

THE BURIAL GROUND at PILTON
NOTES and REGULATIONS

Through these Notes and Regulations, Pilton Parish Council wishes to inform and guide families at a sad time, to achieve consistency of practice, to care for the Burial Ground and to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

1. The cemetery will be open from 8.00am until sunset daily. Children under 10 years of age must be under the care of a responsible person. No dogs will be admitted.
2. All fees and charges are to be paid to the Burial Secretary before the plot is opened and for memorials before erected. Interment fees do not include fees payable to undertakers and ministers for their services.
3. Application for interment must be made to the Burial Secretary on the form provided at least 48 hours previous to the interment, exclusive of weekends and Bank Holidays. Earlier interments may be permitted if certified by a medical practitioner or coroner to be imperatively necessary, or if ordered by not less than three members of the Parish Council under special circumstances.
4. Interment on any day of the week to be between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm. No interments on Sundays except under very special circumstances with the authority of the Parish Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.
5. The time fixed for a funeral to be that at which it is to arrive at the Church or Chapel.
6. The District Registrar's or Coroner's Certificate to be passed to the Burial Secretary in reasonable time. A certificate issued by the Cremation Authority will be required for the disposal of cremated remains.
7. The Burial Secretary will retain a plan of the burial ground showing the position of the individual graves. The burial ground plot in use will be marked in rows at the edges, so that a line between the markers will show the position of the headstone in that row. Graves must be dug in relation to that headstone line. All graves are to be levelled with no kerbs allowed.
8. Only the Burial Secretary, on the authority of the Parish Council, will allocate individual graves and as far as possible, this will be on a consecutive basis whether for current or future use. Only the Parish Council may approve exceptions to this regulation. Graves reserved by purchase of executive rights will be marked for identification.
9. Coffins or caskets of suitable material only to be used and must be clearly identified with the name of the deceased. No interment in earth graves can be allowed nearer to the surface than two feet.
10. All graves are to be dug and excavated by a person employed by the undertaker and authorised by the Parish Council and must be left properly clean and tidy. Stone and excess soil to be removed from the burial ground by the undertaker or his employee.
11. Dead flowers, wreaths, weeds and other matter taken off graves spaces must be removed from the burial ground or put in the refuse bins provided.
12. No shrubs, plants, trees or bushes may be planted on a grave space without the prior approval of the Parish Council.
13. All grave spaces are to be kept neat and in order by the owners at their own expense. The Parish Council may carry out any necessary work should owners neglect to do so, the cost of the work being re-charged to the owner and no grave will be re-opened upon which any such charge remains unpaid.
14. Plans showing full dimensions of memorials and their inscriptions, together with details of any permanent displays (including proposed materials) and plantings, must be submitted in writing to the Burial Secretary, for approval by the Parish Council who reserve to themselves the right to reject any they may consider unacceptable.
15. Headstones (including vase were applicable) must not exceed 3ft 6ins in height and 2ft 6ins in width and must be erected on the headstone line (see 7 above). Cremation Tablets must not exceed 1ft 6ins by 1ft 6ins.
16. No mason's name is to be inscribed or fixed on a memorial but it must bear, clearly visible, the number of the grave space as recorded on the official Deed of Grant.
17. All memorials shall be kept in repair by the owners, or the same may be liable to forfeiture and be removed by Parish Council after due notice to the owners, surviving relatives or agents, where such are known to exist. The Parish Council does not accept any responsibility for any damage to memorials, however caused.
18. On any re-opening for interment in any appropriate grave, the written consent of the owner or his or her legal representatives must be passed to the Burial Secretary at least 48 hours previous to re-opening, exclusive of weekends and Bank Holidays.

The Parish Council reserves the right from time to time to make any alterations in the Burial Ground Charges and Regulations.

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