

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE 14 JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

FEES & CHARGES 2008/09

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Mullins

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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| 1.1 The proposed fees and charges for 2008/09 are laid out in this report. The Executive is requested to recommend these charges to Full Council. |
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2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is for the Executive to consider the proposed fees and charges for 2008/09 for the following services:
- Cemeteries & Crematorium,
 - Waste Services,
 - Licensing.

3 PROPOSED INCREASES FOR 2008/09

- 3.1 Appended to this report are the detailed proposed charges for each service as outlined above. The results of both the 2006 and 2007 public consultation events "Your Council, Your Views" clearly indicated that the public prefer to see increases in fees and charges, rather than in Council Tax, as a way for the Council to raise income. Therefore, where possible, fees have been increased to take these views into account. Comments on the proposals from the recent Overview and Scrutiny Board are shown in paragraph 3.9.

3.2 Cemeteries & Crematorium (Appendix A)

It is proposed that the main cremation fee be increased by £30 to £509. This will generate additional income of an estimated £66k. Members should note that this increase is mid way between the two possible proposed increases of £20 and £40 included within the savings plans considered by the Executive elsewhere within this agenda. In addition other fees have been largely increased by 3%.

- 3.3 Members may also wish to note that following the comments made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board there have also been some minor increases to some of the ancillary charges ie Urns and Caskets, Tablets, Plaques etc. Where fees have been amended from that considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board the amended fees are highlighted and the original proposal shown in parenthesis.

3.4 Waste Services (Appendix B)

For Garden Waste Bins the fees are proposed to increase from £20 to £25. In addition the charge for paper sacks is proposed to increase from £7.50 to £10. All other fees and charges are proposed to remain the same. The financial

impact of these proposals will be incorporated into the budgeted 2008/09 contributions to the Somerset Waste Board, once finalised.

3.5 Licensing Fees (Appendix C)

Many Licensing fees particularly those in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 are set nationally, and the majority of income derived from licensing activities results from these fees. However for those licensing fees where there is local flexibility to set an appropriate amount Officers have been working to ensure that the Council's costs in administering and enforcing such licenses are adequately met from the subsequent income received. However it is not possible to set a standard increase across all areas. As can be seen from Appendix C. The activities of the Licensing Unit are many and varied. Each activity has to be considered on the basis of the nature of the activity, location and number of existing traders and other market factors and an individual fee or charge proposed accordingly.

- 3.6 Licensing fees are delicately balanced, put these rates up too much and this will suppress the market and lead to an overall reduction in activity and therefore a reduction in income. This also may encourage more illegal and therefore unregulated trading; resulting in greater risks to public safety and consequently may result in more costly investigations into this activity by the Licensing Unit. However if the fee is reasonable and affordable, people will be more inclined to pay it, and this will therefore afford a greater level of protection of public safety in the Borough. In summary, income from the proposed increases in fees is expected to generate an additional £7k in 2008-09. Increased volumes of activity will also generate additional income of £50k.
- 3.7 Members may also wish to note that following the comments made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board there have also been some minor further increases to some of the charges for street trading and advertising on taxis. Where fees have been amended from that considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board the amended fees are shown in bold type and the original fee level proposal shown in parenthesis.
- 3.8 Members may recall that in previous years the proposed fees for the Land Charges service are usually contained within this report. This service is currently under review by the Strategic Director (KT). Government guidance also indicates that consideration has to be given to matching fee levels to the costs of running the service, therefore at present the proposed new fee levels for 2008/09 have not been set.
- 3.9 The Overview and Scrutiny Board considered the proposed fees and charges at their meeting on 13 December 2007. The Board made the following comments on the proposals:

Service	Overview & Scrutiny Comments
Cemeteries & Crematorium	The Board were happy with the proposed increase of £20, as tabled in the original report to the Board, in the main cremation fee but requested that some of the ancillary charges (eg

	urns, caskets and memorials) be increased further than that originally proposed.
Waste Services	None – happy to support the proposals.
Licensing	The Board were generally happy with the proposed fees but requested that some of the charges for street traders, pavement cafes and advertising on taxis be increased further than that originally proposed.

3.10 A TRO Panel in December has considered the car parks fees and charges and the Portfolio Holder has agreed with the recommendations of the Panel. These were reported in the Weekly Bulletin on 3 January.

3.11 The fees and charges once agreed by the Executive will be referred to Full Council in February.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Executive are requested to recommend the proposed fees and charges for 2008/09 to Full Council as set out in this report.

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**TAUNTON DEANE
CEMETERIES AND
CREMATORIUM
TABLE OF FEES
AND CHARGES**



Proposed from 1st April 2008

TAUNTON DEANE CEMETERIES & CREMATORIUM

Part 1 - Cremation

For the Cremation:-	£ 2007/8	£ 2008/9
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month;	17.00	18.00
(ii) of the body of a child whose age at the time of death exceeded one month but did not exceed sixteen years;	92.00	95.00
(iii) of the body of a person whose age at the time of death exceeded sixteen years;	479.00	509.00 (499.00)
(iv) a surcharge will be made when the service does not take place between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday;	55.00	57.00
(v) use of Chapel for additional service time.	128.00	132.00
(vi) Chapel Attendant pall-bearing fee.	15.00	16.00

NOTE:- The Cremation fee includes:-

Use of Chapel, waiting room etc.
 Services of organist and use of organ
 Services of chapel attendant, which includes playing CDs, tapes, etc.
 Medical referee's fee
 Disposal of cremated remains in Garden of Rest
 Certificate for burial of cremated remains
 Provision of Polytainer when required

Part 2 - Urns

Supply of Urn or Casket:-	£	£
Stratford	30.00	35.00 (31.00)
Avon/Stirling	34.00	40.00 (35.00)
Malvern	38.00	50.00 (39.00)
Metal Postal	34.00	45.00 (35.00)

Part 3 - Cremated Remains

(i) Temporary deposit of cremated remains:-		
First month	17.00	18.00
Each subsequent month	21.00	22.00
(ii) Forwarding cremated remains excluding carriage	22.00	23.00
(iii) Collection of cremated remains on a Saturday (when available)	52.00	54.00

Part 4 - Memorials

(i) Entries in Book of Memory:-		
Two line inscription	50.00	52.00
Five line inscription	70.00	72.00
Eight line inscription	96.00	99.00
Flower) with five or eight	45.00	46.00
Badge or Coat of Arms) line inscription only	56.00	58.00
(ii) Memorial Cards:-		
Two line inscription	24.00	25.00
Five line inscription	31.00	32.00
Eight line inscription	34.00	35.00
Flower) with five or eight	48.00	50.00
Badge or Coat of Arms) line inscription only	66.00	68.00
(iii) Miniature Books:-		
Two line inscription	50.00	52.00

Five line inscription	63.00	65.00
Eight line inscription	66.00	68.00
Flower	48.00	49.00
Badge or Coat of Arms	66.00	68.00
Subsequent inscriptions		
Per line	16.00	17.00
Flower	41.00	42.00
Badge or Coat of Arms	54.00	56.00
(iv) Cornish Granite tablet for a ten year period		
Standard memorial tablet	296.00	310.00 (305.00)
Memorial tablet with vase	342.00	360.00 (352.00)
Provision of flower container in existing tablet	47.00	50.00 (48.00)
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	148.00	155.00 (152.00)
(v) Memorial plaque for a five year period	206.00	220.00 (212.00)
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	103.00	110.00 (106.00)
(vi) Baby memorial plaques for a ten year period	67.00	70.00 (69.00)
<u>Part 5 - Other Fees and Charges</u>		
(i) Certified extract from Register of Cremations	15.00	17.00 (16.00)
(ii) Floral Arrangements:-		
Small arrangement	32.00	33.00
Large arrangement	37.00	38.00

NOTE:- The charges in Part 4 and 5 (ii) include VAT

CEMETERIES

TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Table of fees and other charges fixed by the Taunton Deane Borough Council for and in connection with burials in the Taunton Deane St. Mary's, St. James and Wellington Cemeteries.

The fees indicated for the various parts set out below apply where the persons to be interred or in respect of who the right is granted is, or immediately before this death, was an inhabitant of Taunton Deane District, or in the case of a stillborn child where one of the parents is or at the time of the interment was such an inhabitant or parishioner. In all other cases the fees, payments and sums will be doubled with the exception that those set out in Parts 3 and 4 will not be so doubled.

Interment fees out of normal hours will be doubled.

Part 1 - Interments

The fees indicated for the various heads of this part include the digging of the grave but do not include the walling of a vault or walled grave.

	£ 2007/8	£ 2008/9
1. For the interment in a grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has not been granted:-		
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one year;	103.00	106.00
(ii) of the body of a child or person whose age at the time of death exceeded one year.	268.00	276.00
2. For any interment in a grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted:-		
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one year:-		
at SINGLE depth	116.00	120.00
at DOUBLE depth	139.00	144.00
at TREBLE depth	155.00	160.00

(ii) of the body of a child or person whose age at the time of death exceeded one year but did not exceed ten:-		£	£
at SINGLE depth		226.00	233.00
at DOUBLE depth		266.00	274.00
at TREBLE depth		288.00	297.00
(iii) for the body of a person whose age exceeds ten years:-			
at SINGLE depth		340.00	350.00
at DOUBLE depth		400.00	412.00
at TREBLE depth		450.00	464.00
3. For the interment of cremated remains:-			
(i) in Garden of Remembrance (where cremation has not taken place at Taunton Deane Crematorium)		45.00	47.00
(ii) in any grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted		84.00	87.00
(iii) Saturday interment (when available)		81.00	83.00
(iv) To witness interment in Garden of Rest when cremation has taken place at Taunton.		17.00	18.00

Part 2 - Exclusive Rights of Burial in Earthen Graves

1. Taunton Deane Cemetery:-

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave 2.3 m by 1.2 m

(i)	in Division L	400.00	412.00
(ii)	in Division A	450.00	464.00
(iii)	in Division B	430.00	443.00
(iv)	Cremated remains grave 78 cm by 76 cm	288.00	297.00

2. St. Mary's and St. James Cemeteries:-

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave 2.6 m by 1.2 m

430.00	443.00
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	£	£
3. Wellington Cemetery:-		
For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave		
(i) 2.3 m by 1.2 m	430.00	443.00
(ii) 1.2 m by 0.6 m	288.00	297.00

The fees indicated in Part 2 include the Deed of Grant and all expenses thereof.

Part 3 - Memorials and Inscriptions

For the right to erect or place on a grave or vault in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted.

1. In any "Traditional Section":-		
(i) a flat stone, kerbstone or any other form of memorial;	153.00	158.00
(ii) a headstone or cross with base, bases or tablet;	137.00	141.00
(iii) an inscribed stone vase.	52.00	54.00
2. In any "Lawn Section":-		
(i) a headstone;	137.00	141.00
(ii) an inscribed vase.	52.00	54.00
3. Cremated remains flat tablet	137.00	141.00
4. Each removal of memorial for additional inscriptions.	52.00	54.00

Part 4 - Other Fees and Charges

1. Certified extract from the Register of Burials.	17.00	18.00
2. Burial service in Crematorium Chapel (fee includes the use of Chapel, organ and the organist's fee);	128.00	132.00
3. Register search.	17.00	18.00

Waste Services – Proposed Fees & Charges 2008/09

Waste Collection Authorities (WCA) are empowered by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and by regulations to charge for the collection of certain types of household wastes. These include bulky items and household garden wastes. The authorities are also empowered to charge for the provision of waste containers. These powers have been delegated to the Somerset Waste Board (SWB) through the SWB Constitution.

The proposed charges for the 2008/09 financial year are shown in the table below. The increases take account of the actual costs of delivering the services to customers that have been revealed through the recent contract procurement process and limit the risk of cost increases being incurred by controlling demand.

The Strategic Management Group of the SWP has agreed to apply the proposed charges throughout Somerset.

Bulky items and garden waste can be taken to the HWRCs free of charge.

SERVICE	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Garden waste service			
Garden waste bin (£PA)	15	20	25
Garden waste sack (£ per bundle of 10)	5	7.5	10
Bulky waste service			
First item (£)	10	10	10
Subsequent items (£)	2.5	5	5
Max number of items per collection	5	5	5
Refuse collection service			
Bin delivery/exchange charge (£)	15	15	15

FEES & CHARGES 2008/09 - LICENSING UNIT		Appendix C
SERVICE	2007-08 FEE	CEHO RECOMMENDED FEE FOR 08-09
Licensing Act 2003	All fees fixed by statute	All fees fixed by statute
Gambling Act 2005	New for 0708 Statutory Formula Applied	No increase proposed as first year of operation of this Act
Gaming Machines	Fixed By Statute	Fixed By Statute
Lotteries	Fixed By Statute	Fixed By Statute
Sex Establishment-Grant	£12,000.00	£12,000.00
Sex Establishment - renewal	£6,500.00	£6,500.00
Sex Establishment Licence Variation	£95 and £600 if determined by Licensing Committee	£95 and £600 if determined by Licensing Committee
Sex Establishment Licence Transfer	£60.00	£60.00
Skin Piercing Registration-Premises	£50.00	£55.00
Skin Piercing Registration-Individual	£50.00	£55.00
Admin - uncleared cheques	£35.00	£35.00
Admin charge - request for info (non FOI and non Public Regulations)	£35.00	£35.00
Duplicate Licence	£12.00	£15.00
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (non food)	£1,680.00	£1980 (£1800)
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (food)	£2,040.00	£2400 (£2280)
Street Trading - Paul St, Billet St	£960.00	£1080 (£1008)
Street Trading - Laybys	£1500-£2400	£1680-£2640
Mobile Traders	£275.00	£300.00
Permanent Site private land	£300.00	£300.00
Daily rate	£25-£55	£25-£55
Promotional Events	£135.00	£150.00
Pavement Cafes Less than 10m2 (Grant/Renewal)	£200/£200	£460/£220
Pavement Cafes less than 20m2 (Grant/Renewal)	£250-£250	£460/£270
Pavement Cafes less than 30m2 (Grant/Renewal)	£385/£385	£595/£405
Pavement Cafes less than 40m2 (Grant/Renewal)	£440/£440	£650/£460
Pavement Cafes in excess of 40m2 (Grant/Renewal)	£660/£660	£870/£680
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence	£165.00	£175.00
Private Hire Vehicle Licence	£165.00	£175.00
Change of number plate	£30.00	£30.00
Meter Test	£16.50	£18.00
Replacement Plate	£20.00	£25.00
Internal Identification Sticker	£3.00	£3.50
Photo fee	£3.00	£3.50
Private Hire Operator Licence	£90.00	£100.00
New Drivers Licence	£110.00	£120.00
Additional Knowledge Test	£17.50	£20.00
Driver renewal 1 year	£90.00	£100.00

SERVICE	2007-08 FEE	CEHO RECOMMENDED FEE FOR 08-09
Driver renewal 3 year	£240.00	£270.00
Replacement badge	£15.00	£15.00
Advertising on Vehicles	£35.00	£50 (£35)
Motor Salvage Operator Registration	£70.00	£70.00
Certified copy of Motor Salvage Operator Register	£35.00	£35.00
Pet Shop Licence	£110.00	£120.00
Animal Boarding Licence	£110.00 *	£120.00 *
Home Boarding License	£30.00 *	£30.00 *
Dog Breeding	£110.00 *	£120.00 *
Dangerous Wild Animals	£150.00 *	£150.00 *
Riding Establishments	£150.00 *	£150.00 *
Zoos	£500.00 *	£500.00 *
	* = Plus vets fees where appropriate	