

General Regulations
for the Erection of
Memorials and Gravestones
in Churchyards

with additional items relating to specific areas in

St. Michael and All Angels Churchyard

NOTE These regulations apply to the introduction of any item into the churchyard, not covered by planning and listed building consent regulations.

The Regulations can be varied only by the Chancellor. Applications conforming with the Regulations may be authorised by the parish priest (or if there is no parish priest for the time being, by the Rural Dean); if an application does NOT comply, a faculty must be sought from the Chancellor.

The Regulations shall take effect subject to any Faculty or direction, whether particular or general, which has been or may be given by the Chancellor from time to time and they supersede ALL previous Regulations and came into effect on the 1st June 1990.

The main churchyard is covered by these regulations
Specific Faculty Regulations exist here for
the New Cremated Remains Area
&
the Memorial Garden

**NOTE: IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO INTRODUCE ANY MONUMENT OR OTHER ITEM(S)
WITHOUT FACULTY PERMISSION.**

All Applications must be made in first instance through the Parish Office.

1. Materials

- a. Materials must harmonise with the natural local landscape and local stones are preferred.
- b. The following materials will generally be permitted:
 - i. Natural stone: limestone (including Nabresina, Boticino and certain suitable Portuguese stones), sandstones, Stancliffe or Darley Dale stone, grey granite (no darker than Rustenburg grey) and slate
 - ii. Woods: teak and oak
- c. The following materials are not permitted:
 - i. Black, blue or red granites
 - ii. all granites which have had all their surfaces polished, and
 - iii. any marble, synthetic stone, plastic materials, metal and terra cotta
- d. The clergyman may ask for a sample if in doubt.

2. Finish

- a. Polishing shall not be greater than that required to give a good smooth finish and must be confined to the face of the gravestone on which the inscription is to be cut.
- b. Mirror polishing is not permitted

3. Dimensions

- a. Headstones (including base):
 - i. No larger than 48" high, 36" wide and 6" thick (120 x 90 x 15 cm);
 - ii. No less than 30" high, 20" wide and 3" thick (75 x 50 x 7.5 cm)
 - iii. but in the case of slate 1" thick (2.54cm)
- b. Horizontal slabs: no larger than 84" x 35" (210 x 90 cm) including base flush with the ground extending not more than 5" (13 cm) round the stone
- c. Vases: not be more than 12" high, firmly sunk into the ground and not left free-standing on the grave.

4. Design

- a. Headstones may be placed on a base of the same material and fixed so that the base:
 - i. does not project about the ground more than the thickness of the gravestone
 - ii. does not project more than 4" (10 cm) beyond the headstone
 - iii. a receptacle for flowers may be incorporated in the base, in which case it should flush with the top of the base and might extend up to 8" (20 cm) in front of the headstone.
- b. Carving may be allowed, but the design must be submitted with the application form.
- c. The following are not permitted:
 - i. Curbs, railings, edgings, plain or coloured chippings
 - ii. containers of any kind (NB free-standing vases or glass in particular are dangerous)
 - iii. figure statuary,
 - iv. open books,
 - v. birdbaths,
 - vi. pictorial etchings,
 - vii. memorials in the shape of a heart,
 - viii. cameos, portraiture or photographs.

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- d. If it is desired to erect a cross, other than a simple wooden cross, not more than 36" (92 cm) in height, it should be individually designed and a Faculty is required for its erection. In the petition, reasons for requiring this supreme Christian symbol must be fully stated.

5. Cremated Remains

- a. Cremated remains may be interred in an existing grave, or otherwise in a part of the churchyard specifically reserved for the purpose under the authority of a Faculty.
- b. Where an area of the churchyard is set aside by Faculty, then conditions will be laid down as to the manner in which the deceased may be commemorated.

This applies to our 'Cremated remains area' and 'Memorial garden' See Below

6. Inscriptions

- a. Details The Christian name and surname of the deceased should be given, with age and date (or year) of death, or the years of birth and death.
- b. Epitaphs The object of epitaphs is "to identify the resting place of the deceased, to honour the dead, to comfort the living and to inform posterity".
 - i. They should, therefore, be simple and relevant.
 - ii. Nicknames are not considered suitable and if a scripture text is used it is unnecessary to give the reference.
 - iii. Quotations may be taken from the bible; the prayer book, hymns, poetry and prose are all suitable sources so long as the quotation is consistent with Christian belief.
- c. Lettering may be painted a shade lighter or darker than the natural colour of the stone. On some sandstones and granites, raised lettering standing out from the cutaway stone can be effective.
 - i. **The following are not permitted:** Gilded, silvered and leaded lettering; trademarks or advertisements. (The mason's name may be inscribed at the side or on the reverse of the headstone in unpainted and unleaded letters not larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ " (15mm) in height.)
- d. Additions may be made to an inscription at a later date following a subsequent interment in the same grave, but approval is required and the wording must be consistent with the original inscription.

If you have questions in relation to these regulations or wish to make any application please contact the vicarage

Yours in faith John Whitney, Vicar of Alvaston

Specific areas

New Cremated remains area.

The regulations for this area are set by faculty for the use of the area. The Only permitted memorial is a Book-desk style memorial 18" x 18" with flat surfaces. Space in the upper surface for one ,two or no cut flower holders. These are installed edge to edge, and back to back. Such that the two top surfaces are level with existing memorials. No Base, or foundation is required or permitted in this area. No space is available for additional planting in front, behind or beside the memorial.

Memorial Garden

The regulations for this area are set by faculty for the use of the area.

This is an area set aside for the interment of ashes in a garden setting, with seating. Space is provided in 4 troughs for real cut flowers. There is provision for installation of memorial plaques for loved ones in this area, which are required to be purchased through the parish, and will be fitted by us. Plaques may be purchased for loved ones who are buried elsewhere. No other Monuments are permitted in this area. Please see Memorial garden application form for full detail.

General Areas & Upkeep

We want to thank all the volunteers who look after the areas round their monuments and other parts of the churchyard. Please help them by following the guidance. The church receives no outside financial assistance with the upkeep of the churchyard. Gifts to the Development & maintenance fund of Alvaston parish church are always gratefully received.

In the main churchyard Flowers may be left near memorials. The only containers permitted are those built into the headstone bases(see main regulations 4c).

The regulations do not permit the introduction or replacement of any item without prior application. It is not permitted to dig plots, plant trees or shrubs, as the root systems may damage monuments.

Edgings & gravel may not be renewed, or replaced, but we will give you permission to remove them. Flowers, and floral arrangements should be removed once they start to die, and seasonal tributes by the end of that season.

Synthetic flowers will be removed if they are obviously fake, or become bedraggled or faded.

No candles, tea lights, or fairy lights (battery or solar powered) are permitted.

Unauthorised items may be removed at any time, but we normally try to contact you first.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018

Please note The registers of Baptism, Banns, Wedding and Burial are exempt from the right to be forgotten(Erasure). We do not pass contact details to third parties except as required by law. If you want to be included in our mailing list for events (including memorial services) please tick preferred contact boxes. The data controllers are the incumbent of the parish and the P.C.C. They can be reached on office@alvaston.church or 01332 571 143. If you want to be excluded from non-statutory record processing or see the data we hold on you please contact us.