

BLEWBURY PARISH COUNCIL

REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF BLEWBURY PARISH CEMETERY

SUMMARY

These Regulations are made by Blewbury Parish Council under Section 214 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977.

Please refer to the full regulations which will be updated annually. A copy of the regulations can be downloaded from the cemetery section on <http://blewbury.co.uk/parish/cemetery/> or contact the clerk who will supply you with a printed copy.

The main items to note are as follows:

General

Dogs must be kept on leads inside the Cemetery and must not be allowed to foul any part of it.

Burials may not be carried out without the permission of the Clerk.

All grave spaces shall have the dimensions and spacing given in Annex D and shall be positioned and numbered in conformance with the Cemetery Plan, a copy of which may be inspected by arrangement with the Clerk. For logistical reasons, burial plots will be allocated by the Clerk on a sequential basis at the time of application for burial.

All grave spaces must be simple earthen graves. Bricked or vaulted graves, kerbs and chippings or decorative stones are not permitted. The grave should be grassed and levelled when the ground has settled.

Cremated remains may not be scattered anywhere except beneath the surface of the purchased grave space.

All spoil and rubbish must be removed and the site must be left in a clean and tidy condition.

The Council does not accept responsibility for or liability in respect of any damage or injury to any person or thing arising from work done in the cemetery except that arising from work done by its own employees.

The Council will maintain the unoccupied areas of the Cemetery and keep the grass cut between grave spaces.

Upkeep of the grave space itself is the responsibility of the person or persons who ordered the burial and/or the owners of the Exclusive Right of Burial. Tributes left at the time of interment will be permitted to remain for one calendar month and will be removed carefully by Council staff unless otherwise instructed by the Clerk. After this, all dead or faded tributes, either natural or artificial will be removed carefully by Council staff. Cemetery staff will remove Christmas wreaths that remain on graves as soon as possible after 31st January.

Grave spaces may be planted with small herbaceous plants, shrubs or miniature trees within the grave space but these must not be allowed to grow taller than 2 feet (61 centimetres).

The Council reserves the right to cut back or remove any growth higher than 2 feet (61 centimetres) on any grave space and any growth outside the area of the grave space.



The Council reserves the right to charge the persons responsible for upkeep of a grave space for any costs it incurs in maintaining or tidying it following their failure to do so.

Memorials

Memorials may not be erected, removed, altered, nor have further inscriptions added to them, without the permission of the Clerk.

Memorials may only be erected on graves for which Exclusive Right of Burial has been granted.

Memorials may not be erected until the ground level has stabilised and in any case not before 6 months have elapsed since the burial. All memorials must meet the NAMM Code of Working Practice and be provided with adequate foundations according to its size and weight.

The maximum dimensions allowed for memorial stones are:

- (a) On full sized graves: upright stone, height above ground level 3 feet (91 centimetres), width 2 feet (61 centimetres)
- (b) On graves for cremated remains: a ground level tablet or open book tablet 1½ feet (46 centimetres) by 1¼ feet (38 centimetres)
- (c) Previous non-compliant memorials should not be used as precedent. From April 2012, new non-compliant memorial stones will be removed at the cost of the owner or successor.

Only purpose made natural stone vases not more than 1 foot (30 centimetres) high and intended for use on graves may be placed on graves. Other containers of a type not intended for displaying flowers on graves may be removed. No other forms of decoration or adornment of the grave will be permitted. No breakable or unauthorised items of any description e.g. glass, earthenware, bricks, blocks etc. of any kind will be allowed. Any such items will, in the interest of safety, be immediately removed and disposed of without notification.

Maintenance of memorials is the responsibility of the owner and all memorials must be kept safe and in good repair. Any memorial that becomes unsafe or unsightly and is not repaired by the owner will be repaired and made safe by the Council and the costs charged to the owner. Any memorials found to be unstable will be temporarily supported or laid flat. The Council reserves the right to repair or remove unsafe memorials at its discretion if the owner or successor cannot be found or refuses to arrange repairs.

The Council does not accept any responsibility or liability for damage to any memorial, however caused.