Welton Road Cemetery Guide
Making Arrangements

This booklet has been designed to assist you in making difficult choices, by explaining the services offered and sets out what kind of service you can expect from the council/contractor who manage the cemeteries.

It explains what your legal responsibilities following the burial towards both the council and the contractor and other users of the cemeteries.

The vast majority of burials are arranged through a funeral director.

Funeral Directors are professionally trained to help guide you through the process of a funeral and have a great deal of experience and knowledge that families can draw upon when deciding how to proceed.

They also co-ordinate your chosen arrangements to ensure that they go smoothly for you, this can be a great comfort to a grieving family.

If you do decide to involve yourself in part of the arrangements, it is most important that you keep your funeral director informed of any decisions you have made.

We will always do our best to advise you but regret we cannot act as a funeral director on your behalf.

Bereavement Advice

Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management

www.iccm-uk.com

The Website also contains information on a Living Will, the importance of Will writing and advise on the Natural Death Centre.

Age Concern

www.ageuk.org.uk

www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk

The Bereavement Advice Centre

www.bereavementadvice.org/index.php

Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS)

www.uk-sobs.org.uk

Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity

www.uk-sands.org
Frequently Asked questions

Can I increase the number of full burials than the grave was originally intended for?

Welton Road Cemetery is able to provide a maximum of double depth graves. When a grave is purchased for a burial, the depth requested at the time of a funeral denotes how many full body burials may take place, either one or two. There is a legal requirement how much earth must be left between coffins and from the top of a coffin to ground level, so it is not physically possible to incorporate changes to the amount of full body burials into the grave after the first interment has taken place. However it may be possible to inter ashes within the existing grave space once the maximum amount of burials has been reached. Please direct enquiries to the Cemetery Office.

I own the grave, can anyone else be buried in it if I don’t give permission?

No, graves cannot be opened without the permission in writing on the Council’s Indemnity form from the owner of the ‘Exclusive Right of Burial’. The exception to this is when the rightful owner has died, they then have the automatic right to be buried in the grave. The ownership may be passed onto others through means of inheritance. The Council will require evidence of this.

When are graves filled in?

Graves are prepared for burial at least one full day before the funeral and are covered overnight. The ICCM Guiding Principles for Burial Service states that immediately after mourners have departed the graveside, the grave shall be entirely backfilled and made tidy.

Why can’t I have what I want on the grave?

When a new grave is purchased it is not the ownership of land it’s self that is purchased, but the rights to have burials take place in that grave. These rights are granted together with the rights to erect a memorial on the grave in accordance with the rules and regulations of Daventry District Council.

Charter for the Bereaved

The Charter guarantees 33 rights to burial and these are integrated into the services outlined in this leaflet.

Members of the public can be assured that an authority that has adopted the Charter is committed to providing excellent service designed to meet their needs. The Charter is a commitment to improving the service by confirming rather than disguising the death experience and reducing ignorance.

It defines the rights of every individual who experience bereavement, and gives the bereaved greater influence over the arrangement of a funeral.

An annual assessment ensures that the service keeps improving and raising its standards, and allows it to be ranked against other services throughout the country.

Please see link below for more information.

www.iccm-uk.com

If you require a copy of the Charter, please refer to the contact information section of this booklet.
Cemetery Services

Daventry District Council presently operate and manage one cemetery and four closed churchyards within the Daventry District. The cemeteries and churchyards are located:

- **Welton Road Cemetery** (Welton Road Daventry NN11 0PP)
- **Holy Cross Churchyard** (Church Walk—Daventry—NN11 4BL)
- **St Lawrence** (Church Street—Long Buckby—NN6 7QH)
- **St Peters Churchyard** (Church Street– Weedon Bec—Daventry—NN7 4ED)
- **Holy Cross Churchyard** (Church Street—Byfield—Daventry—NN11 6XN)

Contact Information

All correspondence should be directed to:-

Cemeteries Office
Daventry District Council
Lodge Road
NN11 4FP

**Telephone numbers:** 01327 871100
**Email Address:** cemetery@daventrydc.gov.uk

Floral Tributes

After the funeral the Cemetery Operatives will place the floral tributes on the grave. They will remain there until the family remove them or after four weeks when they will be removed by the Cemetery Operatives in order to maintain the grave. This will be done without notification to the grave holder. Water taps are located at the central building within the cemetery for public use. Litter bins are also located throughout the Cemetery for your use.

Donations of Benches

We receive many requests from families to place a memorial bench close to where a loved one’s grave is situated, however due to over demand we are no longer accepting requests for bench placement.

Vehicles

- Any vehicle entering the cemetery must travel at no more than 10mph.
- Parking is only permitted within the designated parking bays.
- Vehicles may not be driven on to footpaths or over graves.
- Please be advised that on large funerals access to vehicles may be restricted.

Nuisance and Damage

Every person in a cemetery shall avoid causing any disturbance or damage therein and leave the cemetery in a satisfactory condition. Any person whose conduct in the opinion of the Cemetery Supervisor(s) or whose actions are likely to impede the proper management of the cemetery or who infringes any foregoing rules may be asked to leave the cemetery.

The Council reserves the right to act upon and rectify any breach of the rules and regulations contained herein.
weathering, or failure of materials. Although memorials are the owners responsibility, the Council has a duty of care to maintain a safe environment for members of the public and for its own staff. In extreme circumstances the Council will take action to neutralise any immediate danger created by a memorial without seeking the owners consent. This will normally mean providing temporary supports, but may in extreme circumstances involve the laying down of a memorial. A letter would then will be sent to the address of the grave owner informing them of any action taken and to request that they contact a memorial mason to re-fix the memorial to current NAMM/BRAMM standards.

Maximum Permitted Memorial Sizes

Single Grave Space 2 plots, Side by Side with single headstone

A headstone on a single plot must not exceed 3ft (915mm) overall in height, with a base of no more than 2ft 6inches width (760mm) x 1ft 6inches depth (455mm)

A single headstone on two plots side-by-side must not exceed 3ft (915mm) overall in height, with a base of no more than 5ft width (1525mm) x 1ft 6inches depth (455mm)

Cremation Plots

A headstone on a single plot must not exceed 1ft 6 inches (455mm) in overall height, with a base of no more than 1ft 6 inches (455mm) x 1ft (305mm)

A single headstone on two plots side-by-side plot must not exceed 1ft 6 inches (455mm) in overall height, with a base of no more than 3ft (915mm) x 1ft (305mm)
Daventry District Council, acting as authority, for the proper management, regulation and control of Cemeteries under Section 214 and Schedule 26 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Article 3 of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 (as amended) enforce the following rules and regulations stated herein.

**General Provisions**

Subject to the provisions of Regulation 4, all burials shall take place between the following hours.

**Between 1st Dec—31st Jan**

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<th>Monday-Thursday</th>
<th>10am - 2pm</th>
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**Between 1st Feb—30th Nov**

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<th>Monday-Thursday</th>
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1. All Notices of Interment must be given in writing on the printed forms supplied by the Council and the requirements must clearly and completely stated along with the corresponding certificate. (Certificates—Certificate for Burial Parts B&C, Coroners Order for Burial, Cremation Certificate).

2. A minimum of 7 days notice is required before the time of the proposed interment. (excluding Saturday, Sunday an public holidays)

3. In exceptional circumstances and subject to the availability of appropriate resources and to be observance of all necessary regulations, the Council will entertain applications for interments outside the burial times specified herein. In such circumstances the burial fee increased to include the reasonable additional costs incurred by the Council/Contractor.

4. Whilst all reasonable endeavours will be made to comply with such requests, the Council cannot guarantee the availability of such resources outside the hours stated herein and is therefore not bound to accept such requests.

Memorial trees inclusive of all conifers may not be planted in any section of the cemetery as they soon outgrown the area and encroach on adjoining graves including the displacement of own and other memorials.

**Memorials**

Memorials are allowed to be erected after a minimum period of six moths has passed after burial, although it is recommended to leave a year to allow the ground to settle sufficiently.

*Please ensure that the Councils authorisation has been granted before any purchase or manufacture of a new memorial has been made*

The Right to Erect and Maintain a Memorial is granted for a period of 25 years, after which time a renewal fee will be charged.

Only Memorial Masons that are registered with the NAMM/BRAMM are permitted to carry out works on memorials new and old within Welton Road Cemetery and only after authorisation has been granted.

The memorial mason must obtain permission from the registered owner of the 'Exclusive Right of Burial' to carryout any works. This is provided on the Council Memorial Application Form. Inscriptions are checked and evaluated and memorial size restrictions apply. The Council welcomes diversity of expression in memorials, provided that they do not offend or affect the rights of other cemetery users. The Council may otherwise refuse applications. All registered stone masons are familiar with the rules and regulations and can offer expert advice.

Memorial Applications or renewals will not be permitted where Exclusive Rights of Burial have not been purchased.

**Maintenance of Memorials**

It is the responsibility of the owner to contact a registered stonemason to carry out repairs to any memorial and to ensure it is maintained in a safe condition.

Over time memorials may become unstable because of subsidence,
If parents or guardians wish to eventually be buried with a child, an adult grave should be chosen. If parents or guardians wish to be cremated a child’s grave can accommodate up to six sets of cremated remains.

Welton Road Cemetery

Rules and Regulations - Care of Graves and Cemeteries Maintenance

To facilitate maintenance and to keep the cemetery looking it’s best for all to appreciate, it is the Council’s Policy to maintain Welton Road Cemetery as lawned.

Where a burial takes place in an area maintained as a lawn section, the grave will be reinstated back to grass by levelling and seeding (season permitting). Graves that sink will also be topped up and seeded. Extending the border into the grassed area is not permitted. Placement of memorial trees, fences, edging, and pebbles are not permitted within the cemetery. Placement of shrubs, plants, flowers, wreaths, vases, jars, or other such receptacles shall not be placed on the turfed or seeded area which shall in all respects and at all times be kept clear. All such objects will be removed without notification and placed within the border.

The Council reserves the right to prune, cut down, dig up, or remove and dispose of any shrub, tree, plant or flower at any time, when in its opinion the same had become unsightly, overgrown or when necessary for the purpose of allowing a grave to be reopened.

No permanent planting is allowed on any grave space.

Glass containers and china are not recommended as they shatter when water contained within them freezes. They are also a hazard to the Cemeteries Operatives when carrying out maintenance. Any broken glass, china, plastic containers and or memorabilia will be

Note of Apology

At times it will be necessary to excavate an adjacent grave, every care will be taken to ensure as little disruption as possible is caused to your loved ones grave. The area will be left in a clean and tidy condition after the interment.

Due to time constraints it is not possible to contact families in advance, we therefore apologise for any disruption or distress this may cause.
An Un-purchased Earthen Grave (Public grave)

We will carry out burials in un-purchased graves, only the fee for excavating the grave will be charged.

You should note however that the grave may already have someone else buried in it and further burials may take place there at anytime in the future. It will not be possible to arrange the burial of another family member in the same grave and the family has no right to place a memorial on an un-purchased grave.

Purchased Earthen Grave

The fee for purchasing the burial rights is in addition to the fee for an interment in the grave.

The purchaser will then be issued with a Deed which grants ‘The Exclusive Right of Burial’ to the person named upon it for a set period of 50 years.

An Existing Family Grave

If you or another member of your family have already purchased ‘Exclusive Right of Burial’ in a grave, the council/contractor will carry out a burial there upon receipt of a written request from the person named in the grave register as the owner (normally obtained by the funeral director).

Pre-Purchase of Graves

If you wish to pre-purchase a grave, please contact the Cemeteries Office for a pre-purchase form. Should you wish to discuss pre-purchasing a grave, a cemetery supervisor will be happy to meet you to discuss your requirements.

Depth of Graves

The Council will open a new purchased grave to accommodate one or two full burials wherever possible. You must tell the Funeral Director the number of burials that will be required at the time of the first burial on the interment form. The law does not permit the council to carry out burials unless the prescribed depth can be achieved in the grave.

Welton Road Cemetery

Choices

The Council reserves the right to designate areas of the cemetery for the burial of adults, children and cremated remains, where the type of memorial that may subsequently be erected, is restricted.

The type of grave required is stated on either the interment or pre-purchase form, this is the Council form(s) on which all arrangements are made.

Following receipt of this form, we the contractor will follow the instructions contained in it and any future matters concerning the grave will be addressed to the applicant either in person or through their Funeral Director or other representative.

Lawn Section

To facilitate maintenance and to keep Welton Road Cemetery looking it’s best for all to appreciate, it is the Council’s policy to maintain the cemetery as lawn. A small area can be used for flowers and memorials. The total area covered by the headstone, including its base and small area for flowers, must not exceed 760 mm (approx. 2 feet 6 inches) wide and 600 mm (approx. 24 inches long. Planted flowers or bushes, glass, pebbles or surrounds, edging or Kerbing will not be allowed in this area and items must be removable for grass cutting operations.

Garden of Rest

There are designated areas in Welton Road Cemetery for the burial of cremated remains. Plots within the Garden of Rest must remain clear with the exception of a headstone.

Children’s Section

There are designated Children’s sections available at Welton Road Cemetery, with plots exclusively for children up to 12 years of age.