

CEMETERY REGULATIONS & POLICY

Great Ayton's parish cemetery is provided & maintained by the Parish Council for the convenience of residents, irrespective of faiths or beliefs.

Whilst respecting the rights of the public, regulations are necessary to comply with the law, to enable work to be carried out safely and efficiently and to maintain a suitable environment for the bereaved to lay to rest their loved ones and to continue to pay their respects in this peaceful setting.

For clarification regarding any cemetery matters please contact clerk@great-ayton.org.uk

In the event of dispute, the Parish Council's decision is final

1. Eligibility for Burial

- a) A resident whose normal place of abode at the time of death was within the Civil Parish boundary of Great Ayton, Little Ayton and Easby
- b) A former resident who would have qualified as above but moved directly from the specified area into a nursing/care home, hospital/hospice, or to be under the care of their family outside the specified boundaries and died whilst in their care.
- c) Serving members of the armed forces with appropriate family connection.
- d) Former residents with a current grave reservation who at the time of death lived outside the parish boundary.

Burial of those who do not meet the above qualifying criteria is not permitted.

2. Burial regulations

- a) No interment shall take place in any part of the cemetery except in spaces numerically marked in the register.
- b) Any headstone or other memorial erected on a grave must be kept in good order by the owner.
- c) In the interest of safety, any headstone found to be unstable will be laid flat to comply with guidance from the Ministry of Justice. Any re-instatement is the responsibility of the owner and must be undertaken by a monumental mason.
- d) Horizontal memorial stones, kerbstones and headstones higher than 106cm are not permitted.
- e) An application to erect a headstone is required in writing, showing measurements, design and inscription.
- f) Upon the death of one partner, the surviving spouse or partner may reserve one adjoining grave space, graves cannot be reserved at any other time
- g) Reservations are made for the lifetime of the individual and are not transferrable to other persons except by special permission in writing.
- h) Reservations are strictly limited to those persons eligible for burial at points 1 to 3.
- i) Flowers and small tributes may be placed on or adjacent to the plinth of a headstone. No additional plants, shrubs or other items will be permitted in this area
- j) When floral tributes have wilted, they will be removed. Artificial flowers and or any other tributes found to be in poor condition or seen as inappropriate for the cemetery setting will be removed.
- k) Wreaths may be placed throughout December and January but, must be removed before 31 January
- l) Any wreaths remaining on 1st February will be removed and disposed of

3. Cremation Regulations

- a) The cremated remains of those qualified for burial may be buried or scattered in the Garden of Remembrance.
- b) The cremated remains of those qualified for burial may be placed in an existing family grave with an additional headstone inscription added.

- c) *The cremated remains of those not qualified for burial may be buried or scattered in the Garden of Remembrance by special permission*
- d) Spaces cannot be reserved for burial of ashes.
- e) Plaques may be supplied to be affixed to the 'Remembrance Wall' for both residents and non-residents upon application in writing.
- f) All Plaques should measure 5" x 2 1/2" (125mm X 63mm) and be black or metal with cream lettering.
- g) An additional inscription may be added to an existing plaque.
- h) The site of buried ashes may not be marked except by the planting of small spring bulbs
- i) Vases or floral tributes may not be placed on the grassed areas. (Except Xmas wreaths)
- j) Standard memorial vases may be placed on or below the memorial walls
- k) Non -Standard containers will be stored behind the wall for use when required.
- l) When floral tributes have wilted, they will be removed
- m) Flower tubs, statues & other ornamental items are not permitted in the garden of remembrance.
- n) Xmas wreaths may be placed in the garden of remembrance throughout December and January but, must be removed before 31 January
- o) Any wreaths remaining on 1st February will be removed and disposed of

4. Cemetery Fees

CEMETERY FEES – GREAT AYTON CEMETERY 2024/2025	1.12.24
INTERMENT IN ANY GRAVE – depth not exceeding 6 ft	
Child – stillborn to 1 month	No Charge
Person not more than 18 years old	No Charge
Persons 18 years and over, Standard Coffin	1100.00
Casket Burial and grave dug up over 36 inches wide	1300.00
Grave over 6 ft deep for double burial	1300.00
MEMORIALS AND INSCRIPTION	
Head stone not to exceed 3' 6"	125.00
Vase not to exceed 21"	65.00
Additional inscription	65.00
GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE	
Interment of casket	100.00
Scattering of ashes	50.00
Fixing plaque to wall	50.00

5 Memorial Benches, Trees etc. – for additional and updated information see plaques for benches policy

- a) The Council will consider requests for the provision of memorials/benches trees/shrubs flower tubs which are to be sourced directly by the Parish Council.
- b) Siting of benches is restricted to locations within the cemetery and other open spaces within the village at the discretion of the Parish Council.
- c) Where benches are already in position it is possible to request a memorial plaque to be affixed.
- d) Design specifications will be determined by The Parish Council
- e) The planting of appropriate trees, shrubs or the placement of a flower tub may be permitted at the discretion of and in a place determined by The Parish Council
- f) All benches /planting, fixtures will remain the property of the Parish Council
- g) Charges will cover cost of purchase and installation