

W Y T H A L L C E M E T E R Y

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. For the purpose of these Rules and Regulations the "Council", means the Wythall Parish Council, "Cemetery", means the Burial Ground situated at the junction of Chapel Lane and Middle Lane in the Parish of Wythall; and "Grave" means a burial place formed in the ground by excavation without any internal wall or other artificial lining.
2. The Cemetery is the property of the Council who will control and administer it. **(See important Note No.28)**
3. From time to time the Council will publish a list of its Cemetery Charges. Such charges may be altered periodically without further notice by due resolution of the Council. It is the responsibility of all persons wishing to make use of the facilities provided by the Cemetery to acquaint themselves of such charges beforehand.
4. Subject to the payment of the appropriate fees, the Council will grant exclusive burial rights in respect of grave spaces. Initially such rights will extend for seventy years but will cease immediately following a second full interment or four cremation caskets in any one grave. Only two burials; one burial and two cremation caskets or four cremation caskets in the same grave will be permitted.
5. Fees and charges must be paid to the Registrar in advance of an interment.
6. The area allotted for each grave space shall be of the total uniform outside length of 8 feet(2.4384 metres) with an outside length of 9 feet(2.7432 metres) and a width of 4 ft. (1.2192 metres)
7. Grave spaces will be allotted in accordance with the layout of the Cemetery. Plans of the Cemetery may be inspected without charge on application to the Registrar.
8. Interments must take place between the hours of 9.a.m. and 4.p.m. Interments are not permitted on Sunday, Good Friday, Christmas Day or Bank Holiday. In cases of emergency, certified by a registered Medical Practitioner, special interment arrangements may be made.
9. Except in case of emergency certified by a registered Medical Practitioner, at least one clear days' notice of interment must be given to the Registrar.
10. Notice of interment and other information relating thereto must be provided to the Registrar at the time of booking funerals.
11. The certificate for disposal issued by the Registrar of Births and Deaths or the Coroner's order for Burial must be given to the Registrar when the funeral enters the Cemetery. In the case of a stillborn child a certificate in accordance with the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953(as amended) will be required. A certificate issued by the Cremation Authority will be required for the disposal of cremated remains.
12. A person shall not in the Cemetery cause the body of any person to be buried in a grave in such a manner that any part of the coffin containing the body shall be at a depth less than three feet below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave.
13. A person shall not, in the Cemetery, cause a body to be buried in a grave in which an interment has already taken place, unless the coffin containing the body is effectually separated from any other coffin already placed in the grave, by means of a layer of earth not less than six inches in thickness.
14. Wherein the Cemetery any grave in which an interment has already taken place is re-opened, a person shall not disturb any human remains therein or remove therefrom any soil which is offensive
15. For every opening of a grave, the Deed granting Burial of Rights must be produced to the Registrar on giving notice of interment. If the Deed is lost or mislaid a grave will be opened only on the completion of a form of declaration and indemnity obtainable from the Registrar.
16. The Registrar to be notified of any change of owners address.
17. Coffins and caskets to be of biodegradable material only.
18. Only the Council's appointed Gravedigger to be responsible for excavating in respect of burials and cremated remains.
19. The owner of the Burial Rights must arrange, through a Funeral Director, for the Council's appointed Gravedigger to carry out the excavation and subsequent filling-in of graves. The plot must be filled in with soil immediately following the interment by the Gravedigger and any surplus soil removed and placed in the skip provided. Turf removed at the time of excavation must be placed in the skip.
20. The Council accepts full responsibility for maintaining the grounds of the Cemetery as a lawn. Mowing to be undertaken by Council's approved Contractor.
21. **Only the Contractors appointed by the Parish Council are authorised to carry out ground works maintenance, including levelling, seeding or laying turf on graves.**
In addition, the Council may, without notice, level, raise or lower in infill with soil or turf, any part or parts thereof, subject to the provisions relating to dimensions referred to in Rule 6 above.
22. Neither mounds, railings nor kerbs will be permitted. No grave surface may be covered with marble or stone chippings. Floral tributes **must** be contained within the area of the base slab provided by the Council. No plants, shrubs, trees, bulbs etc. to be planted in the ground.

23. Memorial headstones must not be more than 4 feet 6 inches (1.4020 metres) in height, from the top of the base stone provided by the Council and should not exceed 3ft wide (0.9144 metres x 2ft (0.6096 metres) in depth.
24. Photographs on headstones are allowed but must be oval in shape and not more than 5" (12.7cm x 4" (10.16cm) in size.
25. All headstones must be installed onto the foundation base already provided by the Council. Every headstone shall, under the direction of the Registrar, have the number of the grave space cut out conspicuously thereon, the expense thereof to be borne by the owner of the Burial Rights. Headstones shall not be painted.
26. Drawings and specifications of all headstones and of any alteration to existing headstones, and copies of all inscriptions proposed to be placed thereon, must be delivered in duplicate to the Registrar for the approval of the Council. No memorials will be allowed if the design/style is considered to be inappropriate or to be a Health & Safety Risk.
No permanent memorials of wood, zinc, iron or any other material not approved by the Council will be permitted.
The use of a temporary wooden cross will be allowed pending installation of a permanent headstone, but for a period of no longer than six calendar months.
27. The Council may, at its absolute discretion, and for a period of not in excess of 28 days, permit the placement upon the grave, following interment, small objects of personal significance to the deceased, together with floral tributes. Upon the expiry of the 28 days the Council shall reserve its right to remove from the Cemetery any item placed therein which does not enjoy the benefit of written consent to remain. Following the exercise of the Council's reserved rights, enquiries regarding the location of any item removed should be made to the Parish Council Office.
Floral tributes should be restricted to the area provided and not placed on the "lawn" fronting the headstone.
No "tubes" for flowers to be inserted in the lawned area.
28. **The owner of the Burial Rights shall keep every headstone in repair. Furthermore the Council will not accept responsibility for any loss of, or damage to monumental stones, urns, vases etc within the Cemetery which are not occasioned by it or its employees or contractors. It is strongly recommended that an appropriate All Risks Insurance Policy be entered into covering Public Liability, theft, damage etc.**
29. The Council may remove the headstone from a grave twenty years after the expiration of the right of burial therein (i.e. after 90 years)
30. The Council reserves the right to prune, cut down or remove any shrubs or plants which have been planted in a site for which written permission has not been given or which, in its opinion, have become unsightly or overgrown.
31. All refuse or litter must be deposited in the bin provided by the main gates.
32. A person shall not, in the Cemetery, by any violent or indecent behaviour, prevent, interrupt or delay any decent and solemn burial or any body.
33. No person shall canvass or solicit orders in the Cemetery.
34. No vehicle or bicycle may be admitted beyond the main entrance gates to the Cemetery.
35. No dogs allowed in the Cemetery unless on a lead.

GARDENS OF REMEMBRANCE:

1. All sections to be maintained as a lawned area.
2. **Old Garden of Remembrance:**
Memorial stones should not exceed 15" (38.1 cm) x 15" (38.1cm) and no edgings will be allowed.
3. **New Sections:**
Garden of Remembrance and Millennium Garden of Remembrance:
Each plot shall be located in the position indicated by a Base slab provided by the Parish Council. All memorials shall be fixed securely and shall conform to the dimensions required by the Parish Council, i.e. not exceeding 16" (40.64 cm) x 16" (40.64 cm) and no more than 6" (15.24 cm) in height.
4. No shrubs, plants, bulbs etc. to be planted.
5. **Floral tributes to be placed only in suitable containers incorporated within the memorial slab, or on the slab itself. No "tubes" for flowers to be used.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

These Rules and Regulations are subject to amendment, cancellation or addition by the Council at any time without notice.

By the order of the Wythall Parish Council
Dated: 19th November 2015 (last amendment)
MISS P. HARRISON/ EXECUTIVE OFFICER/REGISTRAR