

# BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL BEAR STREET CEMETERY

## **REGULATION FOR THE ERECTION AND REMOVAL OF MEMORIALS**

*All Memorials erected in Bear Street Cemetery must comply with current NAMM Regulations, and any stipulations by the Town Council as detailed in this document.*

### A. **STABILITY**

Every memorial must be provided with adequate foundations according to its size and weight. Only first quality materials are to be used and all joints of the memorial and foundation are to be properly secured.

- I. All memorials erected within the Cemetery must be fixed on bearers and foundation stones of not less the 3” in thickness, and memorials of exceptional weight must have a 9” brick foundation built to the full width of the grave.
- II. All foundations must be of hard natural stone, due to sloping ground there must be a minimum of a 4” under base in the ground and must be properly cemented and cramped together.
- III. All cramps used in putting together stonework must be of copper or galvanised metal.
- IV. No stone less then 3” in thickness shall be used in the construction of any memorial unless permission is obtained from the Council.

### B. **APPEARANCE**

In order to maintain a neat and tidy appearance, the erection of memorials must at all stages be subject to the supervision and approval of the Clerk or his/her representative. Before final cementing takes place, all memorials should be checked to ensure correct grave location and alignment.

- I. Applications, signed by the grave owner, together with drawings of all proposed memorials and a copy of the inscriptions, must be submitted

for the approval of the Clerk before erection takes place.

- II. Every memorial shall be fixed to the position indicated by the Clerk.
- III. Soft or artificial stone, wood, metal or other material liable to perish or become unsightly shall not be used in the construction of any memorial. The whole of the materials used shall be of the best quality.
- IV. Headstone size, not exceeding five feet six inches by two feet six inches (not including base) unless permission granted by the Council.
- V. No headstone, monument or tomb shall be permitted to be erected over any grave the Exclusive Right of Burial in which has not been purchased.
- VI. Only one vase to be placed on each grave and must be supplied by a stonemason.
- VII. Exclusive Right of Burial cannot be purchased for a common grave.

C. **CONTROL OF MONUMENTAL MASONS**

- I. All masons working in the Cemetery must act under the directions of the Parks Superintendent.
- II. The name of the firm supplying or erecting a memorial may be cut in small letters at the back of the memorial and nowhere else. No other form of advertising or canvassing within the Cemetery will be permitted.
- III. The section and number of the grave shall be engraved in letters 5/8" in height on the back of the headstone. Also the symbol \* or † must be engraved on the back of the headstone showing that an anchor system has been used.
- IV. Monumental masons must remove all surplus earth or debris after fixing or removing a memorial and leave the whole area in a neat and tidy condition. They shall use such means as may be necessary to protect the grass, plants and nearby graves from injury.
- V. No hewing or dressing of stones will be permitted within the Cemetery.

- VI. Vehicles conveying memorials into the Cemetery must keep to the carriageways. Broad wheeled trucks must be used for removing memorials from the vehicle to the place of erection.

D. **FUTURE MAINTENANCE**

In order to ensure that any dilapidated, derelict or dangerous memorials can be dealt with, the following will be enforced.

- I. All memorials erected within the Cemetery shall be kept in good repair by and at the expense of the owner. The Council reserve the right to repair, make safe or remove any memorial, which is allowed to fall into disrepair or become unsightly and dangerous. The Council reserves the right to recover costs from responsible person were applicable.
- II. No memorials shall be admitted to the Cemetery except on condition that such memorial be erected and remain at the owner's sole risk, and the Council shall not be held responsible for any damage which may occur to the same.
- III. **No** dressing of the graves or memorial stones is permitted. This includes scarfs, ribbons, soft toys, garden ornaments, tinsel etc. If there is any doubt please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Council for assistance. Any such item will be removed and disposed of by the Council after the expiry of 12 months from the date of the interment.
- IV. Stone chippings and bark mulch are not permitted on the graves or cremations.
- V. Flowers and wreaths may be placed on and around the grave on the day of the funeral. After the funeral withered flowers and wreaths will be removed by the Council staff.
- VI. No additional, vases, planters, pot plants, flower case of glass or plastic nor any jar or container shall be placed on or near any grave or memorial. Any such item will be removed and disposed of by the Council after the expiry of 12 months from the date of the interment.
- VII. Where, in the opinion of the Council, any grave or cremation is neglected so as to be detrimental to adjacent graves and the general appearance of the Cemetery, the Council reserves the right, after due Notice where possible, to level off such graves/cremations and re-turf.

The Council reserves the right to recover costs from responsible person were applicable.

VIII. In the future, the Council will not undertake the maintenance of any graves, monuments, gravestones, tablets or other monumental inscription and will not permit:-

- a. any grave mounds, grass or otherwise, or
- b. any flat stones, footstones, border stones or kerbs to be placed in cemeteries.