

Cemetery Regulations

General Information

Enquiries and applications should be made to the Cemeteries Officer on

Telephone: 01454 865831, Fax 0145 865866

Email Cemeteries@southglos.gov.uk

Cemeteries Officer Only
South Gloucestershire Council
Department for Environment & Community Services
StreetCare & Transport Services
PO Box 1954
Bristol BS37 0DD

April to September opening hours are 8.00am to dusk Monday to Friday & public holidays and 10.00am to 6.00pm Saturday & Sunday.

October to March opening hours are 8.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday & public holidays and 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday & Sunday.

You may pre-purchase a grave at Mayshill Cemetery or Kingswood Remembrance Park.

Traditional plots are now also available at Mayshill Cemetery.

A small chapel with a seating capacity of approximately 50 is available to hire at Mangotsfield Cemetery. We are unable to provide the service of an organist.

Interments may take place as follows:-

Winter – 1st October – 31st March.

Monday – Thursday 07.30am – 3.00pm (last burial 1.45pm)

Friday 7.30am – 2.00pm (last burial 12.45pm)

Summer – 1st April – 30th September.

Monday – Thursday 07.30am – 4.15pm (last burial 3.00pm)

Friday 7.30am – 3.30pm (last burial 2.15pm)

No interment shall take place nor shall cremated remains be scattered or buried without permission from South Gloucestershire Council.

The allocation of grave spaces will be made in strict rotation.

Dogs are not allowed in the cemetery with the exception of guide dogs.

No cycling, skateboarding, roller skating or games of any kind are allowed within the cemetery.

Change of Address for an Exclusive Right of Burial

It is important that deed holders inform the Cemeteries Officer, in writing, of any change of address. Please include the deed number, plot number and previous address when writing.

Burials

It may be possible to purchase a plot in some areas of Mayshill Cemetery and Kingswood Remembrance Park.

Walled/bricked graves are available only in the Traditional and Lawn section of Mayshill Cemetery.

The Council charges a supplementary fee for extra large coffins of 210cm and over in length OR 70cm and over in width. We no longer allow American caskets in any of our cemeteries.

The deed owner/family is responsible for maintaining the top of a traditional plot.

Cemetery staff will ensure that the level of graves does not fall below the level of the surrounding area during the six months following interment. The Council will turf new graves in the lawn sections after a period of six months. This will take place either in the spring or autumn.

Arrangements for the interment of ashes may be made directly with the Council, but certain regulations regarding documents must be adhered to.

Memorials

No memorial/additional inscription can be installed without firstly obtaining a permit issued by the Cemeteries Officer. All memorials must comply with BS8415 and the National Association of Memorial Masons code of working practice.

All memorials, tablets & gravestones must be kept tidy and in good repair and are the responsibility of the deed owner. The stability of these structures should be checked on a regular basis. It is important that the owners of the grave maintain the memorial structure.

An insurance policy can be taken out when you purchase your memorial and you should discuss this with your Mason.

All memorials have to be clearly marked with the section letter, grave number and Memorial Masons name.

The maximum overall height allowed from ground level for a headstone at Filton, Mangotsfield & Mayshill Cemeteries is 100cm including any base. Ashlars, kerbstones or border stones must not exceed an area greater than 210cm x 90cm in total in Mangotsfield & Filton Cemetery.

Ashlars, kerbstones or border stone at Mayshill Cemetery must not exceed an area greater than 180cm x 90 cm.

Memorials on traditional /lawn burial plots may be erected after a period of nine months from the time of the last interment. This is to allow for ground settlement.

Cremated remains memorials may be installed immediately after the interment of ashes.

The Council may, if it deems any memorial to be dangerous, dismantle the memorial and lay it down. Where possible owners will be contacted.

Any unauthorised memorials placed upon a grave without prior permission of the Council will be removed.

An appointment must be made with the Cemetery Office before work of any description is carried out on any masonry.

Monumental pathways surrounding ashlar, kerbstones, or borders stones are only permitted at Mangotsfield Cemetery and only if all surrounding graves are full.

Memorial seats are no longer allowed in Filton, Mangotsfield or Mayshill Cemeteries and any unauthorised seats will be removed.

Seats that are found to be a health & safety risk will be removed and, where possible, owners will be contacted.

Floral Planting & Tributes

It is not permitted to plant or place any materials in lawn sections of the cemeteries. Any items found will be removed by cemetery staff.

Floral/memorial tributes that have been placed on a grave following an interment will be removed by cemetery staff once they have decayed unless a specific request is made to the Cemeteries Officer for the tributes to be removed by the family. Replacement tributes are not allowed.

Small shrubs/plants and bulbs may be planted within a traditional plot but must not extend beyond the kerb edge. The grave owner is responsible for the maintenance of the grave but the Council reserves the right to reduce or remove, without notice, any plant that has become overgrown and will not be held liable for any damage to property or persons as a result of this planting.

No borders, wind chimes, balloons, photographs or decorations of any kind are permitted on or around any grave or memorial tree within the boundary of the cemetery. Any such items will be removed.

Iron kerbs, railings, chains or palisades are not allowed in any area of the cemetery.

No other flower pots, glass vases or ornaments of any kind will be allowed other than in the integral flower containers or in the provided receptacle for a memorial tree. Any other items will be removed by cemetery staff including those around memorial trees. As an exception, additional flowers will be permitted on the specific occasions of Father's/Mother's Day, Christmas, Birthdays, Valentine's Day and Anniversaries for a period of up to three weeks, after which time the flowers will be removed if not already done so. If however they have decayed before this time, they will be removed. Christmas wreaths will be removed and disposed of at the end of January.