

ROSS-ON-WYE TOWN COUNCIL

Ross-on-Wye Town Cemetery Memorial Regulations

These regulations are intended to encourage good practices, to curb bad ones and to enhance the style of the cemetery to enable visitors to pay respects in pleasant surroundings.

MEMORIALS

The following regulations M 1-7 apply to all sections of the Cemetery.

- M1 The Town Council has the authority to allow memorials to be introduced into the cemetery provided they comply with these regulations.
- M2 The holder of the Exclusive Right of Burial must submit an application form requesting the proposed erection of a memorial. The Right to Erect and Maintain a Memorial will be issued and will run concurrently with the Exclusive Right of Burial, subject to approval.
- M3 All work shall comply with any Code of Working Practices for memorial masons insofar as it is compatible with the Town Council's regulations and fitted by a BRAMM registered mason.
- M4 The design of memorials, which should be of natural quarried stone, and the wording and lettering of any inscriptions, must, in every case, be submitted in the prescribed form for prior approval either by those wishing to install a memorial or by the stone mason.
- M5 Inscriptions should be simple, reverent and appropriate. Engraving should harmonise with the selected material and may be incised or in relief and may be painted. Plastic or other applied lettering is not permitted.
- M6 The design and type of a memorial is strictly limited in Sections B and C. In Section A (the old section) a wider choice of memorial is possible (see below for details).
- M7 The removal of a memorial stone for the re-opening of a grave for further interment or its removal for repair, maintenance or inscription is permitted with the consent of the Council.

SECTION A

Section A is the area of the cemetery to the left of the path beyond roundabout as you come from the main entrance.

- A1 Headstones must not exceed 4 ft in height (measured from ground level), 3 ft in width and 6 inches in thickness. However, if slate is used the headstones may be thinner but must not be less than 2 inches thick.
- A2 Headstones may be so shaped that they can be inserted directly into the ground at sufficient depth to ensure stability.

- A3 Headstones may be set on an integral base not more than 3 ft wide by 1 ft 3 inches overall from front to back and not more than 9 inches high.
- A4 One or two flower vases, not exceeding 12 inches x 8 inches may be incorporated in the base of a headstone.
- A5 So far as adjacent ground levels reasonably permit, the foundation of a headstone shall be at or below the surface of the ground so that a mower may pass freely over it.
- A6 Raised curbs may be permitted but must not exceed 7 ft x 3 ft.
- A7 Stone chippings are not permitted except within raised curbs.
- A8 Separate vases may be placed within the grave space, provided they are within raised curbs.
- A9 A memorial flower vase may be put in place of a headstone. This must not exceed 18 inches in height. A full application on the prescribed form must be made.
- A10 A cross may be permitted in the place of a headstone. The height of a cross (measured from ground level) must not exceed 5 ft nor be less than 3 ft, the respective thickness of the shafts and arms (measured from front to back) being 6 inches and 4 inches.
- A11 No cross shall stand on more than two steps. The step, or lower of the two steps, shall measure no more than 3 ft in width and 1 foot 3 inches from front to back, and no less than 2 ft in width and 1 ft from front to back. The steps may be replaced by a die or boulder but the above measurements shown for the steps still apply.
- A12 The grave number must be inscribed low down on the reverse of the headstone.
- A13 The name of a mason and grave space number only may be inscribed low down at the side or on the reverse of a headstone or cross in unpainted and unleaded not more than ½ inch in height.

SECTION B

Section B is the lawned area of the cemetery to the right of the path beyond roundabout as you come from the main entrance. The only memorials permitted in Section B are Headstones. No curbs, planting or additional vases will be permitted and any placed may be removed without notice.

- B1 Headstones must not exceed 3ft 6 inches in height (measured from ground level), 3 ft in width and 4 inches in thickness. However, if slate is used the headstones may be thinner but must not be less than 2 inches thick.

- B2 Headstones may be so shaped that they can be inserted directly into the ground at sufficient depth to ensure stability.
- B3 Headstones may be set on an integral base not more than 3 ft wide by 1 ft 3 inches overall from front to back and not more than 9 inches high.
- B4 One or two flower vases, not exceeding 12 inches x 8 inches may be incorporated in the base of a headstone.
- B5 So far as adjacent ground levels reasonably permit, the foundation of a headstone shall be at or below the surface of the ground so that a mower may pass freely over it.
- B6 Raised curbs, railings, plain or coloured chippings or stones in the shape of hearts, figures, open books or bird baths etc. are not permitted.
- B7 A small mound of earth may be left immediately after the interment. Six months after the interment the grave will be levelled with the surrounding turf and relawned.
- B8 Any memorial which is found to be loose must be secured to provide stability. It is the responsibility of the owner to arrange for this to be done. An application to re-fix a memorial must be made to the Council and work undertaken by a BRAMM registered stone mason.

SECTION C

Section C is reserved for cremated remains and can be found on the far left hand side of the avenue as you enter the cemetery. Tablets are secured on concrete slabs within grassed pathways.

- C1 Unless buried in an existing grave, all cremated remains must be buried in Section C.
- C2 Immediately after burial, a square slab will be placed over the grave space.
- C3 Memorial stones, incorporating vases if desired, may be permitted in respect of any cremated remains, provided that the stone must not cover an area of more than 20 inches square and exceed 15 inches in height.
- C4 Cremated remains may not be interred in a non-perishable container.

FLOWERS, PLANTS AND TREES (ALL SECTIONS)

- F1 When floral tributes are removed, they should be disposed of in the receptacle provided within the Cemetery. All flowers should be removed when they have died. The council reserves the right to remove dead or tatty flowers.
- F2 Flowers can only be placed in memorial vases, secure vases within a curbed grave or in an integral vase. Loose vases are not permitted. Glass and plastic vases are not permitted.

- F3 Plants may only be planted on a grave within a raised curb (Section A only). Such plants must remain contained within the grave space and not reach a height of more than 18 inches (to include the pot if planted in a pot). Any plant exceeding this size may be removed or trimmed back.
- F4 Trees are not permitted on any grave but permission may be given to put a memorial tree and plaque in certain areas of the Cemetery.
- F5 Artificial flowers should not be used. Any found loose will be disposed of.

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL RULES APPLY TO ALL SECTIONS

Ornaments and artefacts

- G1 Ornaments and artefacts left on graves may be removed at the Council's discretion. No such item will be permitted on any grassed area.
- G2 Solar powered items are not allowed in any part of the cemetery and may be removed without notice.
- G3 Windsocks, windchimes and windmills are not allowed in any part of the cemetery and may be removed without notice.
- G4 Items of food and drink may not be left on any grave and will be removed without notice.

Cremated remains

- G5 The scattering of cremated remains is not permitted in the Cemetery.

Dogs

- G6 No dogs are allowed in the Cemetery with the exception of Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs.

Games

- G7 No games, balls, sports, riding of bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, or similar are allowed in the cemetery.

Vehicles

- G8 No vehicles, with the exception of those displaying a Disabled Badge, are allowed into the cemetery unless prior permission has been obtained from the Town Clerk.

Glass

- G9 Vases, jars or bottles made of glass are not allowed within the cemetery and the Town Council reserves the right to remove them without prior notice.

Refuse

- G10 All refuse should be disposed of in the bin provided. Unauthorised use of the skip is not permitted.