

## Hingham Cemetery – Attleborough Road

### Cemetery Rules and Regulations

Please note that fences around graves are no longer allowed.

The maximum height of headstones is 30" for graves and 18" for ashes.

#### 1. Notice of Interment

Notice must be given to the Council's Cemetery Officer for an interment. A letter will then be sent to the bereaved offering Council's condolences and enclosing a copy of these rules and regulations.

#### 2. Certificate of Death

The certification for the disposal of a body, or in the case of an inquest, the Coroners Order for Burial, must be produced prior to the interment and delivered to the Cemetery Officer (if for any reason this is not possible the Cemetery Officer must be notified and the certificate must be produced No Later than 24 hours after the burial). For the burial of a still born child an appropriate certificate issued by the Registrar of Births and Deaths or the Coroner will be required.

#### 3. Payment of Fees

All orders must be given and fees and charges paid to the Cemetery Officer prior to any interment or, in the case of headstones and memorials, before they are erected.

#### 4. Time of Burial

Initial requests regarding time and date of any interment should be agreed with the Cemetery Officer at the earliest opportunity. A notice of interment form must be completed and forwarded to the Cemetery Officer with the appropriate fees prior to any interment. No interment will take place on a Sunday, Good Friday, Christmas Day or Bank Holiday, except if stated on the certificate of a Coroner or registered Medical Practitioner that immediate interment is necessary, or on specific religious grounds.

#### 5. Digging of Graves

The responsibility for arranging the excavation of all graves with the Council's designated grave digger shall rest with the Funeral Director. All graves are to be shored up after being dug.

#### 6. Grave Mounds

All grave mounds must be removed after the expiry of twelve months from the date of interment.

#### 7. Re-opening of Graves

The owner or executor shall be responsible for the removal of all memorials on the re-opening of graves and the replacement of same within 18 months. The cost of such removal must be borne by the owner, and the Council will not be responsible in the event of a monument or stone becoming broken or damaged, lost or destroyed during the work. All removal and reinstatement of memorials must be carried out by a stone mason to comply with relevant health and safety legislation.

## 8. Depth of Graves

No grave shall be deeper than 8 feet, but the Council, if it finds it impractical for any reason, reserves the right to specify the maximum depth to which the grave can be dug. No body shall be buried in a grave in such a manner that any part of the coffin is less than 3 feet below the level of any ground adjoining the grave.

## 9. Allocation of Rights to Graves

Allocations of rights to grave plots and burials will be on application as per the plan kept by the Cemetery Officer and may be inspected without charge by arrangement with the Cemetery Officer.

## 10. Site of Graves

The Council reserves the right to prune, cut down or dig up and remove any shrub, plant, flowers, or flowers (artificial or real), which in its opinion has become unsightly or overgrown. The Council reserves the right to remove any item left on a grave that is considered to be inappropriate or dangerous, and to move/reposition any item. Glass and fragile items, and containers of alcohol MUST NOT be left on graves. Items left on graves are done so at the owner's own risk, the Town Council takes no responsibility for any loss, theft or damage to such items.

## 11. Exclusive Right of Burial

a) The charge for Exclusive Right of Burial is payable in addition to the ordinary interment and other fees, and entitles the person to whom the grant is made, to the exclusive right of burial in that grave for 100 years. The Council will permit a memorial to be placed only over a grave to which exclusive rights of burial has been granted, subject to the Council's regulations and charges relating to Monuments.

b) Where no exclusive right of burial has been purchased Council reserves the right to make further burials in the same grave at a later date.

c) No assignment of the exclusive right of burial in a grave will be allowed unless the Deed of Grant has been properly endorsed by the Cemetery Officer of the Council.

Applications for an Exclusive Right of Burial will not be accepted in advance of arrangements being made for an interment. (i.e it is not possible to "purchase" or reserve a grave space prior to it being imminently required for an interment).

## 12. Monuments and Gravestones

a) No monument of any sort will be allowed to be erected or placed on any grave or in any part of the Cemetery without the consent of the Council. Before any monument is placed or erected a drawing thereof with the proposed inscription, must be sent to the Cemetery Officer. Monuments may only be fixed (or re-fixed following an additional inscription) after 6 months have elapsed since the interment.

b) All monuments shall, after erection be kept in good repair by the owner and unless this is done the Council reserves the right to cause them to be repaired or removed at the owner's expense. If any monument is erected in violation of the Regulations of the Council, the same may at any time be removed by the Council without notice.

c) A memorial in respect of an ordinary interment, may be erected, not exceeding 30" in height and 18" for cremated remains.

Provision may be made in the base stone for a flower container. All headstones must have a ground anchor system and must be fixed by a stone mason to comply with relevant health and safety legislation.

d) The erection of surrounds or fencing of any kind to enclose the grave is strictly prohibited.

- e) Any kerbing must be of suitable type and installed by a stone mason, permission must be applied for and granted by the Cemetery Officer prior to installation.
- f) The Council reserves the right to remove, re-fix, move, line up or alter the position of any headstone, tablet, or vases as it sees fit.

### 13. General Rules

- a) Any person who shall wilfully destroy or injure any building, wall, fence or seat belonging to the Cemetery or destroy or injure any tree or plant therein, or who shall daub or disfigure any wall thereof or put up any bill therein or on any wall thereof, or wilfully destroy, injure or deface any monument, tablet, inscription or grave stone within the Cemetery or do any other wilful damage therein shall be liable for prosecution.
- b) Every person who shall play at any game or sport or discharge firearms, save at a military funeral, in the Cemetery or who shall wilfully and unlawfully disturb any person assembled in the Cemetery for the purpose of burying any body therein, or who shall commit any nuisance within the Cemetery shall be liable for prosecution.
- c) The consumption of alcohol within the Cemetery is strictly prohibited.
- d) Persons bringing dogs into the Cemetery must keep them on a lead and under proper control at all times. Persons allowing their dogs to foul in the Cemetery must clean up after them. A dog bin is provided.
- e) The riding of cycles and motorcycles through and within the Cemetery is strictly prohibited.
- f) Please park considerately.

The Council reserves the right from time to time to make alterations or additions to the foregoing Rules and Regulations consistent with the Burial Acts.