

Thornton le Dale Parish Council **Cemetery Rules**

Adopted June 2025 PCM

Summary of Rules for Visitors & Family

Acceptance Of Cemetery Terms & Conditions

Funeral Directors
Grave Diggers
Stone Masons

Summary of Rules for Visitors & Family

- All grave spaces and memorials are to be kept in good repair by the Lessee/Owner.
- Memorials must comply with Cemetery Rules & Specifications
- All graves will be lawned for maintenance purposes and consequently any shrubs or plants placed on a grave will be removed. The planting of flowers, plants and shrubs and the placing of vases on the turfed area is prohibited.
- Artificial shrubs, plants or flowers may be placed on graves but will be removed by the Parish Council or its officers when faded or appearing unsightly.
- Decorative ornaments must be placed within the Memorial plinth. Ornaments must not interfere with the maintenance of the cemetery and grass. The Parish Council & Caretaking staff will remove any from prohibited areas.
- No surrounds, palisading, soft toys, glass vases, bottles, jars or tins may be placed on grave spaces. Balloons, wind chimes and lights are also not allowed. Encroachment onto pathways and adjacent plots is not permitted.
- Railings, footstones, kerb and border stones, chains, the digging of borders or other structures enclosing graves or parts of graves, flags or chippings are not allowed.
- Dead flowers, wastepaper and other refuse is to be put in the appropriate bins provided for that use and not left for disposal elsewhere in the Cemetery grounds. The content of the bins is monitored by the Parish Council.
- The Parish Council or its officers (staff) will remove floral tributes, when wilted or decayed.
- Christmas season decorative ornaments and other Festive or seasonal tributes and ornaments must be removed within 3 months after the festival.
- Anyone undertaking the maintenance of graves must make their own arrangements to remove any excess soil or stones from the Cemetery.
- A full copy of the Parish Council Cemetery Rules and Cemetery Risk Assessment is available on the Thornton le Dale Website: <https://thorntonledale-pc.gov.uk/>

Acceptance Of Cemetery Terms & Conditions

Funeral Directors

- I have received a Full copy of the Cemetery Rules for Thornton le Dale, as approved by the Parish Council and a Cemetery Risk Assessment document. **I confirm we will comply.**
- Funeral Directors require at least **£10m public liability insurance** and must supply the Parish Council **with a copy**, along with **Risk assessments** and a **signed copy of this form** annually before commencing work in the Cemetery, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- A **Notice of Interment** must be on the form provided by the Parish Council, prior to any Interment, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **Notices of Interment must be** received by the Parish Council (the Parish Clerk) to allow a minimum of seven clear days' notice, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **No interment can** take place unless the Clerk/ Parish Council has received a Certificate of Disposal from the Registrar of Births and Deaths or an Order for Burial from the Coroner, or a Certificate of Cremation from a Crematorium, as appropriate, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **No interment can** take place unless the appropriate fees have been paid in advance, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **No interment can** take place without the appropriate proof of ownership of the grave plot e.g. the Exclusive Right of Burial, or copies of relevant documentation (Grant of Probate, Transfer etc), as per full Cemetery Rules.
- It is the responsibility of the Funeral Directors to removes **Funeral floral display bases** following a funeral, or once the flowers are dead, or within 10 days of the funeral whichever the sooner.
- The Parish Council must be informed of any memorial requests, alterations, instalments, or removal, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- To ensure Family have a copy of the Cemetery Rules
- The Parish Council must be informed of the Family / Estate contact details, including who The Owner Rights have been transferred to.
- A full copy of the Parish Council Cemetery Rules and Cemetery Risk Assessment is available on the Thornton le Dale Website: <https://thorntonledale-pc.gov.uk/>

Signed: Date.....

On behalf of:

Acceptance Of Cemetery Terms & Conditions

Grave Diggers

- I have received a Full copy of the Cemetery Rules for Thornton le Dale, as approved by the Parish Council and a Cemetery Risk Assessment document. **I confirm we will comply.**
- Grave diggers are required to have at least **£10m public liability insurance** and Funeral Directors who have appointed Grave Diggers must supply the **Parish Council with a copy of the Public Liability**, along with **any risk assessments** and this **signed copy of this form annually** before commencing work in the Cemetery.
- **Specification of the work** to done must be supplied with each interment form.
- The whole of the **grave surface will be turfed flat.**
- **Refilling of graves** in order that the top of the grave is only slightly above the surrounding ground.
- **Removal of spoil** to the assigned area in the entrance to the allotments and levelled.
- **The ground around the dug grave to be left in a tidy state** after the grave is filled in.
- A full copy of the Parish Council Cemetery Rules and Cemetery Risk Assessment is available on the Thornton le Dale Website: <https://thorntonledale-pc.gov.uk/>

Signed: Date

On behalf of:

Acceptance Of Cemetery Terms & Conditions **Stone Masons**

- I have received a Full copy of the Cemetery Rules for Thornton le Dale, as approved by the Parish Council and a Cemetery Risk Assessment document. **I confirm we will comply.**
- Stone Masons are required to have at least **£10m public liability insurance** and Funeral Directors who have appointed **Stone Mason's** must supply the **Parish Council with a copy of the Public Liability**, along with **any risk assessments** and this **signed copy of this form annually** before commencing work in the Cemetery.
- **Memorial - Application to Erect** or amend must be made and approved by The Council before commencement of works, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **Memorials – cannot be erected before 6 months.**
- **Fees need to be received** in full before commencement of works, as per full Cemetery Rules.
- **The Grave Number & name of the Stonemason is to be placed on the back of the memorial**
- A full copy of the Parish Council Cemetery Rules and Cemetery Risk Assessment is available on the Thornton le Dale Website: <https://thorntonledale-pc.gov.uk/>

Signed: Date.....

On behalf of: