

Memorials and Tributes – Guidance for Families

We understand how important it is for families to remember and honour loved ones. The following guidance helps ensure the cemetery remains safe, tidy and respectful for all visitors while allowing space for personal remembrance.

Arranging a Memorial

Families usually arrange a memorial through a registered monumental mason. The mason will normally help you choose a suitable memorial, ensure it complies with cemetery regulations, complete the Memorial Permit Application and install the memorial safely once permission has been granted.

A memorial must not be installed without permission from the Parish Council. In most cases your memorial mason will manage this process on your behalf.

Memorial Size and Materials

To maintain consistency and safety within the cemetery, memorials should comply with the following guidance:

- Memorials must be made from natural stone or black granite.
- One colour of inscription may be used.
- Photographs or portrait images are not permitted.
- Headstones should not exceed 900mm high, 600mm wide and 75mm thick.
- Memorial bases should not exceed 450mm square and 100mm high, tapering to 25mm, and may include an integral vase.
- The base and slab together should not exceed 600mm square by 250mm high.
- A separate vase block not exceeding 300mm square may be installed and may include an inscription.
- The grave identification number provided by the Council must be engraved discreetly on the rear of the memorial.

All memorials must be installed in accordance with the National Association of Monumental Masons (NAMM) Code of Working Practice and the relevant British Standards in force at the time of installation.

Lawn Cemetery Maintenance

The cemetery is maintained as a lawn cemetery. This means memorials are placed at the head of the grave and the remaining area is kept as grass so it can be maintained safely by the grounds team.

Fresh flowers are always welcome and may be placed on graves. Many families choose to place flowers within the memorial vase once a memorial has been installed.

Items That Cannot Be Placed on Graves

To allow safe grass cutting and general maintenance, some items cannot be placed on graves or on the grassed areas.

- Glass containers or shades
- Pottery ornaments
- Solar lights
- Balloons
- Tins
- Plastic or wire mesh fencing
- Items made from metal, plastic or similar materials

Artificial flowers are permitted.

From 1 January 2023 the Council may remove items that do not comply with these guidelines without notice. This helps ensure the cemetery remains safe, tidy and accessible for everyone.

The Parish Council appreciates that families remember loved ones in many different ways and these guidelines are applied with care and understanding.