

# **General Regulations for the Erection of Memorials and Gravestones in Churchyards** **St. Michael and All Angels Churchyard**

**NOTE:** These regulations apply to all new monuments, and to changes, removals, renovations of existing monuments.

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 Area Dean); if an application does not comply, a faculty must be sought from the Chancellor. The regulations can be varied only by 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 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021

The churchyard is covered by these regulations.  
Additional specific regulations exist here for  
the New Cremated Remains Area  
& the Memorial Garden detailed on page 4.

Violation may be referred to the chancellor or consistory court.

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

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

**Neither is it permitted to dig in the churchyard without permission.**

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

## **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.

## **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: slate, limestone, sandstone, Stancliffe or Darley Dale stone, grey granite (Shades from light grey to Rustenburg grey)
  - ii. Woods: Teak and Oak
- c. The following materials are considered unsuitable:
  - i. Coloured, black, or white granites
  - ii. Marble, synthetic stone, plastic materials, metal, glass and terra cotta
- d. A sample may be asked for if in doubt.

## **2. Finish**

- a. Any polishing must be confined to the face on which an engraving is to be cut and shall not be greater than that required to give a good smooth finish.
- b. Highly polished material is not permitted.

## **3. Dimensions**

- a. Headstones (measured from Ground level):
  - i. Height 75 to 120cm, 50 to 90cm in width, 7.5 to 15cm thick. Except slate shall be 2.5cm thick.
  - ii. Children: as 3i but from 60cm height, 37.5cm width, 5cm thick. Except slate shall be 2.54cm thick.
- b. Horizontal slabs: no larger than 210 x 90cm (or the plot size if smaller) with the top surface flush with the ground. The size includes the size of any base, which shall extend no more than 12.5cm around the slab.
- c. Vases: not be more than 30cm tall firmly fixed to a foundation below the ground level within the plot dimensions and less than 50cm x 50cm.

## **4. Design**

- a. Headstones may be approved which are:
  - i. Inserted directly in ground to sufficient depth to ensure stability.
  - ii. On integral base of same material which does not project above ground by more than the thickness of the memorial, or beyond headstone up to 10cm in any direction.
  - iii. On base with receptacle for flowers flush with the upper surface it may extend 20cm in front of the headstone.
  - iv. The top of the headstone may be shaped or styled subject to discussion and approval.
- b. Carving may be allowed, but the design must be submitted with the application form, not exceeding 10cm square, and may not be coloured.
- c. A simple wooden cross in Oak or Teak may be permitted less than 90 cm tall.
- d. If it is desired to erect a cross in other material not more than 90 cm in height, it should be individually designed, and a chancellor's faculty is required for its erection. In the petition, reasons for requiring this supreme Christian symbol must be fully stated.

## 5. Cremated Remains

- a. The New Cremated Remains Area and Memorial Garden are set apart by faculty for the burial of ashes. See below for rules in these areas.
- b. It is also possible to arrange interment of cremated remains in an existing grave which is otherwise full.
- c. It is not permitted to scatter ashes in the churchyard.

## 6. Inscriptions & engravings

- a. The object of an Inscription is “to identify the resting place of the deceased, to honour the dead, to comfort the living and to inform posterity”.
  - i. They shall include the Christian name and surname of the deceased. With either date of birth and death or age and date or year of death.
  - ii. A nicknames or term of endearment may be permissible.
  - iii. Shall be in plain lettering, carved or cut away to form raised lettering.
  - iv. Lettering may be painted a shade lighter, or darker than the natural colour of the stone.
  - v. Quotations may be taken from The Bible; books of prayer, hymns, poetry and prose are all suitable sources so long as the quotation is not contrary to the doctrine of the Church of England.
- b. An uncoloured inscription of badge or insignia from the armed forces with written permission from the body concerned.
- c. 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 15mm in height.
- d. Additions following a subsequent interment in the same grave, require approval, and the wording must be consistent with the original inscription.

## 7. The Following items Are Not Permitted

Black, White, or Coloured granites		Synthetic stone
Marble	Polished stone	Glass
Plastics	Metal	Concrete
Terracotta	Chains	Chippings (plain or coloured)
Kerbs	Railings	Freestanding containers
Cellophane	Edgings	Figure statuary
Photographs	Pictorial etchings	Artificial flowers
Open books	Birdbaths	Portraits / Cameos
Gilded, Silvered or Leaded lettering		Advertisements
Trees, Shrubs, Conifers, or perennials		Trademarks
Lighting e.g.: Candles, Tea lights, Led		Moving items
Model people, animals, or toys		Machine readable Bar/QR code

### Specifically, we draw your attention to the following:

No moving objects or lighting (candle, led, solar, etc.) are permitted.

It is not permitted to dig plots, plant trees, conifers, shrubs, or perennials, or remove turfs.

Edgings & gravel may not be introduced, renewed, or replaced, but we may give you permission to remove them.

## 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 these memorials.

### **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 supplied and fitted by us. (Plaques may also commemorate loved ones who are buried elsewhere). No other items 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 should be left in the vases incorporated in the memorials. The only containers permitted are those built into approved memorials. Four troughs are provided In the memorial garden for flowers.

Flowers, and floral arrangements must be removed once they start to die, and seasonal tributes by the end of that season. Synthetic flowers should be removed before they are obviously fake, become bedraggled or faded(and may not contain plastic, metal or glass).

**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**