

## **Husthwaite Burial Board Rules – Revised 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019**

1. These regulations have been made by Husthwaite Parish Council in relation to Husthwaite Cemetery. All enquiries regarding the Cemetery should be directed to the Parish Council.
2. Plans and Records for Husthwaite Cemetery are kept and maintained by the Parish Council. These may be viewed free of charge by appointment.
3. The fees and charges payable to Husthwaite Parish Council in respect of grave spaces, interments, memorials and other matters in connection with the Cemetery shall be set by the Parish Council. Copies of such fees and charges are available on request from the Parish Council.
4. A grave space measuring, either 9 feet x 4 feet for an adult or 6 feet x 3 feet for a child, must be purchased for each interment. A plan of the Cemetery showing the position and number of available graves is kept by the Parish Council.

Upon purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial in a grave, a Deed of Grant shall be issued to the person who purchased it and such person shall be registered as the owner of the grave. Owning an Exclusive Right of Burial in a specific grave does NOT give ownership of the actual land but does give the owner the right to:

- a) Be buried in the grave
- b) Authorise the burial of another in the grave (subject to the Parish Council being notified)
- c) Authorise the interment or scattering of cremated remains in or over the grave (subject to the Parish Council being notified)
- d) Place a memorial on the grave after interment (subject to separate agreement of the Parish Council)
- e) Place, or add to, inscriptions on a memorial on the grave (subject to separate agreement of the Parish Council)

If a grave space is purchased in advance, the Exclusive Right of Burial shall extend for a period of 75 years from the date of purchase; Rights may be extended beyond this time by applying for written consent from Husthwaite Parish Council.

Request for the transfer of ownership of an Exclusive Right of Burial must be forwarded, in writing, by the owner to Husthwaite Parish Council along with the original Deed of Grant. On approval of the transfer, a new Deed of Grant will be issued to the new owner and the original will be retained by Husthwaite Parish Council along with the Transfer Request.

Where the owner of an Exclusive Right of Burial is deceased, subsequent ownership depends upon whether or not the deceased person left a valid will. If no will was left, the ownership is transferred to the next of kin.

5. All interments must be pre-arranged with the Parish Council and no burial shall be permitted until the correct paperwork, including Registrar's / Coroner's Certificate, has been produced and relevant fees paid. The Parish Council must also be informed of any bodies which have died from an infectious disease, as stated by the British Medical Association. All excavations for interments shall only be undertaken by persons approved by the Parish Council and bodies to be interred will be enclosed in a suitable coffin and will be buried no less than three feet below ground level.
6. After burial all graves will be tidied and left in an acceptable condition by the grave digger. The Parish Council will thereafter cut the grass on a regular basis throughout the growing season at no cost to the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial. Therefore, no small stones, gravel, chippings or pebbles may be used on any grave nor any railings or fencing erected. The Parish Council will attempt to maintain the cemetery to a reasonable standard but is not liable for any damage or vandalism, however caused, and it is the owner's responsibility to organise insurance if required.

7. Applications to site a memorial on a grave should be submitted to Husthwaite Parish Council for approval, together with the appropriate fee and a drawing of the proposed memorial showing the dimensions and materials to be used, proposed inscription and method of fixing. All headstones must be placed in line and should be constructed of good quality stone measuring no more than 3 feet in height, 2 feet in width and 4 inches depth, on a base approximately 4 inches thick, 2 feet 6 inches wide and 12 inches deep. From 1st January 2003 all memorials must conform to the National Association of Monumental Masons recognised standards of fixing.

The Parish Council usually allow a period of at least 6 months for a new grave to settle before authorising the placing of a memorial.

8. Only memorials approved by Husthwaite Parish Council will be permitted in the cemetery. Memorials can only be placed on a grave that has an Exclusive Right of Burial and must NOT be placed or altered without the prior written consent of the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial. A memorial remains the property of the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial and as such it is their responsibility to ensure that the memorial is safely erected and kept in good repair. All memorials are inspected on a regular basis and, if found to be a danger to the public, it is the owner's responsibility to arrange for any necessary works to be carried out to make the memorial safe. If remedial works are not completed within 3 months of notification, the Parish Council reserve the right to lay the memorial flat.

9. Cut flowers may be placed on any grave in a suitable container. The use of glass bottles or jars is however not recommended, as the danger of broken glass is considered hazardous to other cemetery users, and the Parish Council reserve the right to remove any such item.

10. All visitors to Husthwaite Cemetery are asked to conduct themselves with proper decorum and respect their surroundings.

Attention is drawn to the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 which states that no person shall:

- a) Wilfully create a disturbance in a cemetery
- b) Commit any nuisance in a cemetery
- c) Wilfully interfere with any burial taking place in a cemetery
- d) Wilfully interfere with any grave, or memorial or any flowers / plants in a cemetery
- e) Play any game or sport within the cemetery
- f) Enter or remain in the cemetery when it is closed to the public.

Dogs are allowed into the cemetery but must be kept on a lead at all times.

11. It is the right of the bereaved to complain in the event of any dissatisfaction. Any grievance should be sent, in writing, to the Parish Council Clerk as soon as possible.

12. Husthwaite Parish Council reserves the right to alter these rules and regulations as they see fit and to make supplementary rules and regulations if needed.