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DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL
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CEMETERY REGULATIONS

*For the management, regulation and control of:
Datchet Cemetery, Ditton Road, Datchet, SL3 9LS (2024 Version 4)*

Datchet Parish Council welcomes all visitors to our cemetery and asks that visitors respect the peace, dignity and reverence of these facilities as well as other users. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

1. Administration

- i) All requests for interments and memorials must be made by written application to the Clerk to the Council using the designated application forms.
- ii) The Council reserves the right to amend or suspend these regulations at any time as deemed necessary.

2. Cemetery Admissions

- i) The cemetery will be open to the public every day of the year.
- ii) No person shall:
 - wilfully create any disturbance in the cemetery;
 - commit any nuisance in the cemetery;
 - wilfully interfere with any burial taking place in the cemetery;
 - wilfully interfere with any grave, tombstone or other memorial, or any flowers or plants on any such matter; or
 - play at any game or sport in the cemetery.
- iii) Dogs must be kept on a lead, under control and owners must clear up any dog mess.
- iv) No person may drop any litter, fly tip or deposit garden waste or display any notice.
- v) No vehicle (except as part of a funeral service, memorial installation or authorised personnel working on behalf of DPC) may enter the cemetery.

3. Fees

- i) Fees for all cemetery services will be reviewed periodically.
- ii) In determining whether the fees payable are at resident or non-resident rate the permanent address of the deceased will be used. If a long-term resident of the Parish has been accommodated in a care / nursing home outside of the Parish prior to the date of death, then resident fees may be applied at the discretion of the Clerk.
- iii) All cemetery fees, whether for interments or memorials, are to be paid in advance.

4. Interments

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- i) A Deed of Grant issued by the Council entitles the purchaser, his or her executors, administrators or assignee to the Exclusive Right of Burial for One Hundred years, from the date of purchase, in the specified plot. The Deed of Grant must be produced on demand to verify entitlement.
- ii) No burial shall take place until the Registrar's Certificate of Disposal or the Coroner's Order for Burial is lodged with the Clerk of the Council.
- iii) Interments may only take place on weekdays where at least 7 working days' notice is given.
- iv) The scattering of ashes is not permitted anywhere within the cemetery.

5. Memorials

- i) All memorials installed in the Cemetery must be erected by a properly qualified stonemason who should be registered with either the British Register of Memorial Masons or associate member of the National Association of Memorial Masons both of whom require members to hold public liability insurance shall conform to the BS 8415 Specification for memorials and monuments in burial grounds.
- ii) All memorials and inscriptions are to be subject to the approval of the Parish Council. The Council must approve all dimensions of the memorial or tablet before erection in the cemetery. Full length monuments must not exceed 8' v 3'. A copy of the inscription or additional inscription must also be approved by the Council. The memorial must include the Plot Number on the lower left face or rear of the headstone. All memorials and tablets are the sole responsibility of the owner of the grave and are to be kept in good repair by the owners. If not repaired after due notice, they may be removed by order of the Council.
- iii) Payments must be made before installation. Memorials for full-size graves should not be installed until 6 months after the burial. This is to prevent movement of the memorial due to ground settlement. All memorials must be erected by a properly qualified stonemason.

6. General Maintenance

- i) Plot owners are responsible for maintaining their individual plots.
- ii) The planting of any thorny flowers or shrubs (Rose bushes etc) or trees on the plot is forbidden, although flowers may be placed in non-breakable vases or containers standing on the memorial tablet. The planting of trees within grave spaces is prohibited. Flowers may be placed on the grave, directly on the ground or the flat stone, as follows:
 - Faded flowers should be removed promptly.
 - Floral tributes should not exceed or overlap the normal grave space.
 - The Council will dispose of faded tributes if these are not removed by the family of the bereaved between seven and ten days after the interment. The costs will be recharged to the plot owner.
- iii) The Council reserves the right to remove any object that impedes maintenance as well as any unauthorised articles that are not an integral part of a memorial.
- iv) If an alternative memorial is required, for example a seat, application should be made to the Clerk of the Council.
- v) The grassed area throughout the cemetery must be kept free of memorials or other tributes.
- vi) The Parish Council reserves the right to fill in and make safe any grave that collapses and becomes a hazard to visitors in the cemetery.