

## **Greetham Burial Ground**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE CONTROL OF AND MAINTENANCE OF GREETHAM BURIAL GROUND**

#### **(Document 3)**

##### **1. Plan of cemetery**

The ground in the Greetham Burial Ground is divided into portions, which are consecrated and unconsecrated. Plans showing the situation of purchased graves and spaces for interments are kept by Greetham Parish Council.

##### **2. Notice of interment**

The Parish Council needs at least five working days' notice of any intended interment. To arrange this please contact the Clerk, or Chair as advised on the funeral expenses advice sheet during reasonable hours.

##### **3. Production of Disposal Certificate**

A notice of interment will not be accepted unless the Registrar's 2 part certificate (also known as the Green Form) or, in the case where an inquest has been held, the Coroner's certificate of the death of the person to be interred, is produced when the notice of interment is sent to the Parish Clerk.

In cases of still born children, a certificate or order will be required in accordance with the Births and Deaths Registration Act; and in the case of cremated remains, a Certificate of Cremation must be produced.

##### **4. Hours of interment**

No burial or interment of ashes will be allowed to take place before 10.00 am, nor after 4.00pm without special permission.

No interments on Sunday, or English Bank Holiday's, except under special circumstances as agreed by the Parish Council.

##### **5. Burial of persons suffering from an epidemic disease**

No body of any person dying of smallpox or other unusual epidemic diseases, as to be certified in each case by the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control for Leicestershire Health Authority, shall be taken into the Church but shall be conveyed at once to the grave for interment, and during the ceremony attending, and the progress of the interment of any such body, a member of the Parish Council shall close the gates of the Burial ground and exclude the public therefrom. All such interments shall take place no later than 9.00am.

##### **6. Fees and other charges**

All fees and other charges, which shall be in accordance with the table of fees in Document 2, are to be paid to Greetham Parish Council, via the Clerk, on giving notice of interment or the work in respect of which they are payable.

## **7. Advance purchase of grave spaces**

Persons who desire a single or double depth burial plot as a family burial place may purchase grave spaces in advance. This also applies to plots reserved for the interment of ashes.

## **8. Selection of plots**

A plot will be provided by the Clerk to Greetham Parish Council in consultation with the Parish Chair, the wishes of the applicant will be taken into account as far as is practicable. The decision of the Clerk and Chairman is final.

## **9. More than one body in a grave**

No body shall be buried in a grave unless the coffin is effectively separate from any coffin interred in the grave on a separate occasion by means of a layer of earth not less than six inches thick and there is three feet of earth between the top of the upper coffin and the ordinary level of the earth or whatever is legal at the time of burial.

Up to two persons' ashes can be interred in one plot.

## **10. Re-opening of graves**

Where any grave is re-opened for the purpose of another burial, no person shall disturb any human remains interred therein or remove there from any soil.

## **11. Consent of owner**

The consent in writing of the owner, or in the case of their death or incapacity their executor or legal representative, to any interment in a purchased grave must be given to the Clerk of Greetham Parish Council.

## **12. Depth of grave**

For persons of sixteen years of age and upwards no grave shall be less than five feet in depth and for those under sixteen years of age not less than four feet in depth from the surface of the ground.

## **13. Work carried out**

Any person carrying out work at the burial ground is responsible for any injury or damage done during the progress of that work.

## **14. Excavation of graves**

The excavation of all graves will be carried out by the Funeral Directors Contractors and shall take place in accordance with the instructions to Funeral Directors. (see document 4) Alternative arrangements can be made for interment of ashes, with the approval of the Parish Clerk.

## **15. Covering of Burials**

Wherever a burial has taken place, the surface of the grave shall be covered with the turf removed from the ground in accordance with instructions to the Funeral Directors.

## **16. Trees, shrubs and plants**

Any proposal to add trees, shrubs or plants of any kind in designated areas needs the approval of Greetham Parish Council.

## **17. Headstones and inscriptions**

All memorials of any description and inscriptions are subject to the approval of Greetham Parish Council.

## **18. Restrictions of headstones**

A headstone not exceeding 0.91metres (36 inches) in height, and not exceeding the width of the plot, incorporating ground anchors are allowed on each grave with the approval of Greetham Parish Council. For half size ashes plots where the headstones may back onto each other the ideal height would be to match the stone that is already in position, wherever possible. Flower containers must be contained within the base of the headstone which should be no deeper than 0.30 metres (12 inches). The reason for this is that anything deeper would impede grass cutting.

## **19. Containers**

Glass containers will not be allowed on any grave space for Health and Safety reasons.

## **20. Responsibility for Headstones**

Where a second interment is requested in a double grave upon which a headstone has been erected it is the responsibility of the person ordering the new interment to arrange for a contractor to remove the headstone prior to interment. The Parish Council will inspect headstones in keeping with current Health and Safety legislation and reserve the right to make safe any headstone deemed to be in a dangerous state.

## **21. Headstone maintenance**

Headstones are to be kept in good repair by the family of the deceased, and if not repaired after due notice, may be removed by order of Greetham Parish Council.

## **22. Damage to headstones**

Greetham Parish Council are not responsible for the care of headstones, or for any damage done to them.

## **23. Third party claim**

Greetham Parish Council accepts no responsibility for any third party claim.

## **24. Register**

A Register of Burials in the Burial Ground will be kept by the Clerk to Greetham Parish Council.

## **25. Invoices**

All appropriate charges will be invoiced by the Responsible Financial Officer on behalf of Greetham Parish Council.

## **26. Undertaker recommendation**

Associated local businesses may be mentioned to the bereaved but no recommendation of any undertaker, sculptor, stonemason or other tradesman may be made by any member of Greetham Parish Council.

## **27. Children**

Children less than twelve years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult whilst visiting the Burial Ground.

## **28. Vehicles**

Vehicles may be taken into the burial ground car park. There is room to turn around. Exit from the Burial Ground is in a forward direction only and the gate should be closed on departure.

## **29. Dogs**

Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 it is an offence for persons in control of a dog to allow it to foul in the Burial Ground. If owners subsequently fail to remove the faeces, offenders will be liable to a fixed penalty of £50 or a maximum fine of £1000 in the Magistrate's Court. Dogs should be kept on leads at all times.

## **30. Offences in the Burial ground**

a) Posting of bills strictly prohibited

b) No person shall:

1. a) Create any disturbance in the Burial Ground
2. b) Commit any nuisance in the Burial Ground
3. c) Interfere with any interment taking place in the Burial Ground
4. d) Interfere with any grave, headstone or tree or shrubs in the Burial Ground

c) Any person who contravenes any of the above shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine.

## **31. Right reserved to alter these Rules and Regulations**

Greetham Parish Council reserves to themselves the right to make alterations from time to time in the foregoing Rules and regulations.

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