

Item 7.5 Review of Fees and Charges

Introduction

The need to review fees and charges is an annual process that feeds into the budget setting process for next financial year – 2021/22. Facilities and Services Committee consider the review at their meeting 6th July 2020.

With COVID 19 impacting on the budget for 2020/21 it is felt that the all fees could start from 1st September 2020, when allotment fees traditional increase.

In addition, further benchmarking has been done to help clarify where we as a Council compare with other Councils.

Cemetery comparison

In some respects, comparisons are challenging but a typical purchase is: exclusive right, interment, monument & inscription, then the cost comparison is:

£460.00	- Hawkhurst
£500.00	- Cranbrook & Sissinghurst
£662.25	- Paddock Wood (no interment fee mentioned)
£720.00	- Pembury (no interment or inscription fee mentioned)
£1,160.00	- Goudhurst
£2,227.00	- Tunbridge Wells (may include burial)

Hawkhurst is currently well below the average fee.

Allotment comparison

Again this can be challenging but a basic allotment varies;

- Hastings average cost (calculated by sq. meter) with water £51.70
- Robertsbridge £12.50
- Rother £50 for small plot, £99.50 plots over 125 sq. meters
- Sevenoaks up to £41.50
- Hawkhurst £24 full and £12 half plot

Hawkhurst is currently well in the lower percentile, and we should consider a higher fee for allotments with water.

The Facilities and Services Committee considered that some fees in Hawkhurst had remained low for some time and recognised the need to move towards the market rate.

Proposal

The Facilities and Services Committee recommend the Fees and Charges set out below.

Hawkhurst Parish Council					
	2020/21		Proposed 2021/22		APPENDIX A
Item	Standard non resident	Concession for residents	Standard - Non Resident	Concession for residents	Comment
Allotments					1st September 2020
Full Size Hensil	NA	£ 24	NA	£ 30	25% increase? Must be a resident
1/2 plot Hensil	NA	£ 12	NA	£ 15	50% OF A FULL SIZE PLOT Must be a resident
Second plot		£ 27		£ 35	Charge for more than one plot
Full size Ockley - water	NA	£ 24	NA	£ 35	68 plots, water £250 = £4 rounded up
1/2 plot Ockley - water	NA	£ 12	NA	£ 17	50% OF A FULL SIZE PLOT Must be a resident
Second plot		£ 27		£ 40	Charge for more than one plot
Cemeteries					Resident 50% of standard
Burial fees					1st September 2020
Exclusive rights of burial	£ 600	£ 300	£1,000	£ 500	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Exclusive rights of burial - woodland	£ 660	£ 330	£1,500	£ 750	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Exclusive rights of burial - Ashes	£ 160	£ 80	£ 750	£ 375	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
"strewn ashes"	£ 90	£ 45	£ 100	£ 50	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Internment fees	£ 110	£ 55	£ 200	£ 100	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Garden of remembrance	£ -	£ -			NA
Transfer of Exclusive rights of burial	£ -	£ -	£ 100	£ 50	Lower point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities

Monuments					
Memorial	£ 70	£ 70	£ 200	£ 100	Mid-point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Memorial inscriptions	£ 35	£ 35	£ 100	£ 50	Mid-point in comparison with neighbouring burial authorities
Note burial fees for under 18's to be waived					
Hall Hires					1st September 2020
Copt Hall	£ 25	£ -	£ 25		£25 for up to 3 hours. Key holder management - retain as last year help take up of hires?
KGV Sports Pavilion	£ 25	£ -	£ 25		£25 for up to 3 hours. Key holder management - retain as last year help take up of hires?
Sports pitches					1st September 2020
Football adult per match	£ 30	£ -	£ 35		Plus £5
Football adult per season	£ 900	£ -	£ 900		annual fee with HFC
Football junior per match	£ 15	£ -	£ 15		
Football junior per season	£ -	£ -			Free to Local junior football club
Football coaching course	£ 50	£	£ 50		Per day i.e. Half term week / summer hols
MUGA					1st September 2020
Whole Court with Floodlights - Junior	£ -	£ -	£ 15	£ 8	reduction for local clubs / groups
Whole court with Floodlights - Adult			£ 20	£ 15	reduction for local clubs / groups
Tennis court - per hour	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Free informal use	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Football coaching course	£ -	£ -	£ 50	£ -	Per day i.e. Half term weeks
Open space					
Management of Benches	£ 50	£ -	£ 50	£ -	same as last year