

Council: 29 January 2008

Motion (8.7): Cllr. John Hart

Amendment: Cllr. Mike Freer

Delete final paragraph, and replace with:

Accordingly, the Cleaner Green, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to investigate the provision of Woodland Burials in Barnet.

Substantive Motion to read:

Woodland Burials

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

Council notes the lack of available space in the Borough's Cemeteries, which, coupled with the sharp rise in the Borough's population in coming decades, will cause severe problems for burials.

Council believes that deeper burials and disinterring remains offer no solution, as they would be extremely insensitive and distressing for relatives and loved ones.

Therefore, Council believes a fresh, but sensitive approach is required to this problem.

The first Green, or Woodland Burial site opened in 1994, Council notes, and such sites have become increasingly popular, with more than 180 now in England, with additional grounds planned.

Council further notes that not only are Woodland Burial sites attractive and environmentally friendly, they also are cost-effective, requiring little maintenance.

Council believes that the large tracts of woodland and grassland could be utilised to offer Green or Woodland Burials to Barnet residents who wish to avail themselves of these.

Accordingly, the Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to investigate the provision of Woodland Burials in Barnet.