

Rules for erecting memorial stones in Hermitage Burial Ground

1. It is a legal requirement that a permit is issued before any kind of memorial, including a headstone, vase etc, is placed on a grave. The parish council will give permission and instruct the clerk to arrange issue of permit.
2. Memorials can only be placed on graves for which the exclusive right has been purchased.
3. Placing or maintaining a memorial can take place Monday to Friday except for Good Friday and Bank Holidays.
4. All memorials and the placing of them must abide by BS8415 and be in line with the NAMM code of practice
5. Memorials must be maintained by the owners. The parish council has the power to remove the memorial otherwise.
6. All memorials should accord to the approved standard of workmanship recommended by The National Association of Monumental Masons.
7. Hermitage burial ground is relatively small. The council feels the landscape can help maintain an appropriately calm and peaceful atmosphere and so places restrictions on the type of memorial it will permit. Designs, materials and inscriptions are vetted by the councillor responsible for the burial ground before a permit is issued.
 - 7.1 Headstones can be erected a minimum of six months after a burial to allow for the ground to settle.
 - 7.2 Headstones can be made of granite, marble, limestone or similar long lasting, natural stone and should be in their natural colour. No additional colours or reflective surfaces are permitted.
 - 7.3 Size should be no more than 36 inches high, 24 inches wide and 6 inches deep including the base.
 - 7.4 Kerbed headstones or borders are not permitted.
 - 7.5 Natural stone vases may be set, at the sole risk of the owner, immediately in front of the memorial. These should be no more than 6 inches high 6 inches in diameter, the measurements to include the base or landing on which the vase may be placed.
8. Inscriptions should be of a suitably sober nature and must be approved by the parish council whose decision is final.
9. Glass vases, including such as jars or milk bottles, and plastic containers are strictly prohibited.
10. A temporary grave marker or wooden cross not exceeding 18" in height and 12" in width may be placed immediately after any burial including cremated remains but must be removed after a six month period. The council reserves the right to remove these markers after this period has elapsed.
11. Planting of shrubs, roses etc is not permitted.