MIDDLETON ON THE WOLDS PARISH COUNCIL

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

Middleton on the Wolds Parish Cemetery

Rules relating to the Parish Cemetery of Middleton on the Wolds made by the Parish Council acting as the Burial Authority for the Parish of Middleton-on-the-Wolds under Section 214 of the Local Government Act 1972 and other enabling legislation.

**1** lnformation may be obtained from, and application for grave spaces and notices of

interment must be made or given to the Parish Clerk.

**2** Notice of interment must be given by the completion in the required manner of a form

provided by the Burial Authority and depositing the form with the Parish Clerk. At least two

days’ notice must be given for an interment in an earthen grave and the period of notice

should exclude Good Friday, Christmas Day or a Bank Holiday. The Parish Clerk is, in

special circumstances, permitted to dispense with the full period of notice required. ln case

of emergency, notice of an interment may be given by telephone but a notice in these

circumstances will be at the sole risk of the person giving the notice and the Burial Authority

shall not be responsible in any way for any delay which may occur or for any

misunderstanding which may arise therefrom.

**3** lnterments in the Cemetery shall take place on Mondays to Fridays between 10.00am and

3.30pm.

lnterments on Saturdays and Bank Holidays are permitted between 10.00am and

12 noon by special arrangement and on payment of an additional fee.

**4** No interment can take place unless the Registrar's Certificate of Death or a Coroner's

Order of Burial has been previously produced.

**5** The burial register may be inspected on payment of the approved fee by arrangement.

**6** All fees and charges must be paid to the Parish Clerk within one month of the date of

receipt of the notice of interment and the Parish Clerk shall issue a receipt for the amount

paid.

**7** lnterments in any part of the Cemetery shall take place only in the grave spaces as marked

out on the plan of the Cemetery which is held by the Parish Clerk and which may be

inspected by arrangement.

**8** Any person may purchase the exclusive right of burial, or for cremated remains for a period of 99 years in a grave /cremated remains space or in two or more grave/cremated remains spaces subject to the approval of the grave space or cremated remains space by the Burial Authority and shall, on payment of the required fee, be issued with a Grant of

the Right of Burial/Cremated Remains by the Burial Authority.

**9** A Grant of Right of Burial/Cremated Remains shall not be conveyed, assigned or transferred by the holder without the prior approval of the Burial Authority and every such transfer shall be registered with the Parish Clerk on payment of the approved fee.

**10** A grave/cremated remains space in respect of which there is an exclusive right of burial cannot be opened or used for an interment unless the written consent of the owner of the exclusive right or his/her personal representative(s) and documentary evidence of ownership has previously been presented to the Parish Clerk.

**11** Roses, plants or flowers may not be planted over any grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been purchased. The Burial Authority reserve the right to cut down or dig up or remove any of the roses, plants or flowers which in their opinion has been planted in breach of this rule.

**12.** The cremated grave section of the cemetery is based on the principle that each space covers a plot no more than 2’ x 2’. A memorial tablet of maximum size 18” x 18” may be laid by a qualified memorial mason, subject to approval from the burial authority. Items not permitted under any circumstances are fencing, edging stones, surrounds, grave or decorative chippings, planting of any kind, glass, porcelain, brittle plastics, fragile items, balloons and toys.

**13** All graves shall be dug and following a burial shall be suitably reinstated by those

undertaking the excavation work. All graves will be levelled, after allowing for settlement in

order to facilitate maintenance work.

**14** No vehicles are allowed to enter into the Cemetery except with the consent of the Parish

Clerk, which may be given in special circumstances, and any materials or articles which

may have to be conveyed into or out of the Cemetery must be carried by hand. No cycling

is allowed in the grounds.

**15** Gravestones/memorial stones may not be erected until 6 months after burial, allowing suitable levelling to take place before erection of headstone no more than 3' high".

**16.** A grant of rights of to erect and maintain a memorial must be obtained from the burial authority prior to commissioning installation of a headstone

**17**. All grave or memorial stones must be erected by a qualified memorial mason and a certification of compliance to BS8415 must be obtained. It is recommended also that appropriate insurance of the memorial stone is held.

**18.** All memorials stones will be subject to a minimum five-yearly inspection, and we would encourage owners of memorials to have them maintained on a regular basis.

**19**. If existing memorials stones are dismantled or removed for any reason, consent must first be obtained from the burial authority, and any re-fixing must comply with BS8415 standard or the current standard at that time.

**20.** Drawing and specifications of every tomb, monument, memorial or gravestone with a copy of the proposed inscription must be deposited with the Parish Clerk for approval of the

Burial Authority. The Burial Authority may remove any of these structures which are

erected without consent and may also erase any unauthorised inscriptions.

The following specifications and requirements will be complied with:

(i) Kerbs around plots shall not be allowed.

(ii) Memorials shall be constructed of materials not less than 2" in thickness.

(ii) The base of any memorial vase shall not be less than 12" x 12".

(iv) The size of the memorials to be erected on graves shall be:

Foundation stone 3ft x 1ft x 2" thick

Vase Base stone 2ftx 11" x minimum 2" thick

Headstone not exceeding 3' in height and minimum 2" thick

 (v) Cremated remains - horizontal stone 18" square inscriptions not gilded, not silvered

and not leaded, or tablet

(vi) No artificial stone to be used.

**21** All graves, memorials and headstones must be kept in good repair by the owners and if any owner fails to repair after being required to do so within a reasonable period by the Burial Authority, the Burial Authority may take such further action or steps considered necessary to preserve the amenity of the Cemetery.

**21.** No monument, memorial or headstone shall be removed from the Cemetery without the

consent of the Burial Authority.

**22.** Any person who shall commit any wilful damage in the Cemetery or who shall daub or

disfigure any items or part therein or play any game or sport or discharge firearms or wilfully

and unlawfully disturb any persons assembled there or commit any nuisance within the

Cemetery shall be prosecuted.

**23** Visitors to the Cemetery must keep to the paths and refrain from touching any shrubs,

trees, plants or flowers, other than those they may be tending.

**24** The fees, payments and sum in respect of the use of the Cemetery shall be those for the

time being fixed by the Burial Authority and approved by the Secretary of State for the

Environment and shall apply only where the person to be interred, or in respect of whom a

right is granted, is or has been an inhabitant or parishioner of the Parish of Middleton-on-the-Wolds, or in the case of a stillborn child where one of the parents is or at the time of

interment an inhabitant or parishioner.

In all other cases the fees, payments and sums will be doubled as shown on the list of fees

**25** Copies of these rules with respect to the management of the Cemetery and the table of

fees and charges in connection with the use of the same may be obtained on application to

the Parish Clerk.

NOTE:-

The Council does not accept responsibility for damage or loss of any memorials, tablets/vases etc however caused. The Council has a responsibility to ensure the cemetery is free of obvious dangers and hazards as far as possible. Examples of hazards are glass, potter items that break, sharp objects, items placed on paths reducing the width of the path and space between graves or cremated remains. The Council reserve the right to remove such items with or without prior notification and any such items removed will be available for collection from the office at 7 Front Street, Middleton on the Wolds, for a period of one month.

The Council will maintain the cemetery grounds and from time to time may infill/repair any sunken areas before reseeding.

Please help the Council to provide a safe cemetery, which is an attractive and peaceful place to visit.