

BISHOPSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

MARCH 2018

1. Bishopsteignton Parish Council is a Burial Authority within the terms of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, the provisions of which form the basis of these Regulations for the Bishopsteignton Cemetery.

2. The Cemetery is a consecrated area located on Lindridge Road, 400 metres north of Clanage Cross. There are four separate sections for burials according to the rites of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, Nonconformist Churches; the fourth section has been consecrated for all 3 denominations listed above. Also there is a Garden of Rest for the interment and scattering of cremated remains.

3. The Cemetery is open to the public at all times. Funerals may only take place on weekdays, between 9 am and 5 pm Mondays to Fridays, and on Saturday between 9 am and 12 noon. Funerals cannot take place on Sundays, on Good Friday or on Christmas Day. Interment of Ashes may take place at other times with the written approval of the Burial Clerk.

4. Dogs are permitted in the Cemetery but must be kept on a lead and under control at all times. Any fouling must be picked up by the owner and disposed of in the bin provided.

5. Private cars are not allowed in the Cemetery

6. Smoking is not allowed in the Cemetery nor is the consumption of food or drink allowed.

7. The following constitute offences under the order:

- i. Wilfully creating a disturbance in the Cemetery.
- ii. Committing any nuisance in the Cemetery.
- iii. Wilfully interfering with any funeral taking place.
- iv. Wilfully interfering with any grave or vault, any tombstone or other memorial, flowers, plants or any such matter without permission.
- v. Playing any games or sport in the Cemetery.

Notice of Interment

8. No funeral shall take place without the permission of the Council. Ordinarily at least 48 hours (or 72 hours when a bricked grave is to be used) written notice of an intended funeral must be given to the Clerk to the Council. Such notice must be in the form appended to these regulations, copies of which can be obtained free of charge from the Clerk. All relevant fees and charges must be paid when forms are submitted.

Burial Plots

9. The exclusive right of burial in a grave space or the right of burial of cremated remains may be purchased at any time, whether an immediate burial is intended or not. This right will normally be granted for a period of 50 years with an option of extension without further charge.

10. The purchaser (or the person paying the fees or charges) will normally be offered the next available space but may be granted any alternative space subject to the approval of the Clerk.

11. A Deed granting the right of Burial in a grave space or the right of burial of cremated remains will be issued by the Council and a Register of all such Deeds will be maintained by the Clerk. On the death of a Grantee the Clerk. On receipt of appropriate evidence will record in the Register any transfer of ownership of the space.

12. In the case of an intended burial in a grave space, the right of burial in which has been purchased, the consent of the Grantee must be given under his/her signature in the form of notice referred to in Regulation No 8. The grantee may be buried in such grave space without the consent of his/her executor or representative.

13. The special permission of the Council in writing will be required for the construction of a brick grave. The construction must be entirely subterranean and will require the purchase of two adjacent burial plots.

Graves

14. The excavation, filling in and returning of all graves must be carried out by persons approved by the Council. The cost thereof is not included in the fees and charges appended to these Regulations.

15. Ordinarily, the depth of the grave shall not exceed 8 feet (double depth). Any variation will require the special permission of the Council in writing. The top of every coffin must be at least 3 feet below the level of adjoining ground.

16. Only one body may be buried in one grave at one time except in the case of two members of the same family whose funerals are to take place on the same day. Special circumstances may be taken into account by the Council.

17. In the case of a grave in which a burial has already taken place, no burial may be carried out unless the coffin is effectively separated from any coffin already interred and remaining in the grave by a layer of earth not less than 6 inches thick. Human remains already interred may on no account be disturbed nor may any soil which is offensive be taken from the grave.

Scattering of Cremated Remains

18. The scattering of cremated remains may take place on an existing grave or in the Garden of Rest. The Form of Notice referred to in Regulation 8 will be required for the scattering of remains with the signature of consent of the Grantee of the right to be buried in the grave.

Monuments

19. Monuments and inscriptions on them are subject to approval of the Council. Normally monuments will be limited to a headstone not exceeding 4 feet 6 inches in height, 3 feet in width and 12inch thickness at the base. The Council may be prepared to grant permission for the erection of simple wooden memorials at a fee to be agreed for each individual case.

Cremation Tablets

20. Cremation Tablets and inscriptions on them are subject to approval of the Council. Cremation Tablets shall be 15" x 15" to a maximum height of 4" and laid on a concrete base 24" x 24"flat to the ground (supplied). Erection of Monuments are not permitted in the Garden of Rest.

Tributes

21. All items placed on graves and memorial plots must be contained within the personal grave space. It is recommended that flower containers be incorporated into the memorial headstone/tablet. Glass/china or similar receptacles are not permitted as can be a major hazard to people, animals,

machinery and other memorials. The Council may remove objects which are not authorised and deemed to be offensive, unseemly or dangerous. Following a funeral artificial wreaths, floral tributes, plant containers and frameworks should be removed after one month. The Council reserve the right to remove any such item after this period. Any tributes left during the Christmas period must be removed by the end of January.

Register of Burials

22. A Register of Burials is maintained by the Clerk to the Council. This register is available for inspection at any reasonable time by prior arrangement with the Clerk. Searches may be made by the Clerk and certified copies of entries provided on payment of the prescribed fee.

Maintenance of Graves and Monuments

23. The owner of a grave is responsible for keeping it and any monument in a tidy state and good repair. In the interests of cemetery maintenance, kerbings, grave mounds, planting of shrubs, formation of garden area and the fencing of plots are not permitted. The Council is empowered, subject to certain provisions, to remove memorials and to level graves when they have not been properly maintained. *All debris (dead flowers etc.) must be disposed of in the container supplied by the Council.*

Fees

A list of services and provisions within the Cemetery for which fees or charges are payable are available from the Clerk to the Council. Fees for the interment of cremated remains do not include the digging of the grave.

APPENDIX B

SCHEDULE OF CHARGES AND FEES

The following provisions and services attract charges and fees. The current rates approved by the Parish Council can be obtained from the Clerk to the Parish Council.

- i. Purchase of Burial plot (single grave Space)*
- ii. Purchase of small burial plot in Garden of Rest for Cremated Remains*
- iii. Interment*
- iv. Interment of Cremated Remains*
- v. Erection of headstone*
- vi. Placing of plaque over Cremated Remains*
- vii. Placing of vase*
- viii. Additional inscription*
- ix. Scattering of Cremated Remains*
- x. Search fee of Burial Register*

Note.

- i. All the above charges and fees (with the exception of the search fee) shall be trebled if the deceased was not a resident of the Parish of Bishopsteignton.*
- ii. The Bishopsteignton Parish Council Cemetery charges do not include Clergy fees which must be paid separately.*