

Whetstone Parish Council
Acting as the Burial Authority for Whetstone Cemetery
Rules, Regulations and Fees

1. Layout of Cemetery

The cemetery is divided into 8 sections. A plan of the cemetery is held in the Parish Offices, available on the website and is also posted to the notice boards in the cemetery.

Each Family Burial plot allows for 2 coffins and 2 caskets of ashes.
Each Garden of Remembrance plot allows for 2 caskets of ashes.

Scattering of ashes is not allowed in any circumstances.

2. Purchase of exclusive right of Burial

In all sections, the exclusive right of burial in a Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot may be purchased for the fees at the time of purchase. If a plot is to be purchased for future use a separate fee shall apply. See page 4 for schedule of fees. Such rights may be granted for a period not exceeding 100 years. A Deed of Grant will be issued by the Burial Authority for each right purchased. Any person who purchases the exclusive right of burial in any plot shall not convey, assign or transfer such right without the consent of the Burial Authority, due to legal notice. The Burial Authority will take back unwanted/unused reserved plots. However, no refunds can be made. All administration will be free of charge

3. Interments

A minimum of five working days' notice must be given to the Clerk to the Burial Authority, provided that such notice may be dispensed with at the request of the local health or competent authority if the preservation of public health so requires. Such notice shall be given on the Whetstone Parish Council Notice of Interment form, which must be signed by the owner of the exclusive right of burial or his/her successor.

Prior to interment of a body, a certificate for Burial or Cremation issued by the Coroner or a Registrar of Births and Deaths or in the case of cremated remains a notice issued by the person undertaking the cremation that such a certificate had been received shall be produced to the Burial Authority.

Proof of ownership for the Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot to be used for the interment, being either the deed issued at the time of purchase or details of transfer of ownership issued to the legal successor of the owner must also be produced prior to opening of the plot. If this deed cannot be located a Statutory declaration must be completed and witnessed by a Commissioner of Oaths (usually a Solicitor) or a Magistrate prior to any interment taking place.

The responsibility for arranging to dig the Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot will be with the Funeral Director. At the first opening the Family Burial plot shall be dug to a depth of not less than 2m (7ft) and at the second opening to a depth not exceeding 1.5m (5ft) provided that no body shall be interred in a Family Burial plot in such a manner that any part of the coffin is less than 1m (3ft) below the level of any ground adjoining the plot. Plots in the Garden of Remembrance shall be dug to a depth of not less than 1m (3ft) for the first interment and not more than 0.5m (2ft) for the second interment. Immediately after the interment the person undertaking the burial will be responsible for the proper reinstatement of the Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance Plot.

Interments into Whetstone Cemetery are allowed from 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Monday to Friday without exception. All interments must be attended by a Funeral Director or Minister as the officiator. Family only interments are not allowed.

4. Walled Graves

The construction of walled graves or vaults is not permitted.

5. Memorials

Any person to whom the exclusive right of burial has been granted in respect of a Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot who wishes to erect or place a memorial on the said plot shall first submit to the Clerk to the Burial Authority details of the design and materials of the proposed memorial. This includes wooden crosses.

No memorial shall be placed in the cemetery without the consent in writing of the Burial Authority first having been obtained. See page 4 for schedule of fees.

Memorial permitted dimensions:

Family Burial Plots:	Maximum height 900mm (36") for memorials	Maximum width/depth for memorials: 750mm (30") wide x 450mm (18") deep.
		Maximum dimensions for a stonemason's concrete base or the cemetery plinth which the memorial may/will be fixed to: 900mm (36") wide x 450mm (18") deep x 76mm (3") high
Garden of Remembrance Plots:	Maximum height 550mm (22") for memorials	Maximum width/depth for memorials: 450mm (18") wide x 450mm (18") deep.
		Maximum dimensions for a stonemason's concrete base or the cemetery plinth which the memorial may/will be fixed to: 600mm (24") wide x 450mm (18") deep x 50mm (2") high.

All memorial inscriptions must fit within the dimensions for memorials as shown above.

Temporary memorials (wooden crosses) placed on a Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot by funeral directors may remain for a period not exceeding 12 months, after which time a written notice will be sent to the deed holder to remove it. If this is not done, it will be removed if an application for a permanent memorial has not been made.

All memorials shall be securely fixed to a concrete base provided by the Stonemason (or to the plinth provided by the burial authority) and be within the dimensions for the base/plinth as shown above. The memorials must conform to the current National Association of Memorial Masons Approved Methods of Fixing (NAMM). Stone Masons are also required to have membership of a national registration scheme such as the British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM) or equivalent. It is the responsibility of Funeral Directors, Grave

diggers and/or their sub-contractors working in the cemetery to ensure that they do so in a manner which accords with all current Health and Safety legislation.

Memorials remain the property of the deed holder. The Council is not liable for damage, however caused, and it is the deed holder's responsibility to organise insurance, if required, and maintain the memorial; to current Health and Safety standards.

All memorials must be kept in repair by the owner thereof and if not repaired, after due notice, may be made safe or removed by order of the Burial Authority.

6. Maintenance of Family Burial and Garden of Remembrance Plots.

Cut flowers can be placed in a suitable container at the head of the Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plots. Vases are only permitted at the front of the memorial and must not, under any circumstances, encroach onto the adjoining Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any prohibited articles i.e. bottles, jars, jugs, LED lit tributes, balloons, windmills, lanterns, candles, other curiosities, deteriorated or withered wreathes or flowers, shrubs, trees or other unsightly ornaments without notice. Planting of bedding plants is permitted in the first foot of the Family Burial or Garden of Remembrance plot fronting the concrete base plinth. The Burial Authority will top the plot up with soil and grass seed on a regular basis to enable the groundstaff to mow the cemetery. It can take up to 3 years for the ground to settle on the plot.

7. Opening hours

The Cemetery is open to the public 24hours a day. The Burial Authority reserve the right to exclude the public from the Cemetery on such occasions they deem necessary.

8. Offences in the Cemetery

In accordance with Article 18 of the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 no person shall

- (a) wilfully create any disturbance in the cemetery;
- (b) commit any nuisance in the cemetery;
- (c) wilfully interfere with any burial taking place in the cemetery;
- (d) wilfully interfere with any grave or memorial, or any flowers or plants on any such grave;
- (e) play any game or sport in the cemetery.
- (f) not have a dog on a lead within a cemetery/graveyard/churchyard under the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

And no person, not being an officer or servant of the Burial Authority, or other person so authorised by or on behalf of the Burial Authority, shall enter or remain in the cemetery at any hour when it is closed to the public. Any person who creates any of the offences referred to in Article 18 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £100 and in the case of a continuing offence to a fine not exceeding £10 for each day during which the offence continues after conviction therefore.

Lee Breckon

Clerk to the Burial Authority,

Whetstone Parish Council,

Council Offices, Cemetery Road,

Whetstone, Leicester. LE8 6LL

Telephone: 0116 2751987

Email: clerk@whetstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.whetstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Parish Council of Whetstone, acting as the Burial Authority for the Parish of Whetstone in the County of Leicester, under Article 15 of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, state the following charges will be operative from the **1st February 2025**

Pre-Purchase: A plot may be purchased in advance for Parishioners and Non-Parishioners at an uplift of 50% of the cost set at the time of purchase.

The cemetery is primarily for the use of Whetstone Parishioners who will have contributed to the upkeep of the cemetery through the Whetstone Parish Council portion of their Council Tax. However, as shown in our fees below we do offer plots and interments to non-Parishioners, these being at an increased fee. Long term residents who have lived within the Parish for at least 25 years, but who have lived outside the Parish for no longer than 5 years prior to their death will be treated as Parishioners on receipt of evidence that they lived in the Parish of Whetstone for at least 25 years.

<u>FAMILY BURIAL/GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE PLOT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL IN AN EARTHEN GRAVE – FEE</u>	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
9' x 4' for the interment of two coffins & two caskets	£315.00/£472.50	£1260.00/£1890.00
2' x 2' for the interment of two caskets	£125.00/£187.50	£500.00/£750.00
For the interment of a still born child or a child who at the time of death did not exceed one month.	No charge	£ 750.00

INTERMENT - FEES

For the interment of the body of a:

still born child or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month.	No Charge	No Charge
person whose age exceeds one month or an urn or casket containing cremated remains	£125.00	£500.00

MEMORIAL - FEES

For the right to erect and place on a grave for which the exclusive right of burial has been granted.	£50.00	£200.00
For the right to place an additional inscription on a memorial existing on a plot for which the exclusive right of burial has been granted.	£40.00	£160.00

The Council will retain the right from time to time, in accordance with the appropriate legislation to make alterations in the regulations and Schedule of Fees and Charges.