

South Walsham Cemetery, Acle Road, South Walsham NR13 6DD

- Rules, Guidance and Fees -

The Parish Council hope that these points will assist families and friends to arrange a suitable interment at the village cemetery and also provide guidance on memorials and specifications.

If you have any queries please contact Aileen Beck the Parish Clerk who represents the Cemetery Authority:

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Telephone: 01603 270392

3 Broadacres, Pilson Green, South Walsham, Norwich NR13 6EJ

We do ask you, for the benefit of everyone using the cemetery, to draw the attention of your Funeral Directors to their responsibilities as set out under section 6 Grave digging – Funeral Directors.

1. Burial plots

Plots are allocated in strict rotation, and are not available for selection.

Plots can be purchased as a single grave or as a double grave (to receive two burials at different times). Adjacent plots can be purchased at the same time for future burial.

2. Interment of ashes

Ashes are interred in a separate area of the cemetery, and these plots are allocated in strict rotation. On certain occasions ashes can be interred in existing graves. Adjacent plots can be purchased at the same time for future interment.

3. Grant of exclusive rights

These plots can be pre-purchased for the exclusive right of burial in a grave space (not the purchase of the land itself). This means that the purchaser does not own the land but has the exclusive right, during the period stated in the Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial, to say who can be buried in the grave (usually for a period of up to 50 years). These plots are offered subject to the discretion of the Cemetery Authority and subject to space being available.

The owner of an exclusive right can transfer the right to another person and, provided that the period stated in the Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial has not expired, he or she can also choose to be buried in the grave. Exclusive rights are offered for 50 years with the option at the end of 50 years to extend by up to two 25 year periods.

4. Eligibility

Only people who have resided in the village during the last three years before death, or have a close family connection, are eligible for burial, or for the interment of their ashes.

Those not fitting the above criteria may be considered on an entirely discretionary basis by the Cemetery Authority whose decision will be final and binding.

5. Memorials

Full sized plots

Only traditional shaped upright memorial stones, flat tablets and vases, are permitted as are hard wood crosses (stone crosses are not allowed). Additional flat slabs may be added to mark ashes when added to the plot. Memorials must be no higher than 1 metre from the ground, not wider than 650 mm and no more than 100 mm thick. Grave kerbs are not permitted. Small scale removable objects may be placed on a grave plot for a short time, but their safety cannot be assured. Any such objects broken or in a poor state must be removed by the family (otherwise they will be removed by the Cemetery Authority).

All graves must contain a permanent marker stone stating the name of the occupant within eight months of interment.

All stone memorials must be placed at the head of the grave.

Ash plots

Flat memorials up to 500 mm x 500 mm and no more than 200 mm high may be laid.

All memorials must be purchased from and installed by a member of the British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM). It is important that no permanent memorial is placed on a grave till at least six months after the burial date. Small temporary grave markers are allowed.

Please note that all memorials remain the property of the purchaser. The Cemetery Authority checks gravestones from time to time to ensure their safety and will inform the owner if they are deemed not safe. As a last resort an unsafe stone not repaired would have to be laid down by the Cemetery Authority.

6. Grave digging – Funeral Directors

Responsibility for appointment of Grave Diggers rests with the Funeral Director who must ensure that the grave diggers employed by them are familiar with the cemetery and abide by its Rules and Regulations.

Funeral Directors are responsible for ensuring that grave diggers work in a responsible and safe manner and observe all Health and Safety legislation and codes of practice in force at the time of the excavation.

Funeral Directors are requested and required to ensure that all grave digging and reinstatement is conducted to the highest professional standards and specifically to ensure that their contractors:

- Do lay wheel/track boards to move diggers anywhere in the cemetery beyond the established gravel path.
- Do not disturb any other grave, except to place soil on temporarily between digging and burial.
- Do leave the burial mound neatly formed with the original turf re-laid on top.
- Do clear up all residual dug-out soil from adjacent graves.
- Do not dump such soil on or around the surrounding boundaries or elsewhere in the cemetery - spoil from the graves is to be placed in the area designated by the Clerk on a case-by-case basis.
- Do leave the cemetery in the, hopefully, clean state in which they found it with all ornaments, chippings etc left neatly in an appropriate location adjacent to the grave.

Vehicles taken into the Cemetery are to remain on the path and must not be parked on the grass. Should any damage be caused this must be remedied by the grave digger within 14 days.

The funeral director is responsible for the grave until it has settled; should subsidence occur, the funeral director will be notified.

7. Flowers

Any flowers must be placed in containers set within the memorial plinth, tablet or vase. Low growing bulbs or fleshy plants may be planted on the grave space (maximum of 1.5 metres x 2.5 metres for full sized plots). Small arrangements of artificial flowers are allowed on the plinth. No shrubs, roses or trees are to be planted.

8. Cemetery maintenance

The Cemetery Authority's contractor will cut and trim round all memorials. For this reason low growing spring flowering plants are recommended which can be removed or die back before grass cutting begins in late spring. Any damage to plants or removable objects will not be the responsibility of the Cemetery Authority or its contractor.

9. Cemetery Authority

South Walsham Parish Council is the Burial Authority in law and is therefore ultimately responsible for the operation of South Walsham cemetery. The clerk to the Parish Council is the delegated officer responsible for the day to day running of the cemetery.

South Walsham Cemetery Fees

	£
Purchase of single burial plot	330
Purchase of double burial plot	385
Second interment in double grave	165
Grant of exclusive right (additional to plot)	110
Transfer of ownership of exclusive rights	55
Interment of ashes	165
Interment of additional ashes in same plot	85
Grant of exclusive right - ashes (additional to plot)	55
Transfer of ownership of exclusive rights - ashes	55
Permission for memorial headstone	140
Permission for memorial flat stone	110
Permission for memorial vase	90
Permission for tablet	110
Additional inscription fee	25

Reduced rates of 25% apply for children under the age of 12

The above fees are valid until the end of November 2021. Fees will be reviewed by the Cemetery Authority every year.

Revised: 29th December 2020