



Market Deeping Town Council Cemetery Policy

1. For burials, the person to be interred must have been a resident of the town of Market Deeping immediately before the death. In the case of a stillborn child, at least one parent must be a resident of Market Deeping at the time of the interment
2. Ashes of residents and non-residents will be accepted into new cremated remains plots
3. Reservations in advance are not permitted, although partners can reserve a plot next to the deceased at the time of burial
4. Ashes may be interred into an existing grave of a close relative, provided that the appropriate permission is obtained from the Next of Kin and the owner of the Exclusive Rights to the grave
5. Serving members of the HM Forces, whose immediate family have resided in Market Deeping, will be permitted to be buried within Market Deeping cemetery.
6. Those who were previously residents of Market Deeping but had to move into a residential care home for support will be permitted to be buried within Market Deeping cemetery. (Special circumstances may be considered at the time of burial arrangements for those who do not meet this criteria and will be considered by the Clerk in conjunction for consideration for approval in consultation with the Chair of the Town Hall & Cemetery Committee)

Please note – in ALL cases of permission being granted for non-residents to be interred. TRIPLE interment fees will apply

CARE OF GRAVES AND MEMORIALS

1. The overall care of the Cemetery is the responsibility of Market Deeping Town Council. The Town Council employs a Cemetery Keeper who carries out the duties of maintaining the Cemetery Grounds.
2. The Town Council, as the Burial Authority, has a duty of care and is responsible for the safety of the Cemetery and can take action if necessary to achieve this.
3. The Town Hall and Cemetery Committee oversees the operation of the Cemetery.
4. The Owner of a memorial is responsible for any maintenance or repairs.
5. A visual inspection of all memorials will be undertaken every 3 years, or as required, by taking into consideration ground conditions and position of memorial in relation to footpaths etc

6. Memorials at risk will be identified and any immediate threat addressed
7. Memorials found to be in immediate danger will be made safe by temporary staking in the upright position, embedding into the ground or laying down flat.
8. Memorials will only be laid down as a last resort
9. For those memorials identified as at risk the owner will be contacted and asked to make the necessary repairs
10. Relatives wishing to erect memorials and vases must first obtain permission from the Clerk (this is usually done through the Monumental Masons)

11. The approved forms of memorials are:

Monolith Headstones (burial plots only)

- a) The maximum height of a headstone is 2' 6" from ground level. This is in addition to a maximum plinth height of 5" (one plinth only)
- b) At least one third of the headstone must be buried in the ground
- c) The headstone must be wedged into a concrete shoe
- d) A headstone can not be erected until 6 months after interment

Memorial Plaques

- a) This is the only memorial permitted to be placed over cremated remains
- b) Memorial plaques must be flat and fitted on a concrete slab base. The plaque should be flush with the grass
- c) Memorial plaques must not exceed 10" x 10"
- d) Flower vases are not permitted
- e) Memorial plaques cannot be fitted until 6 months after interment

Memorial Vases (burial plots only)

- a) Must not exceed 12" in height
- b) The base if fitted must not exceed 12" x 12"
- c) A maximum of two vases are permitted and should be fixed to the base of the memorial

12. Picture cameos are permitted:-

Headstone – must not exceed 4" x 3 "

Cremation Tablets – must not exceed 4" x 2 ½ "

13. A fee is payable to the Town Council for the right to erect a memorial which includes the first inscription. An extra fee is charged for subsequent inscriptions.

14. Only one memorial can be allowed on each grave space

15. For health and safety reasons and to help the ease of maintenance, please note:
 - a) Only two vases on each grave memorial are allowed for flowers
 - b) Kerbs are not permitted in the New Cemetery
 - c) Glass vases, jars or glass ornaments must not be placed on graves
 - d) Turf must not be removed or any border erected around the grave
 - e) Any additional items placed on the memorial must be within the confines of the memorial, be stable and made from shatterproof material
 - f) Members of the Public wishing to help out with any maintenance work in the Cemetery must first seek permission from the Cemetery Keeper
 - g) The cemetery is a lawned cemetery
16. The Cemetery Keeper has been instructed to remove any authorised vase or other article placed or left on the grave after 3 months
17. Bushes and plants etc must not be planted on graves
18. All graves will receive basic maintenance by the Cemetery Keeper
19. If you wish to place a seat in the Cemetery please apply to the Clerk for permission
20. Relatives are responsible for removing dead flowers and holly wreaths and putting them in the rubbish bins. All wreaths laid for the festive season will be removed from graves no later than 20th January. However, loose, dead flowers will be removed weekly to allow mowing to take place.
21. Following burial, flowers can be left on a grave for a maximum of two weeks as long as the flowers are still fresh. If they are not removed after two weeks the Cemetery Keeper has been authorised to remove them. Sympathy cards will be kept for collection from the Cemetery Store.
22. The Cemetery Keeper will be pleased to help or give advice should any be required.

CEMETERY OPENING HOURS

1. Parking is allowed in the cemetery 7 days a week for those attending funerals or visiting a grave provided this does not impede on any funerals
2. The Cemetery is open from 9am to 4pm, 7 days a week. For Health and Safety reasons, the Cemetery is closed after dark