

**Cemetery
Open Spaces Committee 26 January 2016**

RECOMMENDED

- (i) That prices are obtained from specialists / professionals in cemetery mapping to produce an integrated cemetery plan to comply with the Local Authorities cemeteries Order 1977**
- (ii) That Councillors agree the location and availability criteria for cremation and burial plots to be allocated with immediate effect.**

1. It is a statutory requirement of have a plan of the cemetery (Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977)

- Article 9 – Plan and record of cemetery
- 9(1) A burial authority shall maintain a plan showing and allocating distinctive numbers to –
- all graves or vaults in which burials are made after the coming into operation of this order or are known to have been made before that event: and
- the grave spaces subject to specified rights

Plans for the Cemetery were first drawn up in 1860.

An extension to the Cemetery and a further plan (for extension only) was drawn up in 1912.

A plan combining the 1860 Cemetery layout and 1912 Cemetery Extension layout together with the lower sections A1, B1, C1, D1 and E1 was drawn up in 1970. The grave numbering of some sections is different from the 1860 plan.

A further separate plan (no date) was drawn up for section P (paths?). This plan appears to be the path area shown on the 1970 plan but has not been incorporated in the main map. Burials in this section took place from 1947.

Over the years, additional areas have been added for burial of ashes, mainly along edge of paths. (Section P2, Q2, R) These areas have been added to the 1970 plan.

2. There is no defined plan for the area currently being used for burial of ashes (Section V). The only information we have to work with is Minute No 11 from the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 17/09/2002 and a Spreadsheet plan showing 69 plots (Appendix 4).

Minute No 11

(b) Cremation Plots

The Clerk pointed out that the present row of cremation plots at the Cemetery is nearly filled.

It was agreed that the piece of land between the Lodge and the toilet should be made ready for use for cremations by the time the present area is filled.

Agenda No 8

The row that was started before I was appointed is nearly complete (**3 plots remaining as at 20/01/2016**) and the minute gives no information regarding the size of the area agreed.

3. The current area being used for burials is Section S. This area has not been added to the 1970 plan and the layout on the ground in the Cemetery is different from the Environs plan that was agreed on 16/02/1999 at the Open Spaces Committee Meeting Minute No 10.

Minute No 10

A plan of the new area for interments at the New Road Cemetery was received from Environs. The Clerk said he wrote to Environs about marking out the ground and they had replied that they would do this but it would cost £250 plus expenses with the Council supplying pegs. The Chair said he had studied the plan and he felt that he, with the Wardens, could undertake the marking out of the perimeters of the new areas. Cllr Childs suggested that room be left for a pathway for the pall bearers to get to the new plots. The Secretary asked what order the plots would be sold in and the committee agreed that they should be sold in numerical order. Cllr Childs made a proposal which was seconded by Cllr Park; a vote was taken and it was agreed to

RESOLVE (1) to leave enough room for pall bearers to access Sections R and S at the New Road Cemetery and to sell the grave spaces in those sections in numerical order; (2) that Cllr Simpson and the Wardens mark out the perimeters of those sections and (3) that some form of landscaping for the Cemetery be considered at a future date.

It is impossible to state how many burial plots, if any, remain in Section S due to lack of information.

4. Confusingly an area of cremation plots started in June 1999 running alongside a path has been named Section R and has been added to the 1970 plan. (Appendix 1 - Burial sub-committee meeting 23/07/1996 Minute No 1).
5. There is a small amount of remaining burial space in the lower part of Sections C2 and B2 but I was advised by the former Senior Open Spaces Warden that this area was unsuitable for further burials due to the instability of the ground (especially in relation to the erection of headstones) and the level of water that the ground retains.

Further Information

A time line of decisions regarding remaining burial space in the Cemetery in chronological order (appendix 1) Y:\Cemetery\Timeline - Burial Space.docx

Current Cemetery Plan (appendix 2) Y:\Cemetery\Mapping\Cemetery Plan.pdf

Section P Plan (appendix 3) Y:\Cemetery\Mapping\Section P map.pdf

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Section V Spreadsheet Layout (appendix 4) *Y:\Cemetery\Plot Details and Layouts\V0
Cremation Plot Layout.xls*

Section S Spreadsheet Layout (appendix 5) *Y:\Cemetery\Plot Details and Layouts\S0
Burial Plot Layout.xls*

Burials took place in Section A from 1860	Burials took place in Section A1 from 1892
Burials took place in Section B from 1859	Burials took place in Section B1 from 1897
Burials took place in Section C from 1859	Burials took place in Section C1 from 1893
Burials took place in Section D from 1861	Burials took place in Section D1 from 1885
Burials took place in Section E1 from 1893	