

MAINTENANCE OF BURIAL GROUNDS WITHIN THE OBAN AND LORN AREA

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides members with information regarding the maintenance programme for the upkeep of burial grounds throughout the Oban and Lorn area. Concerns were made to the Council previously regarding maintenance standards at burial grounds.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that members note the content of this report.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The Council has a duty for the maintenance of all burial grounds within its ownership. The current maintenance regime of burial grounds throughout the area includes twenty-four grass cuts, with follow-up works being carried out on a four weekly cycle.
- 3.2 During the maintenance season of 2011, issues were raised with the service regarding the maintenance of burial grounds. The issues raised related to the frequency of grass cutting and also the machinery type being used to carry out the operation.
- 3.3 Throughout this current season the maintenance of burial grounds has been more frequent, with Streetscene trialling a different type of machine. The alternative machine has provided improved control of the dispersal of the grass arisings. This has led to the operation being more effective and efficient.
- 3.4 During the current maintenance season, Streetscene staff have also applied a different herbicide product to the burial ground paths. This has proved very successful in eliminating weeds and growth, resulting in the cemetery paths being more presentable.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 This report provides members with information regarding the maintenance programme for the upkeep of burial grounds throughout the Oban and Lorn area. Concerns were made to the Council previously regarding maintenance standards at burial grounds.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy | None. |
| 5.2 | Financial | Greater efficiency in resource. |
| 5.3 | Personnel | Works carried out with existing resources. |
| 5.4 | Equalities Impact Assessment | None. |
| 5.5 | Legal | None. |

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