



ILMINSTER NEW ROAD CEMETERY

Town Clerk

Old Magistrates Court, East Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0AJ

Tel: 01460 52149 Email: town.council@ilminster.gov.uk

The content of these rules and regulations do not override or supersede the Ilminster Town Council byelaws.

RULES AND REGULATIONS – GENERAL

1.0 Conduct

- 1.1 All persons shall conduct themselves in a quiet, decent and orderly manner and must keep to the paths except when visiting a plot.
- 1.2 No person shall bring any litter or other waste material into a cemetery and any waste or litter arising from attending or caring for a plot shall be deposited in the bins provided.
- 1.3 The following is strictly forbidden in the cemetery; Cycling, skateboarding, roller skating or playing of sports/games. The taking of commercial photographs and filming except with the prior approval of the Council - for which a fee may be charged. No persons shall canvass or solicit orders in the cemetery grounds. Alcoholic drinks and smoking in any part of the cemetery. No fire lanterns, fireworks or other pyrotechnics.
- 1.4 No person shall unreasonably interrupt Council staff whilst they are engaged in their duties nor seek to employ them privately to execute any work within a cemetery. No person employed by the Council is allowed to receive any gratuity whatsoever.
- 1.5 Dogs are permitted, but must be always kept on a lead. Any dog waste will be cleared up and taken away or placed in one of the waste bins.
- 1.6 The only vehicles allowed in the cemetery are disabled scooters, hearses or those used by Council staff and the gravedigger.
- 1.7 All damage caused to any boundary wall, fence, ground, paths, memorials or to any part of the cemetery must be repaired to the satisfaction of the council by the party causing the damage under the council's guidance

2.0 Interments

- 2.1 All interments are to be arranged through a Funeral Director. The Council will only correspond with the Funeral Director to make the arrangements for the interment. Interments are only to take place Monday to Friday between 10am and 4pm.
- 2.2 Before a plot can be opened, a completed Notice of Interment from a funeral director and in the case of a previously purchased plot, the Exclusive Right of Burial Certificate, must be verified.
- 2.3 Only caskets of wood or other biodegradable materials shall be used for interment.
- 2.4 Following an interment, floral tributes (including artificial flowers and decorations) placed on the plot will be removed after 3 months if they become unsightly.
- 2.5 Some disturbance of the ground may be necessary if further interments occur in the same area.

- 2.6 Please note that the maximum number of interments permitted in a full size, double depth, burial plot will be 2 burials and up to 6 sets of ashes provided that sufficient accurate information is held to be able to reasonably judge that no human remains will be disturbed nor any offensive soil removed. That in any cases of doubt the Town Clerk should refer the matter to the Open Spaces Committee or if the matter is urgent for the Town Clerk to make a decision following consultation with the Mayor, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee.
- 2.7 Please note that within a Cremation plot, it will hold up to 2 sets of ashes. **NO scattering of Ashes is permitted in the Cemetery.**
- 2.8 Exclusive Right of Burial Grant are initially granted for a period of 100 years. Applications can be made to extend this right at the end of this period.

3.0 Memorials

- 3.1 Only memorials can be installed by a qualified memorial mason with permission after a memorial application form submitted by a memorial mason has been approved by the Town Council.
- 3.2 The Exclusive Right of Burial must be purchased before an application can be made for the Right to Erect a Memorial. Memorials purchased by persons other than the Grantee of Exclusive Rights are ultimately the responsibility of the Grantee.
- 3.3 Applications to place a memorial must be signed by the holder of the Exclusive Rights of Burial.
- 3.4 Any new plots will NOT be allowed kerbstone surrounds, fencing, chippings, railings, gravel, or shingle on any type of plot. (Flat stones will be considered at the discretion of the council). Pre-existing plots must be maintained to its original condition.
- 3.5 Memorials are the private property of the Grantee(s) and must be maintained in a good and safe condition. **The Town Council is not responsible for any damage however it may be caused and owners of memorials are encouraged to take out insurance to cover this.**
- 3.6 All memorials shall be kept in good repair by the owner and if not so The Town Council as Burial Authority has the authority to repair, remove or alter memorials in any way they deem necessary for the due order of the cemetery at the expense of the owner. Before taking any action the Council will attempt to contact plot owners.
- 3.7 The Town Council reserves the right on Health and Safety grounds, to take immediate action with regards to any monument which could reasonably be suspected to represent a danger.
- 3.8 The council may remove any object considered to be a hazard to public safety or to the Open Spaces team from any plot without notice.
- 3.9 Plants and flowers may only be placed on/at the headstone of any plot space and must be maintained in a tidy condition. Strictly no glass containers, vases or ornaments.
- 3.10 No permanent shrubs, plants or flowers may be planted on a plot space. The Town Council may at any time authorise pruning, cutting down or trimming of any shrubs, plants or flowers if they have become unsightly or overgrown and may remove any dead shrubs, plants or flowers. The Council would seek to inform interested parties where practical.
- 3.11 Ornaments which can be safely placed on the memorial stone base to allow ease of upkeep of the cemetery are permitted. Ornaments to be restricted to one ornament no larger than

25cm by 15cm and one smaller ornament no larger than 15cm by 10cm. If an ornament is deemed to cause problems with the proper maintenance of the cemetery it will be removed and retained for a minimum of 12-months and returned to the owner upon request within that 12-month period. Unsightly ornaments will be removed and returned to the owner upon request. The final arbiter of what is deemed unsightly will be the officers.

- 3.12 Permission must be obtained from the Town Council for memorial shrubs, trees, and seats/benches to be placed in the Cemetery.
- 3.13 Memorial rights are initially granted for a period of 50 years. Applications can be made to extend this right at the end of this period.

4.0 Reclamation

- 4.1 The Town Council as Burial Authority reserve all rights of management of the Cemetery. This includes allocation of plots and prepurchase plots bought back by the council either by surrender or by compulsory purchase.

5.0 General

- 5.1 As the cemetery is in a rural location it is occupied by a variety of wildlife which occasionally causes damage to paths and plots. The council strongly advises that the grantee(s) takes out adequate insurance cover for memorials to cover such eventualities.
- 5.2 In all matters concerning memorials, inscriptions, forms of service, interments and other activities in the Ilminster Cemetery, the decision of the council is final.