THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Agenda Item	3
Report No	HC/14/15

BURIAL GROUND EXTENSION

Report by Head of Corporate Governance

Summary

This report invites the Council to agree to provide for the extension of the existing burial ground at Dornoch.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In order to determine whether an extension to any existing burial ground should be provided, the Council is obliged to follow a requisition and special meeting procedure set out in Section 9 of the Burial Grounds (Scotland) Act 1855. This Report only concerns the process which must be followed under Section 9 of the 1855 Act. The acquisition of land, where required, is dealt with separately.
- 1.2 In accordance with Section 9 of the 1855 Act, a requisition has been received, signed by two Members requiring that a special meeting be held to determine whether an extension of 0.93 acres or thereby to the burial ground at Dornoch (as per the attached **plan**) should be provided.
- 1.3 An extension will be provided in accordance with the 1855 Act if the majority of those Members voting at a special meeting resolve that the proposed extensions to the existing burial grounds are to be provided.
- **1.4** The budget for burial ground extensions by Community Services is accommodated in the Council's Capital Programme, as approved at Highland Council on 27 June 2013.

2 PROPOSALS

At the Transport, Environmental and Community Services Committee on 14 March 2013, Report No. TEC/26/13 was circulated which highlighted that a number of cemeteries were reaching full capacity and it recommended that a 10 year cemetery extension/replacement programme was developed – this was approved. At the Transport, Environmental and Community Services Committee on the 6 February 2014, Report No. TEC/8-14 was circulated which provided members with an update on the cemetery extension/replacement programme and noted that the burial ground at Dornoch had less than 10 years capacity left.

3 IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal, equalities, climate change/carbon clever, risk, Gaelic or rural implications arising as a direct result of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to agree to provide the burial ground extension at Dornoch under Section 9 of the Burial Grounds (Scotland) Act 1855, as amended.

Designation: Head of Corporate Governance

Date: 11 February 2015

Background paper: Signed requisition



