



ROSS-ON-WYE TOWN COUNCIL

Ross-on-Wye Town Cemetery Memorial Regulations

MEMORIALS

These regulations are intended to encourage good practices and to curb bad ones and to enhance the style of the cemetery to enable visitors to pay respects in pleasant surroundings.

1 The Town Council has the authority to allow memorials to be introduced into the cemetery provided they comply with these regulations.

2 All work shall comply with any Code of Working Practices for memorial masons insofar as it is compatible with the Town Council's regulations.

3 The design of gravestones, wording and lettering of any inscriptions, must, in every case, be submitted in the prescribed form for prior approval either by those wishing to install a memorial or by the stone mason.

4 A flower vase, not exceeding 12" x 8" or 300mm x 200mm may be incorporated in the base of headstones. Separate vases may only be placed elsewhere in the grave space, provided it is within a raised curb stone or, where no other headstone, cross or other memorial will be erected, in the approximate position of a headstone if there had been such a headstone erected.

5 Headstones and crosses only may be introduced and must be of traditional shape and simple in design. (See "Headstones" for permitted dimensions)

6 Raised curbs may be permitted. Chippings or stones shall only be permitted within raised curbs. Permission will not be given for any other figures or bird baths or open books or such like. Photographs and other memento similarly are not permitted.

7 A small mound of earth may be left immediately after the interment. Twelve months after the interment the grave should be levelled with the surrounding turf and kept level.

8 Artificial flowers are not permitted except poppies on Remembrance Day and Christmas wreaths.

9 All floral tributes should be disposed of in the receptacle provided within the Cemetery.

10 Inscriptions should be simple, reverent and appropriate. Engraving should harmonise with the selected material and may be incised or in relief and may be painted. Plastic or other applied lettering is not permitted. The name of a mason and grave space only may be inscribed low down at the side or on the reverse of a headstone or cross in unpainted and unleaded not more than ½" or 15mm in height.

HEADSTONES

Headstones must not exceed 48" or 1200mm in height (measured from ground level), 36" or 900mm in width and 6" or 150mm in thickness. However, if slate is used the headstones may be thinner but must not be less than 2" or 50mm thick.

All headstones must be secured to provide stability and should the memorial become loose at any time it will be stabilised by the stone mason erecting the memorial initially and at no cost to Ross-on-Wye Town Council.

Headstones may be of three types:

(i) so shaped that they can be inserted directly into the ground at sufficient depth to ensure stability;

(ii) on an integral base not more than 36" or 900mm wide or projecting more than 4" or 100mm either side in any direction and not more than 9" or 225mm high;

(iii) on a vase base not more than 36" or 900mm wide or projecting more than 4" or 100mm on either side or projecting more than 7" or 175mm in front of the headstone, more than 4" or 100mm high. The base must not be more than 15" or 375mm overall from front to back.

The height of a cross (measured from ground level) must not exceed 72" or 1500mm nor be less than 36" or 900mm, the respective thickness of the shafts and arms being 6" or 150mm and 4" or 100mm.

No cross shall stand no more than two steps and the lower of the two steps shall measure no more than 36" or 900mm in width and 15" or 375mm front to back and no less than 24" or 600mm in width and 12" or 300mm from front to back. The steps may be replaced by a die or boulder but the measurements shown for the steps still apply.

So far as adjacent ground levels reasonably permit, the foundation of a headstone or cross shall be at or below the surface of the ground so that a mower may pass freely over it.

PLANTS AND TREES

Tress are not permitted on any grave but permission may be given to put a memorial tree along the avenue at the entrance to the cemetery.

Plants may only be planted on a grave within a raised curb. Such plants must remain contained within the grave space and not reach a height of more than 15" or 375mm. Any plant exceeding this size may be removed or trimmed back.