

STOKE ST GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

BURIAL GROUND REGULATIONS

- 1 The word parishioner used in the Table of Fees means a person who was born in the parish, had lived in the parish for twenty years and was resident elsewhere, or who at the time of death or during the past five years has been an inhabitant of the Parish, or in the case of a child, where either or both parents are or were such inhabitants. The word Non-Parishioner includes every person who is not a parishioner as before defined. At the discretion of the Parish Council other circumstances may be considered.
- 2 On the occurrence of death, notice of interment shall be given on the printed form supplied by the Burial Authority, on which all the particulars requested shall be clearly stated. Notice of interment may be accepted by telephone but shall be subject to confirmation in writing immediately afterwards.
- 3 Notice of interment shall be given to the Burial Authority's officer or Clerk as soon as possible. If there is no reply then contact should be made with the Chairman of the Parish Council. Fees and charges shall then be paid.
- 4 After notice of interment has been given, any alteration required in the arrangements shall be subject to the consent of the Burial Authority. An additional charge may be imposed if such alteration is likely to involve the Authority in any additional expense.
- 5 All rights of burial shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Burial Authority in force at the time of burial or any which may be issued by any other competent authority in regard to burial grounds.
- 6 The fees and payments are to be made in accordance with the current Table of Fees, obtainable from the Clerk, and must be paid on giving notice of interment or before the work is begun in respect of which they are payable.
- 7 The appropriate certificate of disposal issued by a Registrar or Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths or a Coroner's order for burial shall be delivered to the Clerk of the burial Authority. A certificate issued by a Cremation Authority shall be required for the disposal of cremated remains.
- 8 The person arranging a burial shall be responsible for the attendance of a Minister of Religion if required to officiate at the burial service and for the payment of the requisite fee to the Minister.
- 9 The person arranging the burial shall instigate and be liable for the expense of all digging and excavating of the grave. A grave space shall measure nine feet by four feet for the interment and may be to a maximum depth sufficient for two interments.
- 10 Application for the burial of cremated remains shall be made to the Clerk to the Burial Authority in the manner prescribed in Regulation 2.

- 11 On the grant of a right of burial for a period of 99 years in a grave space, the Grantee shall be entitled to, and shall receive, a formal grant signed by the Clerk to the Burial Authority in respect of the same. No grant of burial right is transferable without the consent of the Burial Authority. The written consent of the owner or his or her personal representative must be lodged with the Clerk to the Burial Authority when it is desired to inter in the grave the body of a person other than the owner of the grave.
- 12 The burial of cremated remains will be permitted in any existing grave provided there are no valid objections. Application for such burial to be made to the Clerk to the Burial Authority in the manner prescribed in Regulation 2. The scattering of ashes is not permitted.
- 13 Ownership of a grave does not extend to ownership of the ground surface above it, which should be kept flat once the ground has achieved equilibrium following a burial (approximately one year), in the interests of regular maintenance. The Burial Authority shall keep in order all parts of the Burial Ground and reserves the right to remove dead wreaths on any grave space, and to remove any plants or shrubs growing thereon.
- 14 Headstones/memorials are under the control of the relatives of the deceased. It is their responsibility to ensure the safety of the headstone/memorial. All memorials on any grave space not kept in good order, repair or condition by the owner to the satisfaction of the Burial Authority shall be removed or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Authority.
- 15 No memorial shall be erected or placed on a grave or removed therefrom until the owner of the grave space has been granted permission to do so. Such permission shall not be granted and become operative until the requisite fees and charges have been paid.
- 16 Application for permission to erect or place a memorial on a grave space shall be made on a form obtained from the Clerk to the Burial Authority on which the applicant must give a specification of materials to be used and a copy of every proposed inscription together with the dimensions and a drawing to scale of the proposed memorial. This must be accompanied with the requisite fee.
- 17 No artificial flowers or artificial wreaths will be permitted.
- 18 The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any memorial for which prior approval has not been given, or which does not conform to the design or dimensions which were submitted and for which a permit was granted.
- 19 In that portion of the Burial Ground at the eastern end, set aside for the burial of cremated remains, memorials shall normally be restricted to a horizontal tablet approved by the Burial Authority, not larger than 12 x 16", and not projecting beyond the level of the turf.
- 20 The grave number and section letter may be incised at the base on the reverse side of every memorial in the same manner as the inscription.

- 21 The Burial Authority shall not be liable for damage to any memorial in the Burial Ground caused by subsidence, storm or wind or by any other cause.
- 22 No dogs shall be permitted in the Burial Ground.
- 23 Cycling or any recreational pursuit shall not be allowed.
- 24 A monument shall not include kerbs, railings or chippings. Any statuary or unusual decoration will only be permitted on the explicit approval of the Burial Authority.
- 25 Headstones (including any plinth) shall be no more than 4 feet high and 3 feet wide. They shall have a face area of no less than two square feet. The minimum thickness is three inches for limestone and sandstone, one inch for slate. Native stones are preferred. The stone should preferably be sunk one foot below ground level and founded on a horizontal slab.
- 26 Application for a search to be made in the Register of Burials and the provision of a certified copy of an entry therein must be accompanied by the stated fee in respect of each burial.
- 27 The Burial Authority reserves the right to revoke or amend any of the foregoing regulations from time to time.

The above Regulations were adopted by Stoke St Gregory Parish Council on 12 June 2017, with immediate effect. Amended 12 August 2019 and 8 March 2021. Reviewed and re-adopted 9 March 2022.

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