Management of cemeteries and burial grounds

Justin Smith
Director, Cemetery Development Services Ltd
Justin Smith Managing Director

Cemetery Development Services Ltd
The UK’s Largest Cemetery Design and Management Company
• CDSL the U’Ks largest cemetery design and management company
  – Environment Agency feasibility studies
  – Cemetery designs
  – Planning applications
  – Cemetery mapping
CEMETERY DESIGN

Legacy or Liability
Legacy

Liability
Victorian
Edwardian
Art Deco
1960's
2000's
Victorian Cemeteries were designed and operated in times of prosperity...

now have to be maintained in times of austerity
The Result
This has happened in less than 150 years and in some cases even less
Mother nature has reclaimed the dead and the cemeteries as well!
This is not just a Victorian problem
Why is this happening?

• Poor planning co-ordination
• Poor original design
• Poor control of memorialisation
• Lack of good legal direction (MoJ/Home Office)
• Public Education (Taboo and Symbolism)
• Underpricing!
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• Charge realistic prices

(average cost to maintain a plot over a 75 year exclusive right = £1,500 - £2,000)
£51 per plot!!?

- 8 Packets of cigarettes
- 3 months car tax
- Dinner out for two?
LEGACY OR LIABILITY

Pricing

[Bar chart showing costs for various locations, with categories for Right to erect headstone, Interment, and ERB.]
Private Garden Kemnal
Memorial Park Sidcup, Kent
£43,000.00 EACH!

6 sold within 18 months!
There's no excuse for not leaving the next generation a legacy - it can be done!
85 year old cemetery in Palm Springs,
Summary

• Do not look over the hedge for pricing, they're wrong too!

• Assess the real cost of burial against maintenance and management
  – Short, medium, long term

• Burial or cremation and memorialisation is a preferential choice if one isn't subsidised why should the other be?

• Ash to cash earth to dearth (Dignity is a FTSE 250 constituent company!)
Questions?