

Hawkesbury Parish Council

CEMETERY TERMS & CONDITIONS

BURIAL PLOTS

- 1 Applications for reservation of burial plots (i.e. grave spaces and ashes plots) must be made directly to the Parish Council, who will issue a grant of Exclusive Right of Burial, subject to eligibility criteria and the further matters set out below.
- 2 Eligibility for burial (i.e. use of a grave space or an ashes plot) in Hawkesbury cemetery will normally be restricted to parishioners, i.e. those persons currently residing in the parish. Applications for burial of ex-parishioners, or non-parishioners having connections with the parish, will be considered by the Parish Council on a case-by-case basis.
- 3 The above eligibility criteria will apply not only on the grant of Exclusive Right of Burial but also will apply at the time of all burials, whether or not the Right has been subsequently bequeathed, assigned, or otherwise passed on.
- 4 A grant of burial, whether in purchased or unpurchased graves, will confer rights of occupancy for a period of 75 years from the date of the grant.
- 5 A grant of burial confers rights of occupancy of a burial plot only, and not ownership of the land.
- 6 A grant of Exclusive Right of Burial is subject to payment of the appropriate fees within a period of 60 days, failing which the grant will be withdrawn.
A grant of Exclusive Right of Burial is valid for a period of 75 years. But a burial plot owner may apply within that period for a further 75 year extension, subject to :-
 - a. Continuing fulfilment of the eligibility criteria; and
 - b. Appropriate proof of ownership of the burial plot; and
 - c. Payment of a fee
- 8 Burials may take place only in locations specified by the Parish Council.
- 9 Depth of a burial plot may allow for a maximum of two coffins, one above the other in a grave space, or two ashes containers, one above the other in an ashes plot.
- 10 Burial of ashes in existing coffin graves will be allowed if suitable containers are used.
- 11 No double grave spaces for side-by-side burials will be allowed.
- 12 Cremated remains must be buried in suitable containers.
- 13 No cremated remains may be spread or scattered over grave spaces, or anywhere else in the cemetery.

MEMORIALS AND MONUMENTS

- 1 A grant of Exclusive Right of Burial carries with it the right to apply for a grant to erect a grave monument or memorial subject to approval of design, specification and inscription by Hawkesbury Parish Council, payment of the appropriate fee, and to the conditions listed below.
- 2 A memorial may not be erected on an unpurchased grave.
- 3 The responsibility for maintenance and repair of any monument or memorial rests with the owner and/or their successors, who must ensure that it is kept in a safe and secure condition at their expense.
- 4 The Parish Council will inspect and verify the safety of all existing memorials and monuments in the cemetery.
- 5 Where a monument or memorial is found to be potentially unsafe for any reason, the Parish Council will attempt to contact the owner and/or their successors for them to arrange repair or restoration; in the event that such arrangement cannot be made, or where its condition presents immediate danger, the Parish Council has the right to put the monument or memorial in a safe condition at the owner's and/or their successors' expense.
- 6 The grant for erection of a monument or memorial terminates with the expiry date of the grant of the Exclusive Right of Burial. At the end of this period the Parish Council may remove the monument or memorial.

General Conditions relating to monuments and memorials

- 7 Monuments or memorials may be erected only where designated and marked by the Parish Council.
- 8 All monuments or memorials must be of stone, or of reconstituted stone, to specifications approved in advance by the Parish Council.
- 9 Monuments or memorials may be installed only after a period of 6 months following the date of interment.
- 10 No trees or bushes may be planted on or around burial plots.
- 11 No paving, gravel, stones or chippings may be laid over burial plots
- 12 Raised mounds or turfed banks will not be permitted on any burial plot.
- 13 The Parish Council reserves the right to remove dead flowers or unintended plantings from burial plots.
- 14 The Parish Council reserves the right to refuse permission for inscriptions that may be considered unsuitable.
- 15 Application for additions to memorial inscriptions must be submitted in writing in advance to the Parish Council for approval.

Conditions applying to memorials and monuments over grave spaces

- 16 Only headstones may be erected over grave spaces.
- 17 No footstones, rails, kerbstones or fencing may be installed.
- 18 All headstones must be fixed to a sound and stable foundation.
- 19 Headstones must be installed at the head of the grave, and in line with adjacent headstones.
- 20 Maximum permissible dimensions of headstones (excluding foundations) is as follows:

Height:	36 inches	91 cm
Width:	27 inches	69 cm
Thickness:	6 inches	15 cm

Conditions applying to memorials and monuments over ashes plots

- 21 Only flat ground level memorial tablets measuring 18" x 18" (46cm x 46cm) may be installed over ashes plots.