

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, CORSHAM

CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS

The purpose of these regulations is to ensure the visual aspect of the churchyard is maintained in a reverent and respectful manner for the benefit of the families whose loved ones are buried within this consecrated ground.

1. The existing regulations (dated 8 July 1981) shall continue to apply to the old cemetery at Ladbrook Lane and to any reopened graves in the churchyard.
2. The area in the south churchyard that was allocated to the burial of cremated remains beneath individual plaques is now deemed to be CLOSED, except for the addition of ashes within the existing plots. For these plots, the only memorial allowed is a horizontal plaque measuring 18 inches (46cm) square, to be laid flush with the ground. The memorial is to be made from either honed granite, English limestone or pennant stone. A recess for a flower container is allowed. The wording of any inscription is to be agreed beforehand by the minister responsible for St Bartholomew's Church. The appropriate fee must be paid.
3. All future burials of cremated remains are to take place in an unmarked grassed area in the southern part of the churchyard. No wooden caskets are permitted; ashes are to be buried either loose or in a cardboard box or some similar container that will decompose rapidly.
4. The names and dates of those buried in this way may be inscribed on a communal memorial located adjacent to the grassed area. An appropriate fee (determined periodically by the Parochial Church Council) must be paid. No other names will be permitted on this memorial other than those whose remains have been interred in the churchyard.
5. Nothing other than fresh flowers may be placed on a grave - artificial flowers are not permitted. Flowers are to be removed from any wrapping before being placed in a simple metal container. Families are encouraged to regularly remove decayed flowers.
6. In the case of the unmarked burial of ashes, flowers may be placed on the gravel area surrounding the appropriate communal memorial stone – flowers must not be laid on the stone itself. The flowers must comply with requirements set out at paragraph 5 above. Simple containers must be used, empty containers must be removed. Additional named memorials are not permitted. Flowers are not to be placed on the grassed area, neither is any other form of memorial permitted in the grassed area.
7. Nothing is to be planted in the churchyard without prior permission from the Parochial Church Council.

8. The Parochial Church Council reserves the right to remove anything it considers inappropriate from any grave or from elsewhere in the churchyard. The cremation areas described in paragraphs 2 & 6 above will be regularly tended by representatives of the PCC; decayed floral tributes will be environmentally recycled; items of substance deemed inappropriate e.g. named memorials, will be removed and stored safely for 90 days to allow relatives to claim them. Contact should be made with the Rector or Churchwarden. Any matters of dispute shall be referred to the Council.

Approved by PCC at their meeting on 17 March 2021