



ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Cemetery Grave and Memorial Conditions

Effective July 2025

1. Introduction

Ickleton Parish Council has created these regulations to ensure that the cemetery remains peaceful, attractive, and respectful to all who are buried there.

- All interment bookings, enquiries, and comments should be directed to:
Parish Council Clerk – clerk@ickleton-pc.org.uk

These conditions apply to:

- Burial in grave spaces
- Burial of cremated remains
- Erection of memorials or headstones

The cemetery operates under the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, and Ickleton Parish Council is the burial authority.

Important:

No burial, scattering of ashes, erection of a tombstone or memorial, or inscription may be carried out without prior permission from the Parish Clerk.

Funerals are usually arranged via a Funeral Director, but private interments may be permitted at the Council's discretion.

2. Purchasing a Grave Space

- Upon purchase of a grave, the Council provides an '**Exclusive Right of Burial**' document as proof of ownership.
 - This grants the right to bury and erect a memorial with Council permission only.
 - The **grant period is 99 years**. After expiry, ownership reverts to the Council if the family does not extend it.
 - The document must be presented if the grave is reopened.
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3. Grave Spaces and Cremation Plots

Grave dimensions:

- Maximum: 2000mm long x 1000mm wide
- Surface can be left as turf (artificial turf is not permitted)

- Planting allowed: small flowering plants or bulbs
 - Maximum height: 600mm
 - Should not overhang the grave edges
 - Roses and shrubs are not recommended

Cremation plots:

- Dimensions: 600 mm × 600 mm
 - No planting allowed
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4. Headstones, Memorials, and Inscriptions

Permissions and requirements:

- Must be approved by the Parish Council before installation
- Complete and submit a memorial permit application clearly sketching the design with dimensions and materials
- Memorials must be **natural stone**, minimum thickness 3 in (75 mm), installed by an Approved Memorial Mason, and comply with BS8415
- Pay associated fees prior to a permit being issued

Headstone size limits:

- Maximum: 900mm high × 900mm wide × 450mm deep (including foundation)
- Minimum: 600mm high × 380mm wide × 80mm deep
- Positioned flush with the head of the grave
- Grave number on the back; stonemason's name may also be shown discreetly

Cremation memorials:

- Maximum: 600 mm x 600 mm
- Must be flush with ground level

Temporary markers:

- Wooden markers with plaques ≤ 100 mm × 50 mm do not require permission
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5. Maintenance of Memorials

- Memorials are the grave owner's responsibility
- Council will inspect and report unsafe memorials
- Owners must repair within 1 month, or the Council may lay flat the memorial for safety
- Council may remove unauthorised, unsafe, or decayed memorials at the owner's expense
- Council recommends insurance to protect memorials
- Council is not responsible for damage, theft, vandalism, or other events outside its control

6. Grave Enclosures (does not apply to cremation plots)

Permanent kerbs:

- Must be natural stone, $\geq 75\text{mm}$ thick, $\leq 150\text{mm}$ high
- No railings or adornments
- Plans must be approved before installation
- Installed by an Approved Memorial Mason following NAMM Code of Practice
- Must allow safe access for visitors and not obstruct neighbouring graves
- Maximum dimensions: 2000 mm $\times$ 1000mm
- Fee payable prior to installation
- Owners maintain kerb and enclosed area
- For additional interments, owners must temporarily remove kerbs

Planting and coverings:

- Turf, small flowering plants/bulbs only
- Maximum plant height: 600 mm
- Bark mulch, “crazed” paving, or terrazzo tiles allowed with prior permission
- Loose stone chippings not allowed, unless partially embedded in concrete

Temporary kerbing:

- Allowed without foundation, no railings
- Owners responsible for maintenance
- Plastic edging is not permitted
- Must be removed for further interments

7. Making Good Damage

- Any damage to Council property during work must be repaired at the responsible party’s expense
- Repairs must be completed within a timeframe set by the Council

8. Liability

- Memorials and enclosures installed at the owner’s risk
 - Council is not responsible for injury or damage
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9. Rights of the Council

- May remove memorials after grant expiry
 - May remove unsafe or decayed memorials
 - May revoke previously granted permissions
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10. Tributes

- Items left at graves are at owner's risk
 - Council may remove any items deemed:
 - Unsafe, neglected, unsightly, broken, or a nuisance
 - Examples: lights, candles, solar lights, pinwheels, glass containers, tins, silk flowers
 - Glass containers are not permitted
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11. Fees

- Fees for burial rights, interments, headstones, memorials, inscriptions, and permanent kerbing are available from:
 - **The Parish Clerk – clerk@ickleton-pc.org.uk**
 - [Ickleton Parish Council website](#)

No fee for permanent kerbing will be charged if the grave already had a headstone in situ before 12 December 2012.