



## **THORNE MOORENDS TOWN COUNCIL**

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### **CEMETERY REGULATIONS**

**Thorne Cemetery, Southfield Road, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5NH**

#### **Headstones and Memorials**

- a. Any work relating to the erection or removal and re-fixing of any headstone shall be done by and at the cost of the owner of the purchased grave. All such work shall be carried out subject to the directions of the Council and the persons employed on such work must have £5 million public liability insurance cover and must use such means of protecting grass, plants, adjoining graves headstones paths and roads as is necessary All persons carrying out such works shall produce their current Health and Safety Policy. They will also be required to remove all debris from the work area on each and every occasion that work is carried out and leave the area in a satisfactory condition.
- b. It is the responsibility of the grave owner to arrange for the removal of a memorial prior to any additional interments. The memorial must be removed from the cemetery by approved personnel.
- c. Cultivation and planting of grave spaces is allowed subject to a height limit of 45cm (18ins). The over-all area of the grave space to be no more than 2.15m (7ft) in length (measured from the rear of the plinth) and 0.9m (3ft) wide, with the exception of the quadruple ashes plots, which should measure 5'6" in length and 3ft in width.
- d. No grave shall be raised by turfing or any other manner above the level of the ground immediately adjoining.
- e. The use of small kerb stones, in "natural" stone materials, not exceeding 15cm (6ins) in height and 10cm (4ins) in width and posts 20cm (8 inches) will be allowed. The overall area of the grave space to be no more than 2.15m (7ft) in length (measured from the rear of the plinth) and 0.9m (3ft) wide. The kerb set is to be fitted by a memorial mason and is subject to plans being submitted and approved by the Town Council.
- f. The maintenance of planted and kerbed areas is the responsibility of friends and relatives of the deceased. If the area is not maintained to the satisfaction of the Town Council every effort will be made to contact the next of kin with regard to making the necessary improvements, if no contact can be made then the Town Council will remove the items, where possible to store and restore the area to a grassed condition.
  - a. Where the grave to be re-opened is maintained by friends and relatives of the deceased, then the Town Council does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to the plants and kerbs disturbed.

- g. Full details and drawings of any proposed memorial (including wooden crosses) and inscription thereon must be submitted to the Town Council for approval. No memorial or inscription shall be placed in the Cemetery without the prior approval of the Town Council.
- h. The practice of remembering persons other than those interred in the grave by inscribing a headstone or tablet is not encouraged. If permission is given for an inscription to be included remembering a close relative, then it must be made clear in the inscription that the persons remains have not been placed in the said grave.
- i. All new memorials should be marked with a grave indicator.
- j. Memorials, including wooden crosses not exceeding 4 foot 6 inches in height, shall be erected vertically on the outer edge of the plot at the head of the grave and shall be supported on all sections on a concrete bearer. The headstone shall not exceed 1.00m (3ft 6ins) in height measured from the ground, nor in 3 foot in width, nor 45cm (1ft 6ins) in depth and shall be in a position approved by the Cemetery Supervisor. Memorials must be doweled to the base with non-ferrous cramps or dowels. The dowels should be a minimum of 125mm ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ins) diameter and a minimum of 7.5cm (3ins) in length, with two dowels per headstone a ground anchor system should be used, i.e., a stainless-steel tube passing through the top base and foundation plinth sunk 30cm (12ins) below the ground.
- k. Every memorial must be erected to withstand a minimum pull/push force of 70kg exerted at its apex. When kerb sets are to be erected, foundations must be set in solid ground supported by bearer slabs, which stretch across the head and foot of the grave with the ends resting on the solid ground on either side of the actual grave. Some designs and/or inscriptions may be deemed to be inappropriate, and the Council reserves the right to refuse permission under such circumstances. All memorial inscriptions to be in BLACK, GOLD, SILVER, or LEAD. Only the grave number is permitted on the rear of plinth of the headstone. No inscriptions are permitted on the rear of the headstone itself other than with prior consent of the Council.
- l. Headstones formed of any soft stone or other material liable to perish or headstones of zinc, iron or any other metal are not permitted. The whole of the stone must be of the best quarried materials.
- m. Memorial type vases as an alternative or in addition to the headstone will be permitted with restrictions on size and type prior approval must be obtained. Such additional vases are not permitted on the Ashes sections of the Cemetery.
- n. When in the opinion of the Town Council a memorial or vase is not maintained in good repair and proper condition, every effort will be made to contact the next of kin with regard to making good the memorial or vase. If no contact can be made then the removal or vase will be left to the discretion of the Town Council.
- o. Graves and vaults in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted and all headstones and other memorials thereon must be kept tidy and in proper repair by the respective owner. The Town Council will not accept liability for the making good of memorials which collapse, or which are damaged by the fall of adjacent memorials. Any emergency work necessary in this connection will be recharged to the holder of the exclusive right.

- p. The Town Council will not accept liability for damage to any grave space or memorial or injury to any person within the Cemetery, except where such damage is directly attributable to the negligence of the Town Council or its employees.

### **Memorial and Memorial Plaques**

The Council currently provide a plaque service for benches owned by the Council, and do not allow the placement of benches by the public in the Cemetery. For further information about Memorial plaques and the policy in place, please contact the Cemetery Manager. As for memorials etc. repairs and maintenance are the responsibility of the owner and the Council reserve the right to remove said goods should the need arise.

### **Floral Tributes**

The Council reserves the right to remove floral tributes when they become unsightly or for any other legitimate reason. If the Council has to remove floral tributes for a reason such as the excavation of an adjacent grave, maintenance etc. then it will endeavor to place them back carefully in an appropriate position but can take no responsibility for any consequences of this or for damage to floral tributes by other users of the Cemetery.

### **Children's Area**

Novelty headstones, for example: children's characters, will not be permitted in the main cemetery but will be allowed, subject to approval, in the children's areas.

### **General Conditions**

The use of the Cemetery by any person is subject to the following conditions:

1. All fees must be paid directly with the Cemetery Manager or Bank transfer to Thorne-Moorends Town Council.
2. The Cemetery shall be open to the public at such times as the Council may from time to time direct.
3. The Town Council reserves the right to close the Cemetery, or to limit the entry of persons thereto, at any time without notice.
4. Memorials may only be brought into the Cemetery and work carried out in connection with the erection of memorials from 7.00 am to 3.00pm, Monday to Friday. No work outside these hours will be permitted without prior arrangement.
5. Visitors to the Cemetery must keep to the paths except when visiting a grave. No child under 10 years of age will be allowed within the Cemetery except when accompanied by and under the care of a responsible person.
6. Dogs will only be allowed when on a leash in the Cemetery.
7. The only motor vehicles allowed in the Cemetery are:
  - i. Funeral cars and private cars of immediate mourners at the time of specific burials

- ii. Vehicles operated by memorial masons for the purpose of conveying materials, headstones, etc.
  - iii. No other vehicles will be admitted except by the special consent of the Cemetery Manager. e.g., blue badge holders
  - iv. Council vehicles
8. No cycling allowed in the Cemetery grounds.

## **Burials and Interments**

The days upon which interments shall take place will be Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays, times subject to the discretion of the Cemetery Manager. Interments shall not be allowed at any other times except in extraordinary circumstances and by special permission of the Town Council.

Notice of interments must be given to the Cemetery Manager in writing or through email at least two clear working days before the Interment.

The notice of interment shall contain a statement of the forename and surname, occupation or status, age, place of death and last residence of the person to be buried, the size of the coffin (external measurement) the day and hour of the intended burial. In the case of a pre-purchased grave, the description and depth of the grave, together with the owner's name and address, must be given, and the grant of the exclusive right of burial or the consent in writing of the owner must be produced.

The Council reserves the right to prevent an interment from proceeding if it has not been provided with the Green Form, Certificate of Cremated Remains or *Statuary Declaration Forms relevant to the burial* at least Two days prior to the proposed interment date and time.

## **Legislation**

In accordance with Article 18(12) of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, no person shall

- a. Willfully create any disturbance in the Cemetery.
- b. Commit any nuisance in the Cemetery.
- c. Willfully interfere with any burial taking place in the Cemetery.
- d. Willfully interfere with any grave, headstone or other memorial, or any flowers or plants thereon.
- e. Play any game or sport in the Cemetery.

In accordance with Article 18(2) of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, no person not being an officer or member of the Town Council, or another person so authorized by or on behalf of the Town Council, shall enter or remain in the Cemetery at any hour when it is closed to the public.

## **Fees and Charges**

The Town Council may charge such fees as it thinks proper for or in connection with burials and the erection of memorials, including inscriptions, in its Cemetery. The scale of fees is available for inspection by the public at all reasonable times.

The Town Council reserves the right to amend the fees or regulations by resolution of the Council without notice at any time.

## **Communications and Contact Details**

All communications concerning interments and memorials should be made to the Cemetery Manager, current located in the cemetery.

**Address:** Thorne Cemetery, Southfield Road, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5NH.

**Email:** [chris.powell@thorne-moorends.gov.uk](mailto:chris.powell@thorne-moorends.gov.uk)

**Tel:** 07394 534122