

NEWS RELEASE

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



PR 3073

18 October 2017

Draft

Donation made to Motor Neurone Disease Association

*****Photo opportunity*****

Tuesday 21 November

9:15am

Mintlyn Crematorium, PE32 1HB

The mayor Cllr Carol Bower, and Cllr Kathy Mellish will present a cheque for £5,000 to a representative of the King's Lynn branch of MNDA (Motor Neurone Disease Association).

Reporters and photographers are invited to attend; please report to the flower court.

Cllr Carol Bower, the Mayor of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, and Cllr Kathy Mellish, borough council cabinet member for Facilities and ICT, will present a representative of the King's Lynn branch of MNDA (Motor Neurone Disease Association) with a cheque for £5,000 on Tuesday 21 November at Mintlyn Crematorium.

The donation has been raised through a charitable scheme, operated by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), of which Mintlyn Crematorium is a member. Under the scheme metal from medical implants is recycled after cremation, with the consent of the family of the deceased. Twice a year the institute asks its scheme members to nominate local charities, which help to support people to cope with the death of loved ones, to receive a donation.

In the seven years that Mintlyn Crematorium has been part of the scheme, around £52,000 has been donated to local charities. This year, staff at Mintlyn Crematorium have chosen to support the fundraising work of MNDA.

Cllr Kathy Mellish said: "I am delighted to be once again presenting a donation to such a worthy cause. The Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk has supported local charities through this scheme for seven years now, and I have heard

some truly affecting accounts about the work they do from each organisation. Charities like MDNA need our support to continue the work they do, and I'm glad the borough council can offer a contribution".

Motor Neurone Disease (MND) is a fatal, rapidly progressing disease which affects the brain and spinal cord. MND attacks the nerves that control movement, so muscles no longer work. The Disease can leave people locked in a failing body, unable to move, talk, swallow and eventually breathe. About half of those diagnosed with MND die within 14 months, some much more quickly. It affects people from all communities and there is no effective treatment and no cure.

The MND Association aims to improve care, support and recognition for people with MND, their families and carers. It also funds and promotes research to lead to a new understanding and treatments and to bring us closer to finding a cure.

At local level, the Association is currently in touch with 16 people with MND in this area and can offer Association Visitors to help support families and people with MND, as well as making Care or Quality of Life grants to help make their lives a little more comfortable.

The Kings Lynn Fundraising Group is run entirely by volunteers and aims to raise funds to provide the best possible support for people living with MND, their families and carers.

Jill Brock, local MND Association contact, and Jane Lewis, chair, said: "We are delighted to receive such a very generous donation from the Mintlyn Crematorium, which will enable us to do so much more to make a difference for people living with MND in Kings Lynn & West Norfolk. We are very grateful for their support".

Mintlyn Crematorium is owned and operated by the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk. Previously, the crematorium used money raised through the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) scheme to support EACH, Scotty's Little Soldiers, SANDS (Stillborn and Neonatal Death Society), Friends in Bereavement, Nelson's Journey, The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House, and SOBS (Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide)

For further information please contact: Stephanie Lewis, Communications Assistant on 01553 616506.