

GREAT YELDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Regulations for the Glades Natural Burial Ground

The Burial Authority is Great Yeldham Parish Council which owns the burial ground and is responsible for its maintenance. It has planning consent for use as a burial ground. As well as Great Yeldham Parish Council cemetery rules and regulations, the Burial Authority is also governed by the Local Authority Cemeteries Order 1977 (LACO). Clause 3(1) of this order states: 'Subject to the provisions of this order, a Burial Authority may do all such things as they consider necessary or desirable for the proper management, regulation and control of a cemetery'.

All enquiries should be made to the Parish Clerk, telephone 01787 237832 or via e-mail at clerk@greatyeldhampc.co.uk

1. The burial ground will be made available to anyone who wishes to use it. An application for exclusive rights can be made to the Burial Authority with payment of the appropriate fee in force at the time.
2. The ground is not consecrated and is open to the departed of all faiths as well as non-believers. Consecration of individual plots is permitted. All burials will conform to statutory requirements and have due regard to the ethos as a natural burial ground and to other users.
3. The Burial Authority retains the right to and will allocate all grave spaces, even when pre-purchased. Graves will be allocated numerically as they arise in the 'Register of Graves' held by the Burial Authority. Best endeavours will be undertaken to comply with the wishes of any applicant, where practical to do so.
4. Notice of any interments should be given to the Parish Clerk to the Burial Authority during working hours. No burial may take place before 10.00 am in the morning or after sunset, nor on Sundays.
5. Natural bio-degradable materials must be used for the coffin, shroud, burial clothes and any objects placed inside the coffin. If the body is to be dressed in normal clothing, rather than a shroud, metal objects should be kept to a minimum.
6. Where coffins are constructed of wood, only pine from 'managed' woodlands may be used. The Burial Authority must be advised prior to burial if for any reason the coffin does not meet this criterion.
7. Unless required by law, bodies should not be embalmed.
8. No interment will be permitted without the appropriate Registrar's Certificate or Coroner's Order for Burial. No exhumation will be permitted under any circumstances, except by direction of a Court of Law.

9. Fresh flowers may be placed in or on the graves, **no cellophane, ribbon or other non-biodegradable wrappings are permitted**. Fresh flowers are permitted from the date of the burial but should be removed within 10 days. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove flowers placed on graves as part of routine care and maintenance. **Artificial flowers are not permitted, and no vases, containers or tokens of remembrance must be left. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any such items.**
10. The grave will be sown with a moderate amount of native wildflowers by the Burial Authority to enhance the overall development of the meadow.
11. **No gardening or cultivation whatsoever is permitted; this includes such things as the scattering of bark or chippings, and the introduction of any fencing or kerbs. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any such items.**
12. No wildlife shall be introduced into the woodland.
13. **The planting of trees and other plants in the burial ground is not permitted and is strictly controlled by the Burial Authority. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any plants.**
14. **No tokens of remembrance will be permitted on the grave. The Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any such items.**
15. The location of all graves must be recorded by the Burial Authority. The intention behind Great Yeldham Glades Natural Burial Ground is to make it as natural as possible, unhindered by headstones.
16. Where relatives feel there is a need to have the grave marked, then an application may be made for the purchase of a suitably inscribed tablet and the right to have it laid in accordance with the laid Memorial Headstone Regulations. (Please see the Regulations [here](#) for further information on stone tablets). The Council has the right to remove or to require the owner to remove any memorial stone which in its opinion contravenes the regulations.
17. The Burial Authority has the right to remove or to require the owner to remove any memorial stone which in its opinion contravenes the regulations.
18. No guarantee shall be given for the tablets and it should be borne in mind that tractors and other vehicles will be in use on the cemetery from time to time and may drive over stones as part of the upkeep of the meadow and woods.
19. The Management Plan of the burial ground will be adopted as agreed from time to time with the relevant Wildlife Trust, other Conservation Trust and/or the Local Authority and will be implemented at the sole discretion of the Burial Authority.
20. It is important to understand the cycle of seasons at the Glades Natural Burial Ground. The grass within the Glades will be cut up to twice a year to enable wild flowers to thrive. During winter the grass is short and to maintain the wild flower meadow the grass is allowed to grow long and re-seed during the summer. No paths will be constructed although some grass will be cut regularly to form a walkway.
21. Dogs will be permitted in the Burial Ground provided that they are kept on a lead, that their owners clear up after them and that they are not allowed to distract others from the peaceful enjoyment of the site.

22. No unauthorised vehicles shall be permitted into The Glades without the permission of the Burial Authority.
23. In the event of any question arising as to the interpretation or application of any of these regulations, the Burial Authority's decision shall be final and binding. The Burial Authority reserves the right to alter the regulations from time to time as it feels necessary.