

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF EATON BRAY CEMETERY

Last updated: 10/01/2011

Explanatory note in relation to the changes being made to the layout/design of the burial ground

It is the Parish Council's intention that the Burial Ground will be laid out as a lawn cemetery. By definition this means that there will be no grave mounds or kerbs around graves. Memorials may be erected in accordance with these regulations in the 2ft wide bed set aside at the head of the grave. The graves will be arranged in single rows and any Memorial will therefore be at the head of the grave in the aforementioned 2ft wide bed.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF EATON BRAY CEMETERY MADE PURSUANT TO REGULATION 3 (1) OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES' CEMETERIES ORDER 1977

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 In these regulations: -

"the Council" means the Eaton Bray Parish Council

"the Clerk" means the Clerk to the Council or such other person who shall be authorised by the Council to undertake the functions of the Clerk under these regulations.

"Grave" means a burial place formed in the ground by excavation and without an internal wall of brickwork or stonework or other artificial lining, including a grave excavated for the burial of cremated remains.

2. NOTICE OF INTERMENT AND PAYMENT OF FEES

- 2.1 Notice of an intended interment shall be in the manner prescribed by the Council and submitted to the Clerk who will allocate a grave. (EBC1)
- 2.2 Notices of intended interment may be sent through the post at the senders risk however, the Council will not accept any responsibility whatsoever should it be delayed or lost in transmission. If notice is given as a matter of urgency by telephone, it will be at the risk of the person making such application and must be confirmed in writing in the form of notice of intended interment within 48 hours.
- 2.3 All arrangements for interment shall be made through a bona fide Funeral Director.
- 2.4 The Council will prescribe the fees for all services required under these regulations. The fee scale (EBCF) in operation at the time of Notice of Interment or an application for the erection of a Memorial (EBCM) shall be the fee payable by the applicant to the Council.
- 2.5 All fees due under these regulations, payable at the time of Notice of intended Interment, must be paid to the Clerk, and no interment shall take place until such fees have been paid.

3. INTERMENTS

- 3.1 The Clerk is authorised to limit the number of interments, which may take place on any one day.
- 3.2 The time arranged for a funeral shall be that of arrival at the graveside.
- 3.3 The Council accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any failure in the arrangements for a funeral due to circumstances beyond the Council's control.
- 3.4 The Council reserves the right of passage over all graves, and to temporarily cover any grave for the purpose of re-opening an adjacent grave as circumstances may require.
- 3.5 Graves will be dug in strict rotation in accordance with the plan of the Burial Ground, unless the grave relates to a previously purchased right of burial.
- 3.6 Funeral Directors shall provide sufficient Bearers to convey each coffin reverently from the hearse to the appropriate grave.

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- 3.7 All first interments shall be at a minimum depth of 7ft 6in. No grave shall be deepened after the first burial.
- 3.8 On the occasion of a second burial in a grave, there shall be a layer of earth not less than 6 inches in thickness, plus the thickness of the coffin board between each coffin. If, on re-opening a grave, the soil is considered to be offensive, it should not be disturbed and the undertakers will inform the Parish Clerk.
- 3.9 No part of any coffin shall be less than 4ft below the level of the ground adjoining the grave.
- 3.10 All interments shall be a standard grave plot size.

4. CREMATED REMAINS

- 4.1 The regulations set out in paragraphs 3.6 to 3.10 shall not apply to the burial of cremated remains.
- 4.2 A maximum of 2 Urns containing the ashes of a cremated person may be buried in any one plot.
- 4.4 The scattering of ashes in any part of the Cemetery is not permitted.
- 4.5 The interment of Ashes (not more than two) may take place in a fully used plot at the Council's discretion. No additional Memorial Stones will be allowed, an additional inscription on the original Memorial will be permitted or an entirely new Memorial must be provided which includes all relevant inscriptions. The Exclusive Right of Burial Certificate must be produced.

5. EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL

- 5.1 All graves include an exclusive right of burial, which is granted for a term of 75 years. This will be by way of a Deed of Grant (EBCEX). The Exclusive Right of Burial is not the purchase of the grave, only of the right to decide who shall be buried in that grave.
- 5.2 No grant of the Exclusive Right of Burial will be issued in the name of the Funeral Directors or a firm of Funeral Directors or partners or employees in such a firm.
- 5.3 No right of burial may be purchased in advance of the first notice of interment.
- 5.4 The grant of the exclusive right of burial in any grave is at the absolute discretion of the Council.
- 5.5 Where the second interment is requested, it shall be accompanied either by the grant of Exclusive Right of Burial, or by the written consent of the owner of that right, and required by the Council in any particular case by the proof of ownership of such a right.
- 5.6 The Council's consent to the transfer of the exclusive right of burial to any third party is required, and shall be expressed in writing by endorsement upon the grant.

6. MEMORIALS

Section 2 of the Burial Ground is laid out as a lawn cemetery.

By definition this means that there will be no grave mounds or kerbs of any type around graves.

See 6.17 and 6.18, 9.1, 9.2.

- 6.1 Gravestones not exceeding 75cm (30ins) in height, 55cm (22ins) in width, not less than 7.5 cm (3ins) nor more than 12.5 (5ins) in breadth and the base of which is not more than 75cm (30ins) in width.
- 6.2 An open book or scroll, the base of which does not exceed 75cm (30ins) in width and 30cm (12ins) in breadth and which is not more than 60cm (24ins) in height.
- 6.3 A carved figure or a cross not exceeding 75cm (30ins) in height, the base of which does not exceed 60cm (24ins) in width and 30cm (12ins) in breadth.
- 6.4 A tablet 30cm (12ins) by 30cm (12ins)
- 6.5 A hewstone vase not exceeding 37.5cm (15ins) in height 30cm by 30cm (12ins by 12ins) at the base, and bearing an inscription identifying deceased person/persons in the grave.
- 6.6 An application for permission to erect a Memorial must be submitted to the Council on the prescribed form, (EBCM) and shall contain exact details of the Memorial to be erected, and any proposed inscriptions thereon, together with a sketch plan of the proposed Memorial. The Council reserves the right to refuse permission for any Memorial, which does not conform to the Council's requirements.

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- 6.7 The Bishop of the Diocese may in certain circumstances; object to an inscription on a Memorial, which is to be to be erected in the consecrated part of the Burial Ground.
- 6.8 No Memorial shall be placed in the Burial Ground until the appropriate fee has been paid to the Council. (EBCF)
- 6.9 No work on erecting a Memorial may be carried out at the Burial Ground until the Council has issued permission.
- 6.10 A grave plot number will be allocated to each grave.
- 6.11 A Memorial shall be made out of marble, granite, or other hard natural stone, unless the Memorial shall take the form of a wooden cross.
- 6.12 Work in the Burial Ground must be completed expeditiously and to the satisfaction of the Council. The Parish Clerk must be notified when all work has been completed so an inspection can take place.
- 6.13 Memorials temporarily removed from graves must be re-positioned as directed by the Council.
- 6.14 Every Memorial when erected or fixed shall be kept in good repair by, and at the expense of its owner. Any memorial considered unsafe by the council; and not repaired after reasonable notice, will be removed.
- 6.15 Memorials shall remain at the Burial Ground at the sole risk of the owner, and the Council shall not be responsible for any injury or damage caused to any person or Memorial.
- 6.16 The Council may take down and remove any gravestone, monument, tablet or monumental inscription, which shall have been placed within the Burial Ground without authority, or which, in their opinion, is considered to be offensive.
- 6.17 Memorials will be permitted only if they are erected in the earth border provided.
- 6.18 The owner may plant plants, annuals and bulbs within the continuous earth strip at the base of the Memorial, but they must not be allowed to encroach over the grass area.

7. MEMORIALS ON CREMATED REMAINS GRAVES

- 7.1 Plaques or tablets (“memorials”) in the Garden of Remembrance shall be placed centrally on the plot, and shall not exceed 50cms (20 inches) in width and 45cms (18 inches) front to back. The minimum thickness shall be 5cms (2 inches) and the maximum 8cms (3.5 inches) at the front rising to a maximum 25cms (10 inches) at the back. A recess for the insertion of a flower vase is permitted.
- 7.2 In addition, an appropriate decoration, e.g. a cross or heart, may be fixed to the memorial, so that the overall height from the foundation base does not exceed 50cm (20 inches), and so that it does not extend beyond the rectangular dimensions of the plaque or tablet. No other objects or materials shall be permitted on these plots. The cutting away of turf from around the memorials and the insertion of bedding plants, chippings, plastic strips or any other materials is not permitted.
- 7.3 The memorial must be fixed in a horizontal position on a foundation base, the top of which shall be flush with, or below, the surrounding turf.
- 7.4 The foundation base shall not extend more than 5cms (2 inches) on any side beyond the memorial.

8. FEES

- 8.1 The Council will prescribe the fees for all services required under these Regulations.
- 8.2 The fee scale in operation at the time of Notice of Interment, or an application for the erection of a Memorial shall be the fee payable by the Applicant to the Council.

9. CARE OF GRAVES.

- 9.1 Once the soil has settled, the area of the grave will be turfed over by the Cemetery maintenance contractor.
- 9.2 An area at one end of the grave measuring 45cms (18ins) by 120cms (48ins) will form a continuous bed for planting and for the erection of memorials.

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GENERAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO BURIALS AND TO THE CONDUCT OF PERSONS IN THE CEMETERY, EATON BRAY

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- Interments in the Burial Ground shall take place between 10am and 3.30pm
- No interment shall take place on Saturdays, Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day, Bank Holidays or other Public Holidays.
- On the day of the funeral, flowers and wreaths may be placed on the area in which the burial has taken place.
- The Council reserves the right to remove faded flowers, vases, bottles, tins or any other object which is considered by the Council to be dangerous, untidy or a nuisance.
- Children under the age of 12 years are not permitted in the Cemetery unless in the care of a responsible adult.
- Visitors should behave in a quiet and orderly manner at all times.
- No wheeled vehicles, other than invalid carriages or perambulators, may be brought into the Cemetery except vehicles attending at funerals, unless they have the permission of the Council.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited within the Cemetery whilst a funeral is in progress.
- No sports or games are allowed in the Cemetery.
- NO DOGS allowed in the Cemetery.