

## CHILTERN CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

MEETING 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010

### OPEN REPORT OF THE CLERK TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE SUPERINTENDENT

*Background Papers (if any) are specified at the end of each item*

#### **3 MILTON FUNERAL CHAPEL: COMPLETION OF BUILDING WORKS**

*Contact Officer: Charles Howlett 01494 724263*

3.1 A report to the Joint Committee at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009 (Minute 7 refers), outlined details of the last remaining unresolved defect which is the grouting coming out from between the ceramic floor tiles in the chapel. The architects had expressed concern that this may be indicative of a more serious defect relating to the sub-structure of the floor. A resolution was being explored with the contractor and whilst it remained unresolved the contract could not be finally 'signed off'.

3.2 Following the report Councillor Warder asked that the details of the contract be checked to ensure that the Crematorium was covered against any further deterioration in the state of the tiles.

3.3 In the event the 'resolution' that was decided upon was to remove all the existing grouting and replace it with mastic grouting – the mastic being flexible would allow for any slight movement of the tiles without breaking away as was happening with the standard grouting material. This cost of the work was to be shared between the architect and the building contractor, with no liability on the Crematorium.

3.4 Unfortunately the work was not carried out properly with, amongst other things, a poor appearance which was unacceptable, although in the light of developments since these issues has no bearing on the fact that the problem remains unresolved. In fact, except in those places where it was poorly applied, the mastic grouting has stayed in place. However the stability of the tiles has continued to deteriorate with the floor becoming increasingly 'creaky' when walked on and, in some places, tiles beginning to show visible movement.

3.5 At the time of writing this report plans are in place for sample floor tiles to be lifted in various places across the floor, in the presence of all interested parties, to establish exactly what the problem is before deciding how best to resolve it. There is a distinct possibility that the whole floor will have to be re-laid.

3.9 This item is included for information.

***Background Papers:*** None