

Battisford Parish Council

Battisford Parish Cemetery Regulations and Conditions of Use

1. Introduction

In the construction of these Battisford Parish Cemetery Regulations and Conditions of Use the following words have the meanings respectively assigned to them unless such meanings be repugnant to or inconsistent with the context or subject matter in which such words occur, that is to say:

“Grave” means a burial place formed in the ground by excavation and without any internal wall, brickwork, stonework or any other artificial lining.

“Burial” means the act of burying a coffin, shrouded body or cremated remains in an earthen grave.

“Burial Authority” means the Battisford Parish Council.

2. Administration

1. Notice of any burial is to be given to the Clerk of the Burial Authority during reasonable hours. No applications can be received on a Sunday.
2. No burial may take place on Sunday, Christmas Day or Good Friday except in very special circumstances and at the sole discretion of the Burial Authority.
3. Burials shall take place between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00pm, except in very special circumstances and at the sole discretion of the Burial Authority.
4. The Clerk of the Burial Authority will keep a Register of Burials.
5. Arrangements for the services of an Officiating Minister shall be made by the relative or the undertaker. The Burial Authority shall accept no responsibility in connection therewith.
6. The Burial Authority is empowered to remove old wreaths and flowers at their sole discretion.
7. The undertaker shall remain responsible for making good any subsidence that takes place within one year of the burial.
8. Any soil remaining after the burial has been completed shall be deposited only in the area designated for surplus soil. Surplus soil must not be spread over the surrounding ground.
9. No person shall cause or suffer any dog belonging to them, in their charge or in their care to enter or remain in the cemetery unless it is kept on a lead.
10. The Burial Authority has the right to amend the Battisford Cemetery Regulations and Conditions of Use and the Battisford Cemetery Schedule of Fees.

3. Burials

1. A reservation may be made at the time of burial for a second burial or burials of cremated remains in the same earthen grave at a later date.
2. The allocation of grave spaces and the siting of headstones and memorial stones shall be at the sole discretion of the Burial Authority.
3. Grave purchasers are ultimately responsible for the health and safety implications relating to their memorials. They should ensure that their memorials are stable and are not a risk to themselves, family members, friends, other visitors to the grave and the public at large. **The installation of all memorials must conform to the National Association of Monumental Masons’ Code of Practice and comply with BS8415. Grave purchasers are strongly advised to use the services of stone masons approved by the National Association of Monumental Masons.**

4. All graves will be flat topped i.e. without mounds. Memorials will be restricted to a single vertical headstone mounted on a horizontal plinth that must be supported by a concrete base set in and flush with the top of the surrounding ground. Their dimensions shall be:

	Height	Width	Depth
Headstone	914mm max	865mm max	75mm min
Plinth	75mm max	914mm max	305mm max
Concrete base	50mm min	Equal to plinth width + 75mm max	Plinth depth + 75mm max.

The overall height of the headstone plus plinth shall not exceed 991mm (39”).

5. Cremated remains can be buried either in an earthen grave where the exclusive right to burial has been granted or in the area designated for the burial of cremated remains only. Memorials in the area designated for the burial of cremated remains only shall be a single memorial stone that is either horizontal stone or a solid wedge mounted on a concrete base. Their dimensions shall be:

	Height	Width	Depth
Memorial stone: horizontal	75mm max	457mm max	457mm max
Memorial stone: wedge	152mm max	457mm max	457mm max
Concrete base	50mm min	Equal to plinth width + 75mm max	Plinth depth + 75mm max

6. All headstones, memorial stones and plinths will:
- i. *Be subject to the prior approval of the Burial Authority,*
 - ii. *Not be permitted to have any photographs, other images or fixtures attached to them. Engraved motifs will be permitted provided they are small and do not dominate the overall appearance of the stonework. Subdued colouring of motifs will normally be accepted.*
 - iii. *Have their first and any subsequent inscriptions approved by the Burial Authority,*
 - iv. *Be made of homogenous natural stone and not artificially coloured. The Burial Authority will not approve reconstituted, aggregated or man-made materials.*
7. It is recommended that the location of the grave be engraved on the plinth of all headstones and memorial stones to assist identifying the correct grave when they are first installed and subsequently after being removed for further inscriptions to be added.
8. No headstones are to be erected until a period of at least six months has elapsed after the date of the last burial.
9. Where there is a provision in the stonework a vase up to 100mm in diameter per grave will be permitted.
10. No statues or crosses may be erected in the cemetery.
11. No kerbs or planting around the grave will be allowed.
12. No trees or shrubs may be planted on or around the grave.
13. The Burial Authority is empowered to remove any monuments and other devices, erected or placed at graves without the prior approval of the Burial Authority.
14. All parts of the coffin shall be at least 1220mm below the surface of the ground immediately surrounding the grave plot.

