

CHOBHAM & WEST END JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

REGULATIONS GOVERNING CHOBHAM CEMETERY

Chobham Cemetery is managed by Chobham & West End Joint Burial Committee (the Committee), as the relevant Burial Authority. It is managed and maintained as a lawned cemetery in accordance with the following Regulations. The Committee reserves the right to alter or amend these regulations at its sole discretion.

- 1. ADMINISTRATION** – Applications for the purchase of a burial plot, interment or erection of a memorial, and any general enquiries, must be made in writing to the Clerk of the Committee at the address below.
- 2. BURIAL PLOTS** – Exclusive Rights of Burial may be purchased by parishioners and non-parishioners according to the published tariff. The Burial Grant issued by the Committee entitles the purchaser, their heirs or successors to the exclusive right of burial in the specified plot for 100 years. The certificate must be produced on demand to verify entitlement. The Cemetery is non-denominational.

Allocation of plots will be decided by the Committee, but applicants' preferences will be considered sympathetically.

- 3. INTERMENTS** – Interments may take place only between 10:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays where at least 48 hours notice (excluding weekends and Public Holidays) has been given and acknowledged by the Clerk to the Committee. Burials at other times will only be permitted:
 - a) On production of evidence that interment must be effected without delay (e.g. Coroner's certificate);
 - b) With written permission from the Committee.

Requirements for gravediggers:

- a) No grave may be opened to a depth greater than 2.15 m;
 - b) Minimum permissible depths for graves are: (i) 2.15m for the first of two interments and (ii) 1.5m for the second of two interments, or for a single interment into the plot;
 - c) No more than two burials are permissible in any one grave;
 - d) Excavations over 1m in depth will be supported with shoring;
 - e) Unattended excavations will be covered and the area clearly marked with warning signs;
 - f) All re-open graves and those in reserved plots will be hand dug.
- 4. CREMATED REMAINS** – Ashes may only be inserted into a purchased plot. Scattering of ashes is not permitted.
 - 5. BURIAL SERVICES** – The conduct of a grave-side service is the responsibility of the person organising the interment. No person may interrupt, delay or prevent the performance of a burial service by discourteous or improper behaviour.
 - 6. MEMORIALS** – Permission must be obtained from the Committee, and the appropriate fee paid, before a memorial is erected or an inscription is added to an existing memorial.

Headstones and fixed containers for flowers in stone or marble material, erected at the head of the grave are normally permitted, provided that they do not exceed the width of the grave or an overall height of 850mm. The grave number should be inscribed on the back of the memorial, which must satisfy the National Association of Monumental Masons' current criteria for stability.

Ashes tablet dimensions must not exceed 460mm square.

Kerbs and other forms of grave surrounds are no longer permitted.

The Committee is unlikely to permit atypical designs, shapes or materials for memorials; although, considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of inscription.

- 7. ADMISSION OF PERSONS TO CEMETERY** – The Cemetery is open at all times for public access, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Visitors must keep to defined roads and paths and conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all times.
 - b) Children under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
 - c) Dogs must be kept under proper control and must not be permitted to foul anywhere within the Cemetery.
 - d) The use of radios, audio players, etc is prohibited.
 - e) Graves, Memorials or Committee property may not be wilfully damaged or defaced.
 - f) Tree, shrubs or flowers may not be picked or damaged in any way.
 - g) No notices or posters may be displayed and all litter must be removed.
 - h) Visitors must not run, play games or behave in any way that causes offence to others.
- 8. MAINTENANCE** – Next of kin are responsible for maintaining their respective graves and memorials in a respectable condition. Graves must not be allowed to become unsightly or to impede the general maintenance of the Cemetery. No flowers or shrubs may be planted on a grave without the Committee's written permission. Plastic flowers are not permitted. Watering cans provided by the Committee for use by visitors must be returned after use.

The Committee manages the maintenance of the Cemetery but will not disturb individual graves unless it deems it necessary in the interests of the overall appearance of the Cemetery.

November 2007