



Oak Hill

LAWN CEMETERY & CREMATORIUM

Summer 2022

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES COMPLEX

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council has recognised the need to update its bereavement services in order to tackle the escalating waiting times and increasing distances needed to travel to existing local crematoriums.

The development will provide a new larger chapel for both burial and cremation, as well as combining the facilities needed for both of these services. The chapel will also serve as a space for remembrance services throughout the year.

The Council's Bereavement Services Team will be located in the new complex with a reception making access to staff easier, as well as improving the facilities for visitors.

From the outset, the intention for the new bereavement centre, is to avoid the one size fits all approach that characterises many new crematorium developments. The nature of the centre and the services offered will be reflected in a design that sits comfortably within its context and respects the dignity of the occasion.

The new building will sit below the tree line when first viewed from the entrance, minimising its impact on

the openness of the greenbelt. When visitors enter the site and reach the top of the ridge, rather than finding themselves amongst a group of buildings, as they currently do, they will be in an open area, landscaped with new planting and trees. This newly revealed vista provides long views across the cemetery and the valley beyond.



THE TEAM AT HATFIELD

Donald Mackenzie – Project Manager • Greg Bowden – Site Manager • Richard Houghton – Quantity Surveyor



WELWYN
HATFIELD

[One.welhat.gov.uk/major-projects](https://one.welhat.gov.uk/major-projects)



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FURTHER INFORMATION

The current buildings in the entry way of the cemetery will also be replaced with new landscaping and will provide additional space for burials.

Work is underway to the main structure and the steel frame is now complete with the glulam posts and beams installed. Work has started on the high-level timber frame around the chapel which will enclose the glulam beams.

Metal walls/cement boarding has started to the chapel and office area, which is located to the front of the building. Meanwhile, at the rear, face brickwork has started to the cremator hall and workshop areas.

The weather has been on our side this summer and works are on schedule and set for completion in Spring 2023.

Top: Work to the road widening and extra parking bays continues.

Right: the steel frame is now complete.

Below: New plinths have been installed.



A reminder that the toilets have been closed since 1st of June and will remain so until the buildings are demolished. They will make way for landscaped areas and gardens, as well as additional burial space. Demolition of the existing complex will commence on Monday 5th September. Heras type block and mesh fencing will be erected early morning so that both the public and contractors will share the two-way top road for entry and exit. R G Carter will provide the gateman who will act as traffic marshal throughout. They will also organise the traffic diversion and signage. New plinths have been installed which will create 154 new burial spaces on the site of the old columns, they will be available in due course. The benches in this area will be removed to facilitate the new burial spaces.

If this affects you, as a deed holder, please contact us for further information:

Cemetery Services on 01707 357000, Option 6

For more information contact the Bereavement Team:
Telephone 01707 357000 Option 6

The new facility is due to open in Spring 2023

More information about the new crematorium can be found on one.welhat.gov.uk or email propertydevelopment@welhat.gov.uk

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