

# Pleasley Parish Council

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## PLEASLEY PARISH COUNCIL CEMETERY & MEMORIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

### EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS

This allows the person to whom the right is granted to determine who is buried in the grave and the memorial to be erected. It does not confer ownership in respect of the land concerned.

**All headstones, memorials, vase blocks and inscriptions are subject to approval from the Parish Council. The Council no longer permits kerbs around graves nor the covering of the surface of the grave with any material other than grass.**

A copy of every inscription, measurements of the memorial and drawing of the proposed monument to be erected must be submitted prior to any permission being granted. All applications must be fully completed with correct measurements and returned to the Parish Council with the appropriate fee. No memorials may be fixed until formal written approval is given by the Council. Temporary grave markers in the form of wooden crosses are permitted on the grave for the first six months following the interment date. Following the expiry of this 6 month period, the Council may remove any temporary marker and place in storage. The Council recognises the cost of providing permanent memorials, therefore, this date may be extended at the discretion of the Council. This will be for a maximum of a further 6 months after which all temporary markers shall be removed.

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### MEMORIAL RULES & REGULATIONS – PERMITTED SIZES OF MEMORIALS

**All memorials must be installed to the National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM) Code of Working Practice.** Any memorials that do not comply with the NAMM Code of Working Practice may be removed and result in action being taken against the monumental mason and/or the person holding the exclusive right. Memorials, vase blocks, plaques and their inscriptions are only permitted on graves/plots with Exclusive rights.

All memorials must have the appropriate grave/plot number engraved into the base.

- **The maximum height of the headstone on a grave plot shall not exceed 900mm.**
- **The width shall not exceed the width of the grave space but typically should be 600mm.**
- **Only one vase block shall be permissible to be placed on a grave plot. The vase must be placed within the proximity of the headstone and shall not exceed 300mm x 300mm x 300mm and be approved in accordance with Clause 6.1.1.**
- **The Council no longer permits kerbs around graves nor the covering of the surface of the grave with any material other than grass.**

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### NON-AUTHORISED ITEMS/MATERIALS

**At no time must glass vases, bottles or other containers be placed on any grave or cremated remains plot.** When memorials are removed from graves to enable further burials to take place, all monumental masonry and foundation work, if not permanently fixed, will be removed from site by the appointed monumental mason. All memorials removed, must be re-installed using the NAMM Code of Practice as identified in Clause 6.1.6. Settlement periods (6 months) must be observed.

The Council shall not be responsible for damage to memorials, carried out by any persons. The Council reserves the right to make temporary arrangements to make safe or dismantle unsafe memorials. The Council has a duty of care to ensure its cemeteries are safe for visitors and anyone carrying out maintenance work. In view of this the Council will organise an annual inspection of all memorials within cemetery grounds.

Where memorials are found to be in an unsafe condition the Council reserves the right under the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, to remove the risk of injury to the public. The severity of the risk will determine what action is to be taken, however, dismantling the memorial and laying it flat on the grave surface shall be the normal procedure. Where a memorial is found to be unsafe the Council will attempt to contact the owner. Unfortunately, difficulties can arise in tracing the owner because of relocation or assignment of the deed without this having been conveyed to the Council.

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### **GARDENS ON GRAVES**

The Council's cemetery is designated as a lawned area. No gardens are permitted on the grave space following the six month grace period which allows for settlement. Following the six month settlement period after the date of interment, the Council shall remove all unauthorised pots, floral tributes, and wooden crosses and home made kerbstones

### **FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS/WREATHS ARRANGEMENTS**

We have a waste bin in our cemetery for cemetery waste dead flowers, old wreaths, anything that should not be on a grave.

Below are our rules Floral tributes will be removed 14 days after the burial. In the first six months after the burial has taken place floral tributes, only pot plants and wooden crosses will be allowed on the grave.

After 6 months from the date of the burial, at the latest, all unauthorised pots, floral tributes, planting material, wooden crosses should be removed. The Council advises, because of unavoidable ground settlement, that headstones are not placed for at least 6 months after a burial has taken place. This will allow thorough settlement to occur and reduce movement of the headstone.