

# TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE 7 DECEMBER 2005

## REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

### FEES & CHARGES 2006/07

This matter is the joint responsibility of Executive Councillors Hall and Edwards

<b>1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>
----------------------------

- |  |
|--|
| 1.1 The proposed fees and charges for 2006/07 are laid out in this report. The Executive are requested to recommend these charges to Full Council. |
|--|

### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is for the Executive to consider the proposed fees and charges for 2006/07 for the following services:
- Land Charges,
  - Cemeteries & Crematorium,
  - Licensing.

### 3 PROPOSED INCREASES FOR 2006/07

- 3.1 Appended to this report are the detailed proposed charges for each service as outlined above.
- 3.2 For the Land Charges service (Appendix A) no increase in the basic search fee is proposed. For the Cemeteries & Crematorium service an estimated additional £132,000 will be generated by the proposed charges and a brief narrative accompanying these increases is attached at Appendix B.
- 3.3 Appendix C contains a summary of the Licensing Fees and Charges, with the exception of the Licensing Act 2003 fees, as these are set by statute and are currently under review centrally. Each of the activities of the Licensing Unit derives from a statute many of which are well established, in general terms licensing fees must be reasonable and can only be used to pay for the costs incurred by a LA in determining the relevant Licence.
- 3.4 For those licensing fees where there is local flexibility to set an appropriate amount Officers have been working to try and increase fees by around 10%. However it is not possible to set a standard 10% increase across all areas. As can be seen from the appendix 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. Consequently the proposed percentage increases vary, some under and some over 10%, however this variance must be considered in the context of the level of fee.
- 3.5 Many Licensing fees and charges are delicately balanced, put these rates up too much and this will suppress the market and lead to an overall 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 licensing is expected to raise £150k in 2006/07, which is lower than the current year as each license is not necessarily renewed annually.

- 3.6 The Review Board at their meeting on 1 December considered the proposed fees and charges, and a verbal update on their comments will be given to the Executive on the night. Following consideration by the Executive, Full Council will be asked to approve the proposed charges on 13 December.
- 3.7 The fees and charges relating to the Car Parks service have already been discussed by the recent Traffic Regulations Orders Panel and are also due to be considered by Full Council on 13 December.

#### **4 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 The Executive are requested to recommend the proposed fees and charges for 2006/07 to Full Council as set out in this report.

**Contact Officer:** Paul Carter  
Financial Services Manager  
Tel: 01823 356418  
Email: [p.carter@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:p.carter@tauntondeane.gov.uk)

**1 LAND CHARGES SEARCH FEES**

- 1.1 It is the Council's usual practice to review the Local Land Charges Search fees annually. Normally this review results in an increase which reflects the additional costs of operating the service. The current fee charged for an ordinary search is £135 and we have gone from being the lowest in Somerset to one of the highest.
- 1.2 The service had a target of being delivered electronically by 2005 but this has not been met. Somerset County Council levy a fee for the element of the search carried out by them and this fee is included in the sum charged by the Council. The County Council has agreed to maintain their fee at the current level for 2006/07. In addition to the search fee, property purchasers would normally make drainage enquiries of the relevant Water Company for which another fee is payable.
- 1.3 There has been a reduction in the number of searches processed this year though the number of personal searches has continued to rise. This has resulted in a projected loss of income against budget of some £35,000. Given the continuing increase in the number of personal searches and the anticipated loss of income any further increase in the search fee is likely to exacerbate this situation.
- 1.4 However, there is scope to increase some of the "peripheral" fees. The current charge for a solicitor's own enquiry is £11 and this could be increased to £12. At present we charge £7 for each of the additional enquiries in the second part of the main CON 29 enquiry form. This could be increased to £8. When a parcel of land is included in a search we charge £10.90 to process this, and this charge could again be increased to £12. It is anticipated that the increases detailed above would produce an additional £500-£1,000 of income.
- 1.5 In the circumstances it is recommended that the fee for a standard search be maintained at £135 for the year commencing 1st April 2006 and that the fee increases in paragraph 1.4 above be agreed.

**Contact Officer:** Ian Taylor, Chief Solicitor  
Tel: 01823 356408.

## Appendix B

### TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT OF THE CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM MANAGER & REGISTRAR

#### CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM FEES AND CHARGES 2006/2007

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Mark J Edwards)

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The cremation charges detailed below will, if adopted, raise an additional £55,000 for the Council.
- 1.2 Of this £5,000 will be raised and allocated to the cemetery maintenance and repairs budget.
- 1.3 A further £77,000 raised will also be raised and will be ring-fenced for a fund to extend the crematory and finance the purchase and installation of mercury filtration equipment.

#### 2. PROPOSED CHARGES

- 2.1 The proposed charges are set out on the following pages.
- 2.2 Corresponding fees with neighbouring authorities are not yet available. However, having contacted these authorities, estimated figures are included below.

	<b>2006/07 ESTIMATED</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
BATH	£405	
BRISTOL SOUTH	£410	No financial provision for mercury filtration.
WESTON SUPER MARE	£430	No provision for mercury filtration.
YEOVIL	£400	Organist fees (£30) NOT included. No provision for mercury filtration.
TAUNTON	£459	£35 ring-fenced for mercury filtration equipment.

**CONTACT:** Paul Rayson  
TELEPHONE: 01823 284811  
E-MAIL: [p.rayson@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:p.rayson@tauntondeane.gov.uk)

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

***Proposed from 1st April 2006***



# **TAUNTON DEANE CREMATORIUM**

## **TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES**

### **EFFECTIVE FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2006**

Table of fees and other charges, the payment of which may be demanded under Section 9 of the Cremation Act 1902, by the Taunton Deane Borough Council for the cremation of human remains.

#### **Part 1 - Cremation**

For the Cremation:-

	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2006/07</b>
	<b>'</b>	<b>'</b>
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month;	15.00	16.50
(ii) of the body of a child whose age at the time of death exceeded one month but did not exceed sixteen years;	80.00	88.00
(iii) of the body of a person whose age at the time of death exceeded sixteen years;	399.00	459.00
(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;	48.00	53.00
(v) use of Chapel for additional service time.	113.00	124.00
(vi) Chapel Attendant pall-bearing fee.	13.00	14.00

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	25.00	27.00
-----------	-------	-------

Avon	26.00	28.00
Malvern	32.00	35.00
Metal Postal	28.00	31.00

### Part 3 - Cremated Remains

(i) Temporary deposit of cremated remains:-

First month	15.00	16.00
Each subsequent month	18.00	20.00

(ii) Forwarding cremated remains excluding carriage 19.00 21.00

(iii) Collection of cremated remains on a Saturday (when available) 45.00 50.00

### Part 4 - Memorials

(i) Entries in Book of Memory:-

Two line inscription	44.00	48.00
Five line inscription	62.00	68.00
Eight line inscription	85.00	93.00
Flower ) with five or eight	39.00	43.00
Badge or Coat of Arms ) line inscription only	49.00	54.00

(ii) Memorial Cards:-

Two line inscription	21.00	23.00
Five line inscription	27.00	30.00
Eight line inscription	30.00	33.00
Flower ) with five or eight	42.00	46.00
Badge or Coat of Arms ) line inscription only	55.00	61.00

(iii) Miniature Books:-

Two line inscription	44.00	48.00
Five line inscription	55.00	61.00
Eight line inscription	58.00	64.00
Flower	42.00	46.00
Badge or Coat of Arms	55.00	65.00

Subsequent inscriptions

Per line	14.00	15.00
Flower	36.00	40.00
Badge or Coat of Arms	47.00	52.00

(iv) Cornish Granite tablet for a ten year period		
Standard memorial tablet	260.00	286.00
Memorial tablet with vase	300.00	330.00
Provision of flower container in existing tablet	41.00	45.00
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	130.00	143.00
(v) Memorial plaque for a five year period	183.00	200.00
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	91.00	100.00
(vi) Baby memorial plaques for a ten year period	59.00	65.00
<b><u>Part 5 - Other Fees and Charges</u></b>		
(i) Certified extract from Register of Cremations	13.00	14.00
(ii) Floral Arrangements:-		
Small arrangement	28.00	31.00
Large arrangement	33.00	36.00

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



# CEMETERIES

## TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES

### EFFECTIVE FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2006

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.

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;	93.00	99.00
	(ii) of the body of a child or person whose age at the time of death exceeded one year.	235.00	259.00
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	102.00	112.00
	at DOUBLE depth	122.00	134.00
	at TREBLE depth	136.00	150.00

(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	198.00	218.00
	at DOUBLE depth	234.00	257.00
	at TREBLE depth	268.00	278.00
(iii)	for the body of a person whose age exceeds ten years:-		
	at SINGLE depth	292.00	321.00
	at DOUBLE depth	344.00	378.00
	at TREBLE depth	389.00	428.00
3.	For the interment of cremated remains:-		
(i)	in Garden of Remembrance (where cremation has not taken place at Taunton Deane Crematorium)	39.00	43.00
(ii)	in any grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted	74.00	81.00
(iii)	Saturday interment (when available)	71.00	78.00
(iv)	To witness interment in Garden of Rest when cremation has taken place at Taunton.	15.00	16.00

## **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 7' 6" by 4' 0"

(i)	in Division L	345.00	380.00
(ii)	in Division A	396.00	436.00
(iii)	in Division B	371.00	408.00
(iv)	Cremated remains grave 78 cm by 76 cm	253.00	278.00

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

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75

years in an earthen grave 8' 6" by 4' 0"	371.00	408.00
--	--------	--------

**3. Wellington Cemetery:-**

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave

(i) 2.7 m by 1.2 m	371.00	408.00
(ii) 1.2 m by 0.6 m	253.00	278.00

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave 2.7 m by 1.2 m

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;	135.00	148.00
(ii) a headstone or cross with base, bases or tablet;	120.00	132.00
(iii) an inscribed stone vase.	45.00	50.00
2. In any "Lawn Section":-		
(i) a headstone;	120.00	132.00
(ii) an inscribed vase.	45.00	49.00
3. Cremated remains flat tablet	120.00	132.00
4. Each removal of memorial for additional inscriptions.	45.00	50.00

**Part 4 - Other Fees and Charges**

1. Certified extract from the Register of Burials.	15.00	16.00
2. Burial service in Crematorium Chapel (fee includes the use of Chapel, organ and the organist's fee);	114.00	125.00
3. Register search.	15.00	16.00

**LICENSING UNIT**  
**FEES & CHARGES 2006/7**

## SERVICE

	05/06 FEE	CEHO RECOMMENDED % INCREASE FOR 2006/07 (AMENDED FEE IS SHOWN IN BRACKETS)
Gaming Machines	£250.00	0 - Fixed By Statute
Gaming Machines - Section 34	£32.00	0 - Fixed By Statute
Lotteries- new	£35.00	0 - Fixed By Statute
Lotteries - renewals	£17.50	0 - Fixed By Statute
Sex Establishment-Grant	£11,000.00	9.1% (£12,000)
Sex Establishment - renewal	£6,000.00	8.33% (£6,500)
Skin Piercing Registration-Premises	£50.00	0% (£50)
Skin Piercing Registration-Individual	£50.00	0% (£50)
Admin - uncleared cheques	£25.00	40% (£35)
Admin charge - request for info	£25.00	40% (£35)
Duplicate Licence	£10.00	20% (£12)
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (non food)	£1,500.00	6.66% (£1,600)
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (food)	£1,500.00	20% (£1,800)
Street Trading - Paul St, Billet St	£960.00	0 (£960)
Street Trading - Laybys	£1500 - £2200	0% - 9.09% (£1500 - £2400)
Mobile Traders	£250.00	0% (£250)
Permanent Site private land	£250.00	10% (£275)
Daily rate	£10-£50 per day	50-0% (£20 -£50)
Promotional Events	£100.00	20% (£120)
Pavement Cafes Less than 10m2	£150.00	16.6% (£175)
Pavement Cafes less than 20m2	£200.00	12.5% (£225)
Pavement Cafes less than 30m2	£300.00	16.6% (£350)
Pavement Cafes less than 40m2	£350.00	14.3% (£400)
Pavement Cafes - new grants in excess of 40m2	£500.00	20% (£600)
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence	£140.00	7% (£150)
Private Hire Vehicle Licence	£140.00	7% (£150)
Owner Transfer	£25.00	0 (£25)
Meter Test	£14.00	7% (£15)
Replacement Plate	£14.00	7% (£15)
Internal Identification Sticker	£3.00	0% (£3)
Photo fee	£2.00	0% (£2)
Private Hire Operator Licence	£75.00	6.66% (£80)
New Drivers Licence	£95.00	5.3% (£100)
Additional Knowledge Test	£17.50	0% (£17.50)
Driver renewal 1 year	£75.00	6.66% (£80)
Driver renewal 3 year	£200.00	10% (£220)
Replacement badge	£8.00	25% (£10)
Pet Shop Licence	£100.00	5% (£105)
Animal Boarding Licence	£100.00	5% (£105)
Home Boarding Licence	New Fee	£30.00
Dog Breeding	£100.00	5% (£105)
Dangerous Wild Animals	£135.00	3.7% (£140)
Riding Establishments	£135.00	3.7% (£140)
Zoos	£500.00	0% (£500)

**Contact: Jim Hunter, Licensing Manager, Tel 01823 356343**