

ST DENNIS PARISH COUNCIL CEMETERY REGULATIONS

St Dennis Parish Council welcomes all visitors to this Cemetery asking visitors to respect the peace and dignity of these facilities as well as other users. This is a communal space for us to reflect and remember our loved ones. We thank you in advance for your co-operation.

St Dennis Parish Council is dedicated to providing excellent maintenance of these facilities and would ask that you make yourself familiar with these regulations, if you are unsure on any aspect of these rules and regulations you can seek clarification from our staff at the Parish Council office who will be happy to assist. We aim to provide a balance between individual rights/information and the need to regulate for a safe, tidy and dignified environment with respect for the bereaved and visitors to the Cemetery.

Fees

A list of fees and charges relating to the Cemetery can be found on the St Dennis Parish Council website www.stdennisparishcouncil.org.uk , the cemetery notice board or the Parish Council office. All fees and charges must be paid on the submission of the relevant paperwork. Fees are payable either by BACS or Cheques made payable to St Dennis Parish Council. Receipts for all payments will be given to the account holder.

Grave Rights

On the purchase of a lease on a burial or Garden of Rest plot you will be issued a Deed of Grant for Exclusive Right of Burial in that plot. The Deed of Grant is an important document and should be kept in a safe place. An Exclusive Right of Burial can be issued in more than one name, St Dennis Parish Council have a limit of up to four people who can be individually named on the Deed. This Deed will need to be produced whenever any business concerning the plot is undertaken, such as ordering a memorial headstone and organising a funeral or interment for cremated remains.

As the named lease holder, you are solely or jointly responsible for ensuring that the rules of St Dennis Cemetery are complied with in respect to the plot. If the rules are contravened, you will be written to advising you of the details of the breach and the action you are required to take to rectify this.

Notice of Interment

Following an initial telephone call written notice on the Parish Councils interment forms must be submitted to the Parish Council Office. All particulars must be clear and complete on the notice of interment to avoid any delays or errors on the day. The Certificate of Burial or cremation or the Coroners Order for burial along with the appropriate fee must be submitted with the interment form.

The grave digging will be organised by or through the Parish Council office, no burial will take place until the Registrar's certificate of disposal or the Coroner's Order for burial has been lodged with the clerk.

The carrying of Coffins by mourners is allowed within the Cemetery. A disclaimer form will need to be completed and submitted to the Parish Council office prior to the funeral taking place. Any mourner who assists with bearing the coffin does so at their own risk and we

cannot accept responsibility for any injuries that may be caused as a result of carrying a coffin within the Cemetery Grounds.

The scattering of ashes is not currently permitted within the Cemetery nor is the unauthorised burial of ashes.

Memorials

Temporary memorials (wooden crosses) may be placed on graves until a permanent memorial can be placed.

Permission must be obtained from the Parish Council before any memorial is erected on a grave or before any additional inscription is added to a memorial. The owner of the exclusive right of burial must sign the memorial application form.

No memorial may be erected or repair's undertaken without the permission of the owner of the exclusive right and the parish council.

All memorials must be erected in accordance with BRAMM (British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons) recommended codes of practise and must be installed in full accordance with BS8415. St Dennis Parish Council have adopted the BRAMM standard of installation, no memorial erection or repair may be undertaken within the cemetery by persons who are not BRAMM registered.

All memorials shall be kept in good repair by their owners, and if not kept in good repair may be repaired or laid flat by the Parish Council at the expense of the Owner. The Council shall not be responsible for any damage or breakage which may occur through any cause whatsoever including vandalism or storm.

Headstones may not be erected until at least 6 months after the date of burial. This is to allow a sufficient period for the ground to settle to ensure maximum stability for the headstone.

Kerb sets are allowed in sections A,B,D,E,F and G. These must be installed by a BRAMM registered stone mason with the correct permits. All other forms of grave surround, including all types of edging materials, protruding above ground level, are not permitted in sections C and H.

Safety of Memorials: We ask all registered owners to be aware that memorials are erected at their own risk and it is their responsibility to keep the memorials in a good safe condition. The Parish Council cannot accept any liability for the making good of any damaged or fallen memorials. Owners may wish to insure their memorial against damage. The Parish Council undertake routine inspections of memorial's periodically, to ensure stability and the owner will be responsible for any repairs or maintenance. If any required work is not carried out within three months of the owner being notified, the Parish Council reserves the right to carry out the repairs and place a charge on the grave space.

Garden of Rest

Tablet memorials for cremated remains in the Garden of Remembrance may be made of slate or granite, laid flat and 18 inches x 24 inches. Please consult the office for further information if you require a different size. A Permit must be received before any Memorial is erected.

All memorials must be erected in accordance with BRAMM (British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons) recommended codes of practise and must be installed in full accordance with BS8415. St Dennis Parish Council have adopted the BRAMM standard of installation, no memorial erection or repair may be undertaken within the cemetery by persons who are not BRAMM registered.

All tablets and other memorabilia must be kept within the plot and not encroaching on the neighbouring spaces. The parish council reserve the right to remove any items that are out of the given space.

Maintenance

St Dennis Parish Council carry out the grass cutting and groundwork maintenance within the Cemetery. No-one is permitted to mow or strim within the Cemetery grounds. Whilst every effort is made to maintain the area, please note that if tributes are left within grave spaces, it may not be possible to carry out maintenance of that area to our normal standard. The frequency of groundwork maintenance within the cemetery will be determined by weather. The Parish Council reserves the right to carry out levelling or infilling of graves where necessary until such time the settlement of the ground has ceased.

Tributes

St Dennis Parish Council prefer tributes to be placed within a 1ft area in the front of the Headstone to allow routine maintenance to be undertaken within the lawned section of the Cemetery. The exception to this will be for new burial up to a period of 6 months. This can be extended if the area is maintained by the Exclusive Right of Burial holder.

The Parish Council reserves the right to remove any neglected, damaged, decayed or faded tributes as well as unauthorised articles such as fences, ornaments etc that are not an integral part of a memorial. All tributes that are placed outside of the 1ft limit will be moved within 1 foot of the headstone if the grave space is not maintained by the Exclusive Right of Burial holder.

In a bid to support the environment the Parish Council would ask that alternatives to plastic tributes are used where possible.

We will allow plastic flowers to be placed at Christmas and these will be removed at the end of February along with the Christmas wreaths.

Records

The location of graves are recorded on the cemetery plans, and the register of burials in accordance with the Registration of Burials Act 1864, Births and Deaths Registration act 1926 and 1953, Registration of Births and Deaths Regulations 1987. At reasonable times the records are available to view at the Parish Council office a small administration charge may be incurred for any research requests that are submitted.

General Regulations

- No Games or sports to be played in any part of the Cemetery.
- No trees or shrubs to be planted without the permission of St Dennis Parish Council
- All dogs are to be under control and on a lead at all times, keep to the paths and do not allow your dogs onto the graves. You **MUST** clean up after your dog.
- No children under 12 are permitted in the cemetery unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Visitors to the Cemetery are to behave in a quiet and dignified manner to preserve the quiet reverence and peaceful atmosphere of the cemetery.
- Members of the public are not permitted to mow or trim within the cemetery grounds.
- All tributes are to be kept in an area not exceeding 1ft from the front of the headstone unless grave is well maintained by Exclusive Right of Burial Holder. The Parish Council reserves the right to move all tributes to within 1ft of the headstone if the grave is not maintained.
- The Parish Council reserves the right to remove all plastic flowers from within the Cemetery Grounds. Plastic flowers are permitted from December to February.
- The Parish Council reserves the right to remove any neglected damaged or faded tributes.
- All Christmas wreaths are to be removed by the end of February.
- All seasonal tributes i.e. Christmas trees should not exceed 30cm in height
- Alcohol The consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the Cemetery.

The Parish Council reserves the right to alter, amend or add to these regulations.

Revised and approved 15/09/2021

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