

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

You are invited to the public exhibition on the 30th September 2015, between the hours of 2.00pm and 7.00pm at Chesterford Community Centre.

Your Questions answered:-

Who are Westerleigh?

Westerleigh is a specialist company which has unrivalled experience of constructing crematoria in rural locations. To date we have built thirteen and operate a total of twenty one crematoria across the country. All our buildings are designed to be sympathetic to the countryside as we want to preserve the natural appearance of the area.

Landscaping

We have placed great emphasis on landscaping within our plans. Existing trees and hedgerows will be retained and supplemented by new trees to ensure that the building sits against a natural background, screened from the outside. The remainder of the site will remain largely untouched, a memorial parkland for visitors.

Local Ecology

Wildlife is actually encouraged within the gardens and grounds as, in our experience, people like to see animals and birds when attending a funeral or visiting our gardens.

The Environment

This crematorium has been designed to include sophisticated filtration equipment. The advanced filters remove all smoke and odours and eliminates virtually all emissions. In fact, the crematorium will probably be one of the cleanest facilities available when built, as it is using the very latest environmental technology.

The building will be designed with sustainability in mind. A rain harvesting system will conserve water and provide irrigation to the grounds. The building will also be designed to be energy efficient with a

heat recovery system used to retain heat within the chapel and offices, and natural ventilation throughout.

Traffic

95% of funerals take place in the middle of the day between 10.30am and 3.30pm, outside of peak travel times. Consequently, crematoria do not normally have a significant impact on the throughput of traffic.

Our forecast is that we will care for approximately 600 funerals in our first year, with this rising to around 1000 cremations eventually, or 4-5 per day. On average, 18 cars attend a funeral and so, in year 10, the typical day will only see around 70-80 visiting cars.

On the busiest days this may rise to 125 cars but this will be exceptional. Even in these cases the volume is spread over a number of hours, typically from 10.30am to 3.30pm, and so the actual additional traffic is very light.

Your comments are important

We would appreciate your comments on the proposal in advance of the planning application being submitted to Uttlesford District Council.

Please write to:

Richard Evans

Westerleigh Group

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Further details on the Westerleigh group can be found at:

www.westerleighgroup.co.uk



CREMATORIA & CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT



Public Consultation for a Crematorium at Uttlesford, Great Chesterford



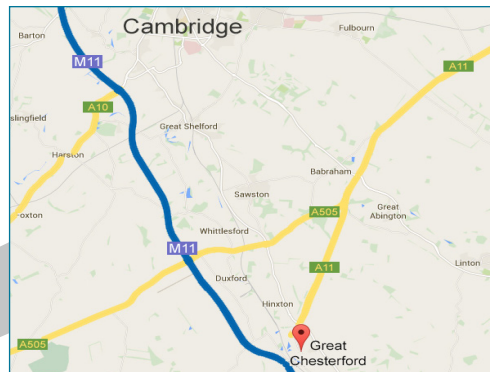
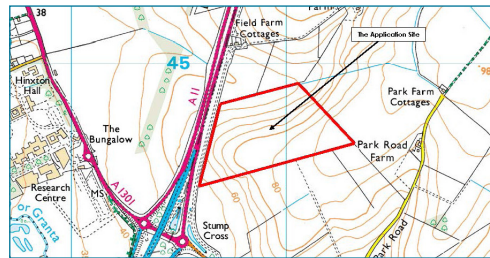
Westerleigh Group operates twenty one crematoria and a similar number of cemeteries across England and Wales, many in partnership with local authorities. Westerleigh have particular experience of developing new crematoria, having built thirteen in the past twenty years. All of these facilities are built on greenfield sites. Our new proposed crematorium will offer state of the art facilities within a green landscape and calm surroundings. The focus is on providing a facility where the bereaved leave with memories of green space, flowers and trees, rather than images of a building.



WHY HERE?

Uttlesford does not have a crematorium of its own with bereaved families forced to travel out of the district to Cambridge or further afield to Harlow or Braintree. This has led to Cambridge being one of the busiest in the country, holding over 2600 services a year and resulting in a poor experience for many bereaved families. This is particularly true during the winter when the death rate is typically 40% higher than the average. The lack of capacity of existing crematoria during this period often causes delays of more than two weeks in being able to book a time for a funeral.

A new crematorium would greatly relieve this pressure as well as providing a much more accessible option for families in the Northern half of Uttlesford.



THE PROPOSALS

This low profile building would be set into the natural contours of the land, well screened from the main road and able to offer the privacy so important to bereaved families. All existing hedgerows and trees will be preserved to ensure that the building is screened on all sides by mature landscaping with additional planting helping to blend the building into the surrounding countryside.

Below are typical examples of the crematoria we have built elsewhere:



Wessex Vale, Eastleigh



West Wiltshire, Trowbridge



Howe Bridge, Atherton

The internal layout has been designed to cater for funerals of any faith or belief with an open, light chapel. Externally the grounds are landscaped to provide peaceful surroundings and memorial gardens. The external appearance of the building will be designed to respect the character and appearance of the surrounding area, whilst being in harmony with the countryside location.

