

RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL

BURIAL GROUND REGULATIONS

Reviewed and adopted 17/3/16 Minute 186/15

Interpretation of terms

“Council” means the Ripley Parish Council

“Clerk” means Clerk to the Ripley Parish Council

“Monument” means any memorial which is placed or erected on a grave

1. Notice of internment is to be given to the Clerk two whole days previous to the internment.
2. Coffins of wood, wicker or cardboard shall be used in earthen graves and all coffins shall have a non-corroding plate bearing the deceased name securely fixed.
3. The Council does not undertake the digging of graves. Provision for such work is the responsibility of the person requiring the same and must be carried out to the satisfaction of the Council acting through the Clerk.
4. No body shall be buried in a grave in such a manner that any part of the coffin is at a depth exceeding 8 feet nor at a depth less than 3 feet below the level of the ground adjoining the grave.
5. No body shall be buried in a grave unless the coffin is effectually separated from any other coffin already in the grave by means of a layer of earth not less than 6 inches in thickness.
6. Where, in the Burial Ground, any grave is reopened for the purpose of making another internment therein, no person shall disturb any human remains interred therein nor remove therefrom any soil which is offensive.
7. All fees and charges are to be paid at the office of the Clerk. Fees and charges relating to internments shall be paid before the internment takes place. Fees relating to monuments shall be paid when application is made for permission to place or erect a monument.
8. No internments may take place on Sundays, Bank Holidays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Saturdays, nor before 10 o'clock in the morning or after 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon on the remaining days provided that this regulation shall not apply to internments required to take place immediately upon the certificate of the appropriate Medical Officer or Authority.
9. The Certificate of Registration of the Death of the person to be buried, the Coroner's Order for Burial where an inquest has been held, or a certificate from the Registrar in the case of a still-born child, must be produced at the time of the internment and lodged with the Clerk.
10. Exclusive rights of burial are limited to 100 years. The sites of graves will be determined by the Council acting by the Clerk.
11. The grave spaces for the burial of persons over 7 years of age shall be 9 feet by 4 feet.
12. On every opening of a grave where the exclusive right of burial has been purchased, the certificate of ownership or written authority from the owner shall be produced to the Clerk on giving notice of internment.
13. Shrubs, plants or flowers may, subject to the approval of the Council, be planted on any purchased grave. Upon the completion of such work all refuse must be conveyed to the nearest receptacle for litter. The Council reserves the right to prune, cut down or dig up and remove any of the shrubs, plants or flowers at any time when, in its opinion, the same have become unsightly or overgrown.
14. The Council reserves the right to level and turf or sow with grass seed any mounded grave after one year from the date of internment.
15. Memorials may be erected one year from the date of burial.
16. Monuments and memorials will only be allowed in accordance with the table of fees

17. Drawings and specifications of all monuments, tablets and memorials and of alterations to existing monuments, tablets and memorials, and copies of all inscriptions proposed to be placed thereon, must be delivered to the Clerk for the approval of the Council, and a certificate of such approval must be obtained before they can be admitted within the Burial Ground.
18. Any monument admitted to the Burial Ground or erected therein shall remain at the sole risk of the owner thereof.
19. All memorials shall be constructed of good durable material exclusive of wood and metal. All memorials constructed of more than one block of material shall be securely cramped together with non rusting cramps.
20. No fixed memorial shall be laid or erected without a base of stone or concrete of sufficient thickness and size to prevent settling.
21. No trade inscription will be allowed upon any monument, tablet or memorial more than 6 inches above the ground level and details of all trade inscriptions, if used, must be submitted to the Clerk for approval and such approval must be obtained in writing before memorials so inscribed can be admitted with in the Burial Ground.
22. All monuments shall have the number of the grave space cut thereon in letters not exceeding 1 inch in height and not more than 6 inches above the ground level and the cost of such work shall be at the expense of the owner of the monument.
23. Two clear working days' notice must be given to the Council before any monument or memorial may be fixed.
24. Each monument, memorial or tablet shall be kept in repair by the owner, and if not so kept in repair may be repaired or removed by the Council at its discretion and at the expense of the owner. Monuments, memorials or tablets shall not be painted without the consent of the Council.
25. Every person who shall wilfully destroy or injure any building, wall or fence which is part of the Burial Ground belonging to the Council or destroy or injure any tree or plant therein or who shall daub or disfigure any wall thereof or putting any bill thereon or wilfully destroy, injure or deface any monument, tablet, inscription or gravestone, play at any game or sport or discharge any firearms (save at a Military Funeral) in the Burial Ground or wilfully and unlawfully disturb any person assembled therein for the purpose of an interment or commit any nuisance within the ground shall be liable to forfeit to the Council for every such offence a sum not exceeding five pounds.
26. The Council reserves the right to make from time to time any alterations and additions to the foregoing regulations.