

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

26 SEPTEMBER, 2006

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND POLICY

PROVISION OF ONE WAY SYSTEM/CAR PARKING FACILITY – CANNOCK CEMETERY

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek Member views on the provision of a one way system and/or car parking facility in Cannock Cemetery.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Members consider the contents of this report and decide upon a recommendation to be forwarded to Cabinet on the provision of either a one way system and/or a car park facility at Cannock Cemetery.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 Cannock Cemetery does not have a car park so visitors to the Cemetery use the main path and side paths, where wide enough, to park their vehicles.
- 3.2 Normally, this does not cause a problem but at certain times of year e.g. Christmas, Fathers Day, Mothers Day etc., the Cemetery becomes congested and vehicles attempt to drive across areas which contain burials.
- 3.3 Following a request from a Ward Member to reduce traffic congestion at Cannock Cemetery, a preliminary investigation has been undertaken to assess the feasibility of this request. There are two possible options for Members to consider which are:-
- (i) A one way system which would enter at the existing gate in Pye Green Road and exit at a new exit in Cemetery Road (Annex 1).
  - (ii) A car park constructed within the Cemetery grounds, allowing parking for approximately 30 cars in either area A or B (Annex 1).
- 3.4 If either proposal is accepted, a number of bollards will need to be installed to prevent parking on the main drive and adjacent pathways.
- 3.5 The estimated cost for a one way system is £30,000. A car park provision is estimated at between £21,000 and £25,000. In either case there is no allocation in the Council's Capital Programme and therefore either option would have to be considered as a future possible policy option.



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## Section 1

### Background

Cannock Cemetery does not have a car park so visitors to the Cemetery use the main path and side paths where wide enough. Normally, this does not cause a problem but at certain times of the year, e.g. Christmas, Fathers Day, Mothers Day, etc. the cemetery becomes congested and vehicles attempt to drive across areas which contain burials.

## Section 2

### Details of Matters to be Considered

The Council have identified that a car park does not exist in the Cemetery at present. There is still a large number of people who visit the site, many of whom travel in cars. Some of these people are registered disabled and need to access the path network close to the burial plot they wish to tend. However, a car park for approximately 30 cars could be constructed in the areas indicated on the attached plan (Annex 1), which would include the removal of 3-4 trees and some shrubs. Area A if selected would also increase congestion around the recently refurbished lodge and cause the loss of some floral displays on the entrance. Both Area A and B contain mature deciduous trees on the perimeter which the Council would seek to retain.

The one way system will involve the widening of an existing footpath onto Cemetery Road and the removal of 4-5 trees to facilitate footpath widening/installation of a gate into the existing fenceline.

The entrance onto Cemetery Road will require a double set of gates and appropriate 'no entry/one way' signage.

## Section 3

### Contribution to CHASE

The Council has adopted objectives based on the CHASE acronym, the 'E' being:-

Environment – "We will work to develop a clean, safe and sustainable environment"

A reduction in car congestion would assist in making the Cemetery a safer environment.

## Section 4

### Section 17 (Crime Prevention) Implications

Possible criminal damage to burial areas could occur if vehicles drive across burial grounds as stated in paragraph 3.2, Key Issues.

## Section 5

### Human Rights Act Implications

There are no identified implications arising from this report.

Section 6

Data Protection Implications

There are no identified implications arising from this report.

Section 7

Risk Management Implications

If traffic congestion is reduced in the Cemetery then potential damage to burial ground/memorials would be reduced as may any potential vehicle collision.

Section 8

Legal Implications

Section 214 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to provide cemeteries for the burial of the inhabitants of the District.

Article 3 of the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 (1977 Order) provides that 'a burial authority may do all such things as they consider necessary or desirable for the proper management, regulation and control of a cemetery'.

Article 4 of the 1977 Order provides that 'a burial authority may enclose, lay out and embellish a cemetery in such manner as they think fit, and from time to time improve it, and shall keep the cemetery in good order and repair...'

The Council is therefore empowered to undertake either of the proposals set out in this report if it considers it is for the proper management or regulation of Cannock Cemetery.

Section 9

Financial Implications

The cost of a one way system would be £30,000 and the cost of a car park would be between £21,000 and £25,000, in either case, as there is no current budget, this could be considered as a future possible policy option.

Section 10

Human Resource Implications

If the scheme is approved, the scheme would be clerked by Environmental Services Waste Engineering Personnel.

Section 11

Conclusions

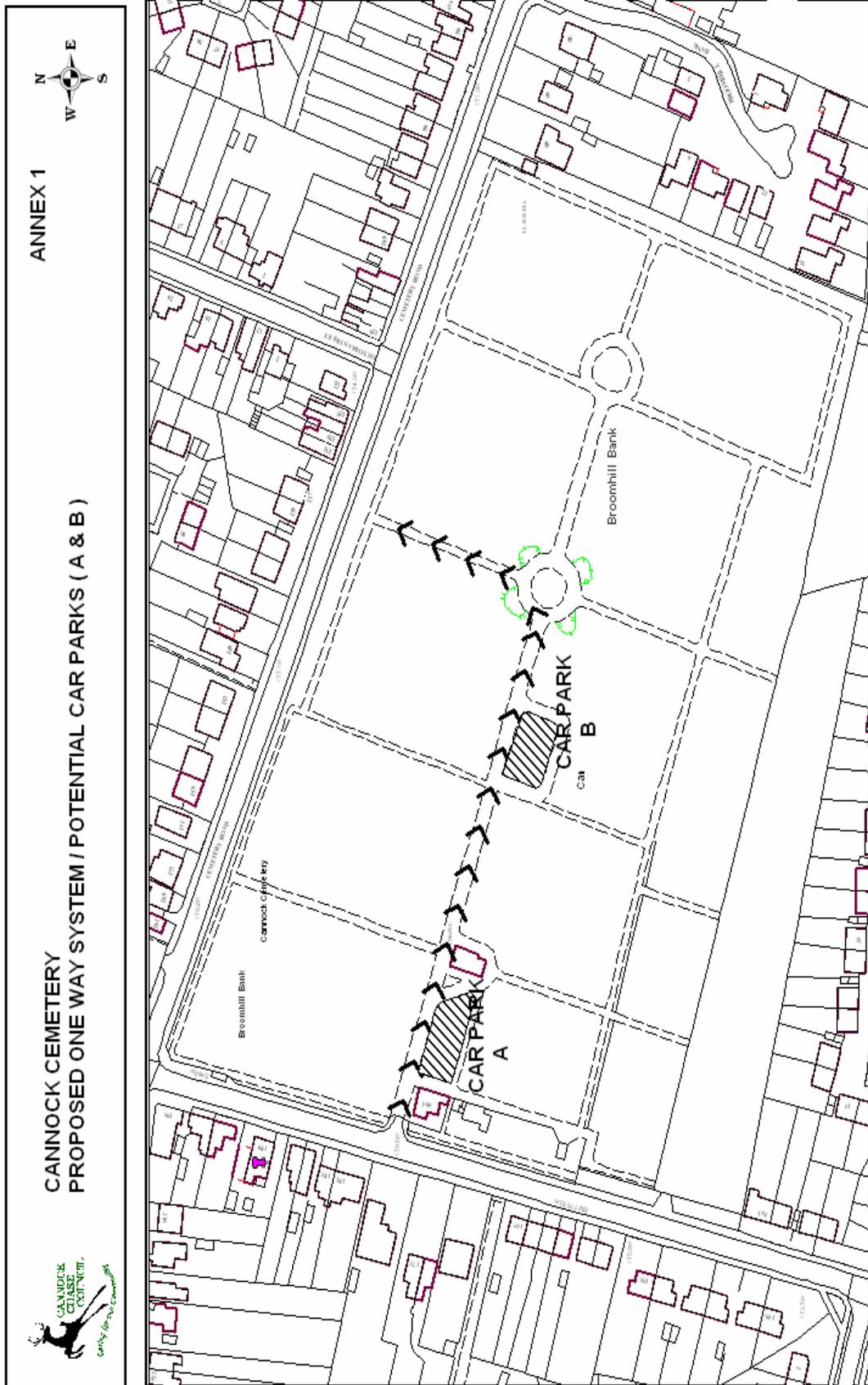
There are 2 options to be considered to reduce traffic congestion in Cannock Cemetery. Recommendations are included in Section 2 of the report.

Section 12

Background Papers

Annexes

Annex 1 – Plan Showing the Proposed One Way System and Potential Locations of a Car Park.



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