

FEES AND CHARGES REPORT

APPENDIX 5 – CEMETERIES

1. Service Description

West Lindsey District Council currently maintains 2 open cemeteries – Legsby Road, Market Rasen and School Lane, Springthorpe.

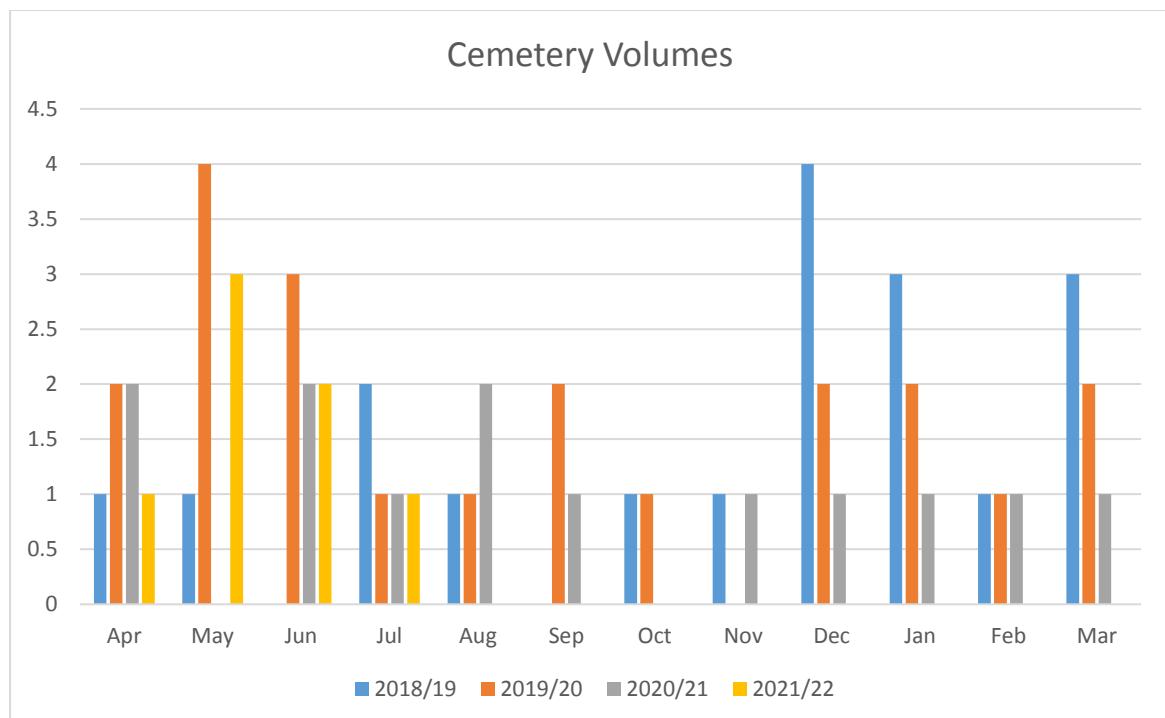
Costs for maintaining the grounds at these sites have been steadily increasing, but the income received from the sites is small and therefore the council heavily subsidises the service. In 2020/2021 the net cost was £84,742.

There are two service charges applied to the cemeteries:

- Exclusive Right of Burial (EROB) – allocation of grave space for period of 99 years
- Memorials and inscriptions – permission for erection of memorial or adding of inscription to existing memorial

2. Prior years analysis, current financial year projections

The Cemetery service is demand driven and cannot be influenced. The table below illustrates volumes for 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and actuals to Mid July 2021.



3. COVID Impact

There has been no impact on the service or income levels as a direct result of Covid-19.

4. Pricing

Recent benchmarking shows the fees set for this service are now more in alignment with neighbouring councils. The 2019/2020 approved increase was the final step towards the charges set by other councils. With effect from 2022-23 the proposal is to increase fees by inflation at 3.9%, rounded to the nearest 50p.

5. Understanding Customers and Markets

The table below shows the last 3 financial year volumes data for burials for West Lindsey District Council and volumes Mid July for the current year. There has been a small decline in numbers over the last financial year.

The service is one that is linked to the demographics of the area and the space available.

Financial Year	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
2018/19	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	4	3	1	3	18
2019/20	2	4	3	1	1	2	1	0	2	2	1	2	21
2020/21	2	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	13
2021/22	1	3	2	1									7

6. Proposed Charging

The proposed charges are outlined in the table below. The significant amendment to note is that a new fee schedule for non-West Lindsey residents has been introduced which doubles the standard charge in place for residents. This change has been introduced to bring the fee schedule in line with other areas and to ensure that space within these cemeteries remains focussed on local provision. This approach is common for other cemetery fees in similar areas.

There will be a discretionary aspect to this, for example, in cases where someone was a resident and was moved to a care home outside of the district. A guidance note will be placed onto the website with the fees to outline the position on this.

7. Impact on Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

	2022/23 (£)	2023/24 (£)	2024/25 (£)	2025/26 (£)	2026/27 (£)
Current Budget in MTFP	(6,400)	(6,500)	(6,600)	(6,700)	(6,700)
Proposed Budget - Cemeteries Burial Rights	(5,300)	(5,500)	(5,600)	(5,700)	(5,700)
Proposed Budget - Cemeteries Leased Memorials	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100)
Impact on MTFP 2022/23 Pressure/ (Saving)	-	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)

8. Recommendation

Members are requested to recommend to Council the charges for the 2022/2023 as detailed in the schedule below.

2021/22	Proposed Increase / (Decrease)		2022/23	VAT Amount	2022/23 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate
	£	%				

Cost for interment of a person who had been a West Lindsey resident at the time of their death

Single Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (99 years) (B) For the interment of a West Lindsey resident	£637.00	3.9%	£25.00	£662.00	£0.00	£662.00	OS
Double Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (99 years) (B) For the interment of a West Lindsey resident	£892.00	3.9%	£35.00	£927.00	£0.00	£927.00	OS
Single Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (50 years) (B) for the interment of a West Lindsey resident	£319.00	3.9%	£12.50	£331.50	£0.00	£331.50	OS
Double Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (50 years) (B) for the interment of a West Lindsey resident	£445.50	3.9%	£17.50	£463.00	£0.00	£463.00	OS
Cremated remains only grave not exceeding 4' 6" x 4' For the interment of a West Lindsey resident	£382.00	3.9%	£15.00	£397.00	£0.00	£397.00	OS
Cremated remains only grave not exceeding 4' 6" x 4' (C) (3 to 17 years) For the interment of a West Lindsey resident **	£103.00	3.9%	£4.00	£107.00	£0.00	£107.00	OS
Single grave (3 to 17 years) for the interment of a West Lindsey resident **	£172.00	0.0%	£0.00	£172.00	£0.00	£172.00	OS

Cost for interment of a person who had not been a West Lindsey resident at the time of their death

Single Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (99 years) (B) For the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident	£1,274.00	3.9%	£49.50	£1,323.50	£0.00	£1,323.50	OS
Double Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (99 years) (B) For the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident	£1,784.00	3.9%	£69.50	£1,853.50	£0.00	£1,853.50	OS
Single Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (50 years) (B) for the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident	£638.00	3.9%	£25.00	£663.00	£0.00	£663.00	OS
Double Grave not exceeding 9' x 4' (50 years) (B) for the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident	£891.00	3.9%	£34.50	£925.50	£0.00	£925.50	OS
Cremated remains only grave not exceeding 4' 6" x 4' For the interment of a West Lindsey Non resident	£764.00	3.9%	£30.00	£794.00	£0.00	£794.00	OS
Cremated remains only grave not exceeding 4' 6" x 4' (C) (3 to 17 years) For the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident **	£103.00	3.9%	£4.00	£107.00	£0.00	£107.00	OS
Single grave (3 to 17 years) for the interment of a Non West Lindsey resident **	£172.00	0.0%	£0.00	£172.00	£0.00	£172.00	OS

Exhumation:

Body *	£553.50	3.9%	£21.50	£575.00	£0.00	£575.00	OS
Cremated remains *	£277.00	3.9%	£11.00	£288.00	£0.00	£288.00	OS

* There will be an additional cost - Public Health Exhumation of £1000

** There will be no charge up to 3 years

Monuments, Gravestones, Tablets & Monumental Inscriptions (Permission to erect) (Includes initial inscription)

Headstone up to 18 inches (C)	£127.50	3.9%	£5.00	£132.50	£0.00	£132.50	OS
Headstone 18 inches to 3ft (B)	£152.50	3.9%	£6.00	£158.50	£0.00	£158.50	OS
Headstone over 3ft but under 4ft (B)	£277.00	4.0%	£11.00	£288.00	£0.00	£288.00	OS
Small vase (up to 6 inches) (B) (C)	£55.00	3.6%	£2.00	£57.00	£0.00	£57.00	OS
Vase (6 inches to 1ft) (B) (C)	£102.00	3.9%	£4.00	£106.00	£0.00	£106.00	OS
Plaque (not exceeding 8" x 4" (fixed)) (B) (C)	£55.00	3.6%	£2.00	£57.00	£0.00	£57.00	OS
Plaque (not exceeding 12" x 6" (fixed)) (B) (C)	£102.00	3.9%	£4.00	£106.00	£0.00	£106.00	OS
Flat stone (not exceeding 12" x 12") (B) (C)	£102.00	3.9%	£4.00	£106.00	£0.00	£106.00	OS
Flat stone (not exceeding 12" x 18") (B) (C)	£113.00	4.0%	£4.50	£117.50	£0.00	£117.50	OS
Memorial figurine (not exceeding 12" (fixed)) (B) (C)	£102.00	3.9%	£4.00	£106.00	£0.00	£106.00	OS
Memorial figurine (12" up to 24" (fixed)) (B) (C)	£121.50	3.7%	£4.50	£126.00	£0.00	£126.00	OS
For each inscription after the first	£45.50	4.4%	£2.00	£47.50	£0.00	£47.50	OS

Registration Fees

Per certified copy of a certificate of grant of exclusive Right of Burial	£72.50	4.1%	£3.00	£75.50	£0.00	£75.50	OS
Per certified copy of entry in Register of Burials	£72.50	4.1%	£3.00	£75.50	£0.00	£75.50	OS

Copies of Certificates

Permission to plant memorial tree	£83.00	3.6%	£3.00	£86.00	£0.00	£86.00	OS
Permission to install memorial seat	£83.00	3.6%	£3.00	£86.00	£0.00	£86.00	OS

NB. Burial grounds are at Market Rasen & Springthorpe