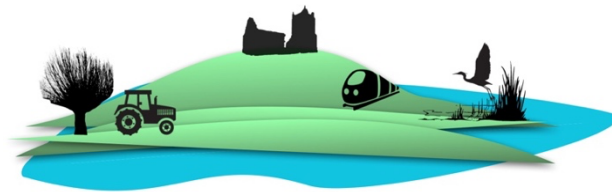


**The Parish Church of St Peter and
St Paul, North Curry
in The Athelney Benefice**



Churchyard Grave and Burial Regulations, 2024

Welcome to our churchyard. This beautiful place is visited by many who wish to tend the graves of their loved ones or simply sit in tranquillity and gaze out over the moors. It is our duty and desire that this should be a haven for all, so we have adopted the following regulations, in line with [Diocesan guidelines](#), which we hope will enable all to enjoy this lovely resting place.

Responsibility for graves

Although the churchyard is mown regularly, it is the responsibility of individual families or their representatives to maintain family graves in good order.

Flowers and other decorations

We welcome the planting of bulbs to add those already there, but trees and shrubs should not be planted in the churchyard without permission from the Vicar and PCC. Wreaths and cut flowers (please remove cellophane wrappers) may be placed on graves, but please remove them when they are withered. Holly wreaths may be laid on graves over the Christmas period, but must be removed by the 31st January. If necessary, unsightly flowers will be removed and any containers will be placed in the church porch for reclamation. Please remove additional models, toys, mementoes etc. within 1 month of the interment, also any flowers when they die.

Appearance

To keep the surface of the churchyard as level as possible, any mound will be levelled at any time more than 12 months after the last interment in the grave.

Headstones

Headstones should be of simple unpolished stone, or a natural wooden cross, no more than 122cm (4') high, 91cm (3') wide and 18cm (7") thick. Any good monumental mason can give advice on this. A simple stone vase, with or without a metal insert to hold flowers, is permitted by the headstone. Please do not use glass containers as these are a real hazard to all who use and tend the churchyard.

Burial of cremated remains

All cremated remains must be buried, either in the designated old part of the churchyard near the east wall or within the curtilage of an existing grave (with

permission from the deceased's relatives). Memorial stones for new cremation graves are restricted to horizontal ledgers (i.e. flat stones) just below the level of the turf.

Memorial plaques over cremated remains must be bronze markers on a stone base and no more than 15cm x 10cm (6" x 4" inches) for a single burial or 30cm x 10cm (12" x 4") for a double burial. Memorial plaques over existing graves must no more than 46cm x 41cm (18" x 16" inches). Cremated remains must be in biodegradable containers.

Permission

All headstones and memorials placed on graves must have permission from the Vicar. Any good monumental mason can give advice on the correct procedure.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. May this churchyard bring you healing comfort and peace. Please feel free to contact a churchwarden or the Vicar if you have any queries.

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_____ Mr Tom Jeanes, Churchwarden

_____ Mrs Mary Piers, Churchwarden

_____ Revd Dr Simon Bale, Vicar

_____ Date