

# MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MURTON CEMETERY RULES - DRAFT

Murton Cemetery is in a beautiful location, overlooked by the Pennines and sheltered by locally sourced stone walling and mature trees. Spring bulbs and wildflowers flourish, together with some mature shrubs.



The Parish Council maintains the Cemetery by arranging for the grass to be mown and strimmed during the summer months and walls to be repaired. It also organises work days where volunteers tidy the Cemetery, paint the railings and undertake repairs. In recent years volunteers have spread gravel, donated by Russell Hogg & Sons, to recreate paths and have built a wall for memorial plaques designed by Hilton resident and stonemason, Nigel Fields.

### Exclusive Right of Burial

When purchasing the Exclusive Right of Burial for a grave space at Murton Cemetery you are purchasing the right for yourself, a loved one, or family members for a period of fifty years. You will be given a *Deed of Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial*, but you will not own the land itself which belongs to Murton Parish Council.

### Looking after a Grave

The family of the loved one interred is responsible for maintenance of the grave. This will include:

- The erection of a headstone, if desired. The type and wording to be approved by the Parish Council. Your stonemason will be aware of this procedure.
- Keeping the area orderly and tidy.
- Removing perishable items such as wreaths and flowers once they are no longer enhancing the area. Remember rabbits will eat most things and some flowers may not survive as long as you might expect.
- Considering how any non-perishable items, such as small plastic items, should be secured and removed when they deteriorate in the harsh Pennine weather.
- Cleaning the headstone, if you wish. If you do so please do not use non-biodegradable chemicals, eg household cleaners containing bleach.

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- Keeping your dog on a lead and removing any dog mess.
- Taking any litter or dead flowers away with you. There is no waste collection from the Cemetery.
- Behaving in a manner appropriate to the Cemetery, ie not creating a disturbance, nuisance or play games or interfere with any grave, tombstone or memorial in place.

## **Murton Parish Council's Responsibilities**

Murton Parish Council will endeavour to ensure that the Cemetery continues to be a special place for those associated with the parish to use for quiet contemplation by:

- Regular maintenance including mowing and repairs.
- Organising volunteer work days for tidying the Cemetery.
- Removing untidy items, or those which have deteriorated over time.
- Where practicable, levelling earthen and grass graves to the level of the adjoining ground.
- Keeping the relevant legal Registers up to date and available for consultation.

## **Further Information**

Further information on administration and fees for Exclusive Right of Burial, interments, erection of memorials and the placement of plaques on the memorial wall can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

Cemetery fees are reviewed at the Parish Council in May each year. Details of current fees can be found here: <https://www.murton.org.uk/murton-cemetery/>