

**ALL HALLOWS CHURCH, SOUTH CERNEY &
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CERNEY WICK
Vicar: The Reverend Canon D. Bowers
LOCAL CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS**

As with proceedings in other courts, a fee is payable on the issue of the Faculty Petition. When the Petition is received at the Registry, a letter is written requesting the fee, currently £204.00. The applicant has the option of withdrawing at that stage, in which case no fee is payable. Further details and advice on the above can be obtained from the registry.

Responsibility for Maintaining Memorials

The PCC cannot be responsible for maintaining memorials in churchyards. Checks are carried out on behalf of the PCC to ensure that memorials have not become hazardous and the PCC reserve the right to lay the memorials down if they feel that they may cause an accident. Please note that church insurances do not cover damage to or damage by the said memorials. The PCC wishes to discourage the use of artificial flowers, as these often appear inappropriate in our rural churchyard setting. Wreaths and flowers must be removed as soon as they appear to be withered or dead. The PCC, at its discretion, may at any time dispose of any tributes, floral or otherwise, placed in the churchyard, if it is considered that they have deteriorated or are unsightly.

Conclusion

Erecting a gravestone is a very public statement and is something that could last for centuries. Although the families of the deceased are responsible for the maintenance of memorials, in practice the PCC and/ or the Local Parish Council are left to care for them long after the families who erected them have themselves died out or left the area. This is why such care has been taken in preparing these regulations.

A.J. Squire. Church Warden on behalf of the Churchyard Committee.
All Hallows Church South Cerney.

May 2013

Introduction

The major extension to All Hallows churchyard is now in use. The aim of the Vicar, Churchwardens and the churchyard committee is to have an easily maintained area that blends in with the old part of the churchyard and will be a credit to both the Church and the village. New regulations for the Churchyard follow the Diocese of Gloucester requirements and are herein produced.

Regulations

It is very important to note that no one has the right to erect a memorial on a grave in a churchyard without permission. It is essential to obtain permission before any final order is given to a Monumental Mason or a Funeral Director. Permission is given either in the form of a signed approval by the Parish priest or in extraordinary circumstances by way of a Faculty granted by the Chancellor. The parish priest can only permit memorials within the scope of this document. In practice, the Monumental Mason may make an application on your behalf.

The following mandatory regulations will apply to All Hallows Churchyard with immediate effect and are based on the mandatory guidelines issued by the Diocese of Gloucester dated 2003 (second edition), reference Churchyard Regulations CH 018.

Provided that the parish priest is happy with the proposed inscription he is able to grant permission within the following criteria:

simple upright grave markers provided that they fall within the range of size and material described overleaf

sloping 'open book' memorials, provided that they fall within the range of size and material listed below, wooden crosses provided that they do not exceed the dimensions listed below, additional inscriptions on

existing memorials, in respect of burial of cremated remains and in respect of burial of cremated remains within an existing grave, simple flush horizontal stone markers provided that they fall within the range of size and material described below.

Size

The parish priest may approve grave markers up to, and not exceeding, the following dimensions above ground:

Height	four feet (1200mm)
Width	three feet (900 mm)
Thickness	six inches (150 mm)

In the case of headstones, the memorial may be of the monolith type, i.e. fixed directly into the ground, or it may have a separate base plinth.

Regarding the grave marker for interment of ashes up to, and not exceeding, the following dimensions apply;

Height	eighteen inches	(450mm)
Width	fourteen inches	(350mm)
Thickness	four inches	(100 mm)

Lettering

The parish priest may approve lettering which may be incised or in relief and may be in-filled with colour. Also lead in filled lettering can be permitted.

Decoration

The parish priest may permit appropriate Christian or other symbols, for example depiction of items connected with the profession or leisure interest of the person commemorated.

Materials

The parish priest may permit memorials made of any natural stone or hardwood with the following exceptions:

White marble

Any granite other than unpolished grey

Any other use of a reflective polished surface

Casket for Ashes

For burial of ashes on the north side of the churchyard extension the maximum size of the casket has to be restricted to 8" width by 8" by 12" depth.

THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT BE ALLOWED:

Horizontal ledger slabs

Kerbs

Chippings

Sculpture

Photographs or ceramic portraits or any other depiction of the person commemorated

No other advertisement or trade marks may be inscribed on or fixed to a memorial other than the Mason's name or mark on the reverse in letters no larger than one half inch (13 mm) in height.

Applying for permission

Requests for permission should be made in writing to the parish priest in the first instance, with a copy for the churchyard committee, using the application form attached to these regulations

Appeal against decisions taken at the parish level. If the parish priest is unable or unwilling to grant permission and is supported by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in his decision, then a faculty will need to be applied for. The form of Faculty Petition should be obtained from the Diocesan Registry, c/o, Veale Wasbrough & Vizards, Orchard Court, Orchard Lane, BRISTOL, BS1 5WS. FAO Sarah Gerrish 0117 3145680. When the form of Petition has been completed, it should be sent to the Secretary of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). The DAC will discuss the proposal and formulate advice to the Chancellor. The petition then goes to the Diocesan Registry. The form is called a Faculty Petition because it is an application to the Consistory Court. Faculty fees are payable, these are statutory fees and are non-refundable.