

WIGTON BURIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

WIGTON CEMETERY

Station Hill, Wigton, Cumbria, CA7 9BN

WIGTON CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Burial Joint Committee will dispose of interment rights for a period of up to 75 years in Grave Spaces in the Cemetery. A parishioner, for the purpose of purchasing interment rights in grave spaces, shall be deemed to be a person who shall have had a permanent residence in these parishes for six months next proceeding the application for such purpose. Any person may purchase interment rights in a grave space for the immediate interment of a deceased parishioner.
2. Grave registers are available for public viewing in the Vestry of Wigton Cemetery. Any person who wishes to inspect these records must first make an appointment to do so with the clerk.
3. Please keep the Grave Right/Deed safe as it is evidence of your ownership of the right. You have purchased a right of burial, which ensures that any further burial must be of the grave owner, or a burial authorised by the owner. ***It is important to note that you have purchased a “right” and not the land, which still remains in the ownership of the Burial Joint Committee***
4. The owners shall not have the power of transferring (except by Wills) the right of burial to any grave to any person, but relations, next in kin by blood or marriage, except with the sanction in writing of the Burial Joint Committee ***(see guidance notes attached)**
5. On the death of the owners of the interment rights in the grave spaces, persons, claiming by heirship or succeeding by title or producing satisfactory evidence of his or her title, shall be furnished with a certificate of his or her ownership on payment of the appropriate fee ***(see guidance notes attached)**
6. Notice of Interment must be given to the clerk or Allerdale Bereavement Services not less than 36 hours previous to any interment exclusive of the time between 5.00pm on Friday and 9.00am on Mondays to Fridays inclusive, although shorter notice may be accepted under special circumstances.
7. All fees and charges must be paid to the clerk or Allerdale Bereavement Services when notice of the order for interment is given.
8. Only qualified operations approved and authorised by the Burial Joint Committee are to perform the necessary services in grave digging.
9. The Registrar’s Certificate of Death of the person to be buried must be given to the appointed person before entering the Cemetery.
10. ALL memorials, etc, MUST be authorised by the Allerdale Bereavement Services or the Burial Joint Committee before being placed on any grave

11. Drawings of every Memorial, Monument, Headstone or Flat stone, together with a copy of any inscriptions must be submitted for approval to Allerdale Bereavement Services and no such item shall be admitted to the Cemetery until consent has been obtained in writing and the appropriate fee paid. All such Memorials, Monuments as listed above, must be of stone, granite, marble or other similar natural material as will stand weather, and no such structure or other erection may exceed (3ft 6ins) 955mm wide in a single grave or be more than (2ft) 600mm by (1ft 6ins) 450mm.
12. No unauthorised fences, trenches, enclosures or border stones are allowed on any grave space in any section designated as a lawned area. The practice of covering grave spaces with cement and granite or other chippings or fitting kerbs is not permitted.
13. No Monument or Gravestone can be erected except on purchased ground. Persons carrying out construction must use such means to protect the grass and the walks as will be satisfactory to the Burial Joint Committee and Allerdale Bereavement Services, and all rubbish must be removed forthwith. All monuments and materials must be brought into the Cemetery by hand, or on carts, or trucks, with wheels not less than (4ins) 100mm in tyre. Twenty four hours notice of such work must be given to Allerdale Bereavement Services. No monument or gravestone is to be removed without the prior agreement of the Burial Joint Committee.
14. **Please note as the owner of a grave right, you are responsible for the maintenance and safety of any memorial on the grave.** If it becomes loose, leans or otherwise appears unsafe please contact a memorial mason. The Burial Joint Committee has a Memorial Masons Registration Scheme which is available from Allerdale Bereavement Services. Only approved monumental masons shown on the list are allowed to carry out work in the cemeteries. All new memorials will be erected in accordance to the National Association of Monumental Masons code of practice and recommended fixing methods.
15. The council carry out regular checks on all memorials and will make safe any memorial found to be in a dangerous condition. It is then the responsibility of the grave owner to arrange for the appropriate work to be carried out by an approved stone mason.
16. Flower vases and other receptacles must be of a pattern and in a position approved by the Joint Burial Committee and must not be displayed until consent has been given in writing. Everything must be placed on a concrete foundation or ideally within (3ins) 75mm of the edge. Wreaths may be laid on any grave. No type of glass receptacles will be permitted. The Joint Burial Committee reserves the right to remove any dead or withered flowers and wreaths.
17. No trees or ornamental shrubs shall be planted, cut or carried away without the written consent of the Joint Burial Committee. The Joint Burial Committee reserves the right to remove any such plants or shrubs not planted with its express permission.
18. Wind chimes, solar lights or any other items that can be inserted into the ground beside a headstone or fixed onto the base of the headstone are not permitted. No balloons of any kind are permitted and the Burial Joint Committee reserves the right to remove these.
19. Visitors are expected to keep to the walks and to refrain from touching flowers and shrubs. Bicycles belonging to persons visiting may, with permission, be left within the cemetery gates.

20. Children will not be admitted unless accompanied by a responsible person.
21. Except for guide dogs, dogs are not permitted on any of the burial sections in the cemetery. Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times and owners are responsible for cleaning up any fouling caused by their dog(s). Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, owners who fail to clean up after their dogs can be prosecuted.
22. The Local Authorities Cemeteries order 1977 provides that no person shall: Wilfully create any disturbance or commit any nuisance in a cemetery; wilfully interfere with any burial taking place; wilfully interfere with any grave or vault, any tombstone or any other such memorial, or any flowers or plants on any such matter; Play any sport or game. The order provides that every person who contravenes any prohibition specified above together with any prohibition specified in Article 19 of the order shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine.
23. The Cemetery will be open Monday to Saturday from 8.00am until sunset and on Sundays, from 10.00am until sunset. As anniversaries occur every day of the year, we never close the cemeteries even though snow and ice exist. Please exercise extreme care during visits throughout the winter months.
24. No interments shall be allowed to take place after 5.00pm except under special circumstances.

Note: The Burial Joint Committee reserves to itself the right, from time to time, to make alterations in the foregoing rules, and also the liberty to deal with any special circumstances as it may deem expedient.

BY ORDER WIGTON BURIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Dated 31st May 2022

WIGTON BURIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

GUIDANCE NOTES TO WIGTON CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

***3 Transfer of Grave Right/Deed Ownership**

Where the current grave owner is still alive and wishes to transfer ownership to another person, a Deed of Transfer must be properly completed and return to the Burial Joint Committee.

This form can be completed by Allerdale Bereavement Services after production of the relevant Exclusive Right of Burial Deed and proof of identity (eg, passport or driving licence). Failing this, the form can be completed and signed by a solicitor or a Commissioner of Oaths and then returned with the appropriate fee to the bereaved.

***4 Production of Documents of Title**

No purchased grave in which the executive right of burial has been purchased shall be opened without the production of the Grave Deed and the written consent of the owner. Where the consent of the owner cannot be obtained, the grave will only be opened on completion and receipt of a statutory declaration to the Burial Joint Committee.