

Draft Cemetery Rules & Regulations - Covering Report

Background

Over recent months the Parish Council has carried out a review of cemetery related policies and where considered appropriate revised its policies and /or introduced a new policy.

A summary of the areas reviewed and the resultant agreed policy documentation is given below:

Area Reviewed	Date Considered by Parish Council	Outcome	Dated Approved New Policy reflected in approved Rules & Regulation Introduced
Burial plots and options for personalisation, and memorial installations	June 24	The proposed policy as set out in the supporting documentation considered was approved and reflected in the proposed draft rules and Regulations	TBA. Approved Rules & Regulations to remain in draft until all other reviews complete
Memorial Safety Policy	July 24	Proposed policy Approved	TBA. Draft Rules & Regulations Document reflecting approved policy to be updated
Charging Structure & Fees	September 24	Proposed structure and fees agreed.	Draft Rules & Regulations document reflecting approved structure and fees to be updated

West Rainton Cemetery Rules & Regulation

As a result of the policy agreed at the above Parish Council meetings, the resultant document , “West Rainton Cemetery Rules and Regulation”, has now been finalised .(Draft copy circulated separately).

The purpose of this document is to:

1. Provide a comprehensive single document of all Parish Council cemetery related policies recently reviewed and will be subject to review as and when any element of it is considered necessary.
2. Replace the existing cemetery guide which refers to current policy.
3. Inform all interested parties about our cemetery. Interested parties include:
 - Anyone thinking about arranging a burial in the Cemetery
 - Funeral Directors
 - Families and Grave Owners - With EROB
 - Memorial Masons
 - Parish Council Contractors
4. It sets out:
 - The responsibility of the Parish Council as a burial authority
 - The type of burial plots we can offer, (full, cremated remains. children's plots)
 - How the Parish Council manages the cemetery to ensure it is an appropriate environment for families to commemorate their loved ones and is a safe place for all visitors and those that work in it.
 - The responsibilities of interested parties
 - What can and what cannot be brought into the cemetery and why

Parish Council is ask to:

1. Note that the Rules & Regulations Document now contains references to the availability of children's plots and the personalisation of cremated remains plots. (Para 113 & 114.). This was not covered in the scope of the June review but the availability of such plots has been a long service offer of the Parish Council. (Paragraphs 22 , 113 & 114 relates)
2. Approve the Rules & Regulation Document
3. If approved, consider an implementation date for the Rules & Regulations to apply from and a communication strategy to promote the rules well in advance of that date.

Cllr Wallage
October 2024