

SANCTON PARISH COUNCIL

"THE BURIAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PARISH"

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

These regulations are designed to ensure that the Sancton Cemetery remains a presentable and respectable place for all who visit and to assist the Burial Authority to properly maintain the area. For the purpose of these regulations "Resident" shall include a spouse, partner, child, parent, sister or brother of a person residing in the parish or an individual already buried or interred within the cemetery.

Burial plots

The Burial Clerk will be able to advise on the location of available plots at the time of any enquiry. Each plot measures 8ft by 4ft (240cm by 120cm) which will include space for a memorial headstone purchased at your own expense if required and subject to these regulations. No trees, shrubs or plants may be planted – early flowering bulbs such as snowdrops being the only exception. Unauthorised planting will be removed. This rule is in place to facilitate grounds maintenance and bulbs flowering at the time maintenance takes place will be subject to mowing.

Reservations

Single or double plots may only be reserved by "Residents" within 14 days of the burial of a relative. Payment of the reservation fee will act to reserve plots for a maximum period of 60 years.

It is the responsibility of "Residents" to ensure that any change in their contact details are notified to the Burial Clerk. At the end of the reservation period a resident may renew the reservation by payment of the fee fixed at the time of renewal.

The Burial Clerk will write to a resident prior to the expiry of the reservation period to invite renewal. Correspondence will be forwarded to the last known address and if no response is received within 28 days the reservation will expire.

Headstones/Vases

Headstones must not exceed 80cms in height, with the base not exceeding 65cms by 33cms. Headstones shall be aligned with each other. Design should be sympathetic to the surroundings and all headstones must receive prior written approval from the Burial Clerk before erection. Appropriate lettering only will be allowed and epitaphs, engravings, pictures etc should reflect the life, work, interests or concerns of the deceased. A request for anything other than lettering, (engravings, pictures etc.) will be referred to the next meeting of the Burial Authority and the applicant will be advised of the authority's decision. Only one memorial is permitted per plot. Any vase shall not exceed 65cms in height. No kerbstones are allowed.

The Burial Authority takes all reasonable steps to ensure public safety and is aware of its responsibility for creating a safe cemetery. It therefore reserves the right to refuse the erection of memorials by individuals or businesses that are not members of the National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM). NAMM ensures that memorials are fixed in accordance with British Standard 8415 and that their members uphold high standards via their Code of Working Practice.

Memorabilia

Grave decoration is restricted to floral bouquets and wreaths. Any other items will be removed. Dead flowers and bouquets should be removed by the family and placed in the bin provided.

Maintenance

All headstones are the responsibility of the purchaser or their representative to maintain. If the purchaser or their representative fails to repair any damage, the Burial Authority reserves the right to effect repairs and to act to recover costs. Headstones deemed to be dangerous will be laid flat by the Burial Authority.

Cremated remains

Scattering of cremated remains is NOT allowed in the Cemetery. Cremated remains may be interred into an existing plot where a coffin burial has already taken place, subject to approval by the Burial Clerk and payment of the appropriate fee. Single sized plots for cremated remains may also be purchased and several caskets may be interred into each single plot, subject to approval by the Burial Clerk.

Consecration

Specific areas are consecrated according to Church of England specifications. Non-consecrated plots are available on request which may be consecrated/blessed to a specific faith if required. The Burial Clerk must be notified if a blessing is to take place.

Behaviour

Visitors to the Cemetery are asked to behave in a considerate manner at all times.

Willfully interfering with any memorial plot is not permitted and is a criminal offence. Games or sport of any kind is not permitted. Children under the age of 12 years should be accompanied by an adult. Dogs are permitted only on leads, and any dog fouling must be cleared away at once and disposed of in the green bin. The consumption of alcohol or illegal substances is not permitted within the Cemetery.

Visitors are permitted to park on the grassed area outside the Cemetery entrance gate.

Burial Clerk – Contact Details: -

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North Newbald
York YO43 4SN

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Cemetery regulations are reviewed annually.