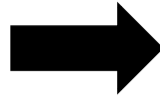


How Have We Responded To Feedback On The 2021 Regulations?

You Shared With Us...

Cemetery regulations should be more visible and accessible for visitors to Padstow Cemetery.



Regulations should be clearer about what memorabilia is permitted and not just what is prohibited.



A greater variety of memorabilia should be permitted on graves. Items left on graves are significant to memory making practices. There is a cultural shift towards a desire to increasingly differentiate memorials so that they capture or express aspects of individuals to whom they are dedicated.



Relatives should be permitted to plant flowers and place memorabilia on a grave as they see fit. Families would understand if this means they must tend the graves themselves due to H&S.



The Town Council should ensure regulations are followed. Certain areas are overrun with memorabilia.



The current approach to managing regulation infringements (phased by sections) is not fair.



Why are some headstone sizes exempt from the criteria in the regulations?



Items should not be removed from graves without contacting the owner of the EROB.



Our Response...

When the regulations are agreed, new signage is planned for the cemetery. It will include key information about the cemetery and its regulations so that all visitors will have easier access to key information, not just EROB owners.

The draft regulations propose a solution which supports these requests whilst still enabling us to protect the cemetery as a reverential, safe, and well maintained space for all. We have given thought to where on a grave these items could practically be placed, and how we can expand the objects and materials permitted. As a result, we have developed regulation 8. Defined Memorial Areas and Specific Restrictions and regulation 9. Flowers, Tributes and Mementoes on Graves. We hope that families will find these less restrictive whilst understanding our need to balance the wider needs of the cemetery.

Individuals differ in their definitions and thoughts on suitability and whether something is well kept. We need regulations which allow us to manage the cemetery in an impartial and fair way. Flowers (ex. shrubs/trees) would be permitted in the Defined Memorial Area of lawn graves.

We have developed a procedure which defines the process for managing regulation infringements in relation to objects left on grave spaces, including cremation plots. The underlying principles behind this procedure are:

- To ensure equal treatment for all;
- To ensure clarity around what will happen should a Cemetery Regulation infringement occur;
- To ensure Padstow Cemetery is a safe, tidy environment which remains a reverential space for all.

Headstone inconsistencies predominately predate the introduction of formal cemetery regulations in 2014. By having regulations, we can better ensure equal treatment for all.

It is not practical or possible to contact all EROB owners every time items need to be removed from graves. Sometimes items are left at key times of year, e.g Christmas by relatives who are unable to visit often. These are left to deteriorate. EROB owners are also not always aware that other relatives are placing non permitted items on a grave. The new procedure for managing regulation infringements, ensures that items removed are, as best they can be, stored safely in a dedicated area where their owner can locate them.