulb border and rockery by the fish pond.

The winter bedding is due for delivery on the 14th October and will be planted shortly after delivery.

Ashley Humphrey, the Horticultural Consultant, is assessing the shrub and rose beds for any replacement planting that is required, planting of the replacement is normally carried out in the Autumn / Winter.

Report compiled by

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Background List of Documents –

Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 – None