

ALLITHWAITE AND CARTMEL PARISH COUNCIL



CARTMEL CEMETERY REGULATIONS

Adopted:	March 2022
Approved at PC meeting:	27 April 2023
Corrected re Allithwaite and Cartmel Parish:	21 December 2023
Reviewed and approved:	9 May 2024

ALLITHWAITE & CARTMEL PARISH COUNCIL – CARTMEL CEMETERY

Parish Councils are now burial authorities (LGA.1972, Sch. 26, para1). Burial boards have been abolished and the distinction between burial grounds and cemeteries has disappeared.

“Subject to the provisions of the Local Authorities Cemetery Order (Statutory Inst.628) a burial authority may do all such things as they consider necessary or desirable for the proper management, regulation and control of a cemetery (Article 3 (1)0).

The above Cemetery Order 1974 states that “no burial shall take place without the permission of the Officer appointed for that purpose by the burial authority (Sch.2 Part 1, para 1). At a special meeting of the Parish Council on 22nd January 1976 it was agreed that the Team Vicar of Cartmel should be designated as this Officer. All regulations for whatever purpose are therefore to be agreed by the Team Vicar of Cartmel in conjunction with the burial authority i.e., the Parish Council within whose territory this cemetery is based. At the date of this designation, this is the Parish Council of Allithwaite and Cartmel, within the South Lakeland District of the County of Cumbria.

REGULATIONS

1. **Burials:** Coffins can be carried through the lych-gate or the South West gate.
2. **Exclusive rights:** These should be granted only to one grave-space, burials shall take place in sequence and no space may be reserved except in depth. The Designated Officer shall inform the undertaker of this regulation.
3. **Acceptance:** Residents of Cartmel and Upper Holker Civil Parishes are eligible for burial in Cartmel Cemetery. The Designated Officer (The Vicar of the Parish) shall consult the Parish Clerk or Parish Council Cemetery Working Party for the consideration for burial of persons other than those dying within Cartmel Civil Parish, which is part of Allithwaite and Cartmel parish.
4. **Cremation:** A space for burial of ashes is available and a record of these is maintained by the Vicar and Parish Clerk..
5. **Un-consecrated ground:** A small portion of land has been left un-consecrated and is shown on the plan of the Cemetery.
6. **Monuments:** These (including the inscription, designs and their colour) shall be agreed with the Parish Council Clerk and Cemetery Working Party, who shall, if in doubt or if there is a difference of opinion, consult the Designated Officer.
 - a. No kerbstones are allowed
 - b. Headstones must not exceed 30” in height measured from the ground or 21” in width or 4” in thickness.
 - c. Materials: local slate (blue, green or grey), natural local limestone (Portland Stone for Military Headstones only), dark grey or natural light grey granite, green granite from stone quarried in the UK.
 - d. Headstones may be polished on the inscription side only and in such a manner as to preserve the natural colour of the stone, Other surfaces should be rustic or honed. Wooden crosses are not a preferred memorial, but if approved in special circumstances and shall be made from UK hardwood.
 - e. Bases on which headstones stand shall not be more than 26” wide or 18” from front to rear.
 - f. The rear of each headstone must be in line with the adjoining ones, regularly spaced in the centre of each grave space and at equal distance from the adjoining headstones or grave spaces. If the monumental mason is in doubt, he should request that the precise position be marked out by a member of the Cemetery working party or some person authorised by them.

- g. In line with good practice a period of six months after burial shall elapse before memorial stones are erected on a grave.
- 7. Cremated Remains:** The width of each space shall be 20" by 15" deep and the size of any memorial stone shall be the same and shall be sunk so as to be flush with the ground. There shall be 16" between spaces on all sides.
- Memorial stones must be erected in line with markers.
 - Cremated remains shall either be deposited in the grave space direct or if a contained is used it shall be of a degradable material.
 - Ashes must be interred in the designated space and not scattered on the ground.
- 8. Flower Vases:** One only permitted for each grave space or cremated remains space for cut flowers and foliage only, preferably held in a hole in the base or plinth of a memorial stone and of metal, not glass, china, pottery, plastic or other material. Planters are not permitted.
- 9. Wreaths or cut flowers** may be laid directly on the new grave. Dead flowers are unsightly and disrespectful. Those placing cut flowers should remove them when they appear withered and should not be upset if the Council remove them when they observe them.
- 10. Flowering plants, shrubs and trees:** Must not be planted on grave or memorial spaces or in tubs or planters. This is to maintain the appearance of the cemetery and facilitate grass cutting. Suggestions for memorial trees may be submitted in writing to the Parish Council for approval.
- 11. Tidying up:** The Parish Council, at their discretion, may level the surface of any grave, consisting wholly or substantially of earth or grass, to the level of the adjoining ground at any time more than 12 months after the latest burial. They may also authorise any person deputed to care for the cutting of grass or other maintenance of the Cemetery to remove any withered wreaths or flowers or any unauthorised or broken flower vases.
- 12. Undertakers** are responsible for ensuring that the grave is dug in the correct position and that it is, after the burial, levelled and tidied and any surplus material removed from site.
Stonemasons are responsible for the proper positioning of headstones, bases and memorial stones and for these to be secure in the ground and, in the case of headstones, upright.
- 13. Monumental Masons:** may, if they wish, put their name and town of business on the rear and at the base of a headstone and in letters not more than one quarter inch in height. The number of the grave space may also be added.

FEES

The current scale laid down by the Church Commissioners should still be followed and the money apportioned to the Parochial Church Council on the scale should be paid to the Parish Council.

RECORDS

The Vicar or a member of the Cemetery Working Party will maintain the Register, which is housed in the Priory Vestry and he/she will also keep a framed copy of the burial ground in the Priory with a duplicate to be held by the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Finally, any deviation from these regulations that is deemed necessary and any alterations in fees and record keeping should be discussed by the Designated Officer, the Chairman and members of the Parish Council and any other body concerned.

Approved at the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th April 2023