

EDWINSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL BURIAL AUTHORITY

RULES and REGULATIONS for FOREST CEMETERY (AS FROM MAY 2024)

1. The Cemetery is for the Parish of Edwinstowe. Parishioners are persons having a settled residence in the Parish at the time of death or whose death takes place in any Hospital or Public Institution and they were a settled resident of Edwinstowe within six months of their death. Non-Parishioners are charged higher fees for interments.
2. Additional charges will not be made if the Purchaser reserved their plot as a resident and then moved out of the area. Refunds will not be given if the Purchaser reserved their plot as a non-resident and then moved into the Parish of Edwinstowe.
3. Plots will only be considered reserved once the fee has been received in full. A Deed of Right of Burial will be issued to the Purchaser as proof of ownership. The Parish Council will retain a copy.
4. The Purchaser of a grave space is given a Deed of Grant of Right, showing who has the exclusive Right of Burial in said space. When both parties are interred, ownership will transfer to their next of kin unless specified in the will.
5. Notice of interments must be given to the Clerk to the Parish Council at least five clear days before the intended date for the interment.
6. The Burial or Cremation Certificate must be delivered to the Clerk to the Parish Council on or before the day of the interment.
7. All fees and charges are to be paid to the Clerk to the Parish Council at the time the notice is given.
8. The undertaker or other person having charge of the funeral is required to arrange with the officiating minister, or authorised person, to be present to perform any religious service. Interments may take place with or without the services of the Clergy or Minister of Religion.
9. No funeral will be allowed on Sunday, unless it can be shown by the production of a Medical Certificate that, the body cannot on grounds of public health be kept until the next day permitted for interment.
10. No interments to take place on weekends, except in exceptional circumstances.
11. Dogs on leads ONLY are allowed in the cemetery. Dog mess must be removed and disposed of appropriately.
12. Burial plots are dug with space for two coffins and cremated remains plots are dug with space for two interments. If the Purchaser requests only one interment in their plot, this should be stated at the time of purchase and clearly marked on all paperwork.
13. A maximum of two coffins and six cremated remains can be placed in a burial plot.
14. A maximum of two cremated remains can be placed in each garden of rest plot.

15. No coffin shall be buried in any grave within 950mm (3ft) of the ordinary level of the ground.
16. Open common purchased graves shall be dug to a depth of at least 6ft or to the standard depth for multiple interments of normal remains.
17. Plots purchased for the interment of cremated remains shall be 450mm (18") by 450mm (18") in size and dug to a standard depth of 600mm (2ft).
18. When new graves are dug, the extra soil will be placed on boards on neighbouring graves. This is unavoidable. After the funeral, graves will be returned to the condition they were in before the burial.
19. The Cemetery is laid out according to the Military Plan of Graves. The Parish Council will be responsible for the maintenance of the grounds. Only headstones and vases will be allowed to be erected. The graves will remain flat and the grass cut with a lawn mower or strimmer by the Parish Council. When flowers and wreaths show signs of age and become unsightly, they will be removed from graves and disposed of.
20. Christmas wreaths/decorations whether they are on the headstone or grass; must be removed by 31st January each year. Any wreaths/decorations that have not been removed by this date will be removed and disposed of by the Parish Council. Items will be stored at the side of the cemetery shed for a period of two weeks before disposal.
21. No shrubs or plants may be planted on any grave. A flower vase may be incorporated in the headstone. No additional materials or ornaments other than a memorial stone of the size and pattern approved by the Parish Council shall be permitted on the plot. Any vases, plant pots or other containers which are placed on the grass will be removed and disposed of.
22. Floral tributes only (i.e. flower arrangements, bouquets, wreaths, bunches of flowers) will be allowed on the grass for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Easter, Father's Day and Remembrance Sunday. They will be removed and disposed of after 14 days.
23. Floral tributes only (i.e. flower arrangements, bouquets, wreaths, bunches of flowers) will be allowed to be placed on the grass on three other occasions (birthdays, anniversaries etc) during the year. Application must be made to the Parish Council Office for approval prior to placing the floral tribute. The floral tribute will be removed and disposed of after 14 days. If no application is received, the floral tribute will be removed immediately. If there are two people interred in a grave, both will have the additional three occasions.
24. All gravestones, memorials, memorial benches, memorial plaques, and inscriptions are to be subject to the approval of the Parish Council before installation. FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE DIAGRAMS. A drawing showing the form and dimensions of every headstone, memorial, memorial benches or memorial plaque; including any inscriptions, proposed to be erected must be left at the office of the Clerk to the Parish Council for approval by the burial authority prior to erection. All charges relating to the erection of memorials must be paid to the Clerk to the Parish Council before the work is commenced. The Parish Council must be made aware when removing/placing/fixing any gravestone/memorial/memorial bench/memorial plaque.

25. All gravestones/memorials in Area M shall be of the flat design – no upright gravestones/memorials are allowed.
26. Gravestones, memorials, memorial benches, memorial plaques, are the responsibility of the relatives of the deceased and must be maintained within the rules and regulations
27. No head stone can be erected over a grave that has not been purchased.
28. Statues are not allowed.
29. Application for permission to erect headstones, memorials, memorial benches, or memorial plaques; including any inscriptions should be made to the Clerk to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will remove any unauthorised headstones, memorials, or memorial plaques, including any inscriptions in accordance with Article 14 Local Authority Cemeteries Order 1977.
30. Each stone must have engraved on it the number of the grave, at the expense of those who erect it.
31. All headstones, memorials, memorial benches or memorial plaques; including any inscriptions placed in the Cemetery are at the risk of the owner of the same, and the Parish Council will not be responsible for any damage to such stones and memorial benches.
32. The Parish Council may require the owner of any head stone or any other memorial, which in their opinion has become unsafe, to remove it. If the owner fails to comply with any such requirement within 14 days, or if in the opinion of the Parish Council removal should be affected immediately, then the Parish Council may carry out the work without incurring any liability for any damage arising and the costs thereof shall be recoverable from the owner.
33. The Parish Council may require the owner of any memorial bench or seat, which in their opinion has not been maintained or become unsafe, to remove it. If the owner fails to comply with any such requirement within 14 days, or if in the opinion of the Parish Council, removal should be affected immediately, then the Parish Council may carry out the work without incurring any liability for any damage arising and the costs thereof shall be recoverable from the owner.
34. A plan of the Cemetery, showing the situation of each grave, with the Register of Burials, is kept at the Office of the Clerk to the Parish Council.
35. Cremated remains should only be interred in the Garden of Rest or a grave space. The scattering of ashes is not allowed anywhere within the Cemetery.
36. No person shall:
 - a. wilfully create any disturbance in the Cemetery
 - b. commit any nuisance in the Cemetery.
 - c. wilfully interfere with any interment taking place in the Cemetery
 - d. wilfully interfere with any grave or other memorial, or any flowers or plants on any such matter.

e. play any game or sport in the Cemetery.

37. The Parish Council reserves the right from time to time to make any alterations in these rules and regulations which members may deem necessary or expedient.

38. All previous burial rules and regulations made by Edwinstowe Parish Council are hereby revoked.

39. The foregoing regulations have been made by the Parish Council subject to the provisions of the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977, for the proper management, regulation, and control of the Cemetery.