



**Chudleigh Town Council**  
Chudleigh Town Hall,  
Market Way,  
Chudleigh, Newton Abbot,  
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**Office Hours**  
**Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm**

### **General Understanding and Information**

Purchasing a grave or memorial is not a common occurrence and there can be misunderstandings regarding the procedures involved. These few sentences will explain the process for burial in the Chudleigh Town Cemetery. The purchase of a grave plot entitles the owner (if purchase before death), or his/her executors, the right of burial for 99 years from the purchase date. The purchase of the grave plot and its use will be recorded in the Register and will be a permanent record of ownership and who is buried in the plot. N.B. Sometimes it is possible to select specific plots and whilst the town council will do everything to accommodate a client's wishes, it is not always possible.

After this period the plot reverts back to the town council with full and unencumbered ownership.

During the period of ownership, burials may take place in accordance with the terms pertaining at the time of purchase, i.e. single or double burial. N.B. Single in the case of natural burials.

When the actual burial takes place, a one-off charge is made (Interment Fee) which contributes towards cemetery administration and maintenance costs. This fee does not include digging the grave which is generally arranged by the funeral director. Although not strictly necessary, arrangements and fees are usually made via a funeral director.

With the planting of native hedges in 2017 and the creation of 'Underwood Meadow', our Natural Burial site in the uppermost corner of the Cemetery, and with views overlooking Dartmoor, Chudleigh Town Council is now able to offer natural (green) burials. This area is in addition to the more traditional grave sites that have always been available.

The fees, for both traditional and natural burials, are applicable in respect of deceased persons, who were resident within the parish of Chudleigh immediately prior to their death. Increased fees are applicable for non-residents of Chudleigh. Prices are correct as at April 2017 and may be revised at the discretion of the Town Council.

Please note that a grave or cremation plot may be purchased 20 years in advance of it being needed. This guards against price increases over time. It should be noted that whilst staff will try to accommodate the wishes of clients, consecutive plots may not always be possible.

### **CEMETERY FEES, TERMS & CONDITIONS 2023-24**

As approved by the Chudleigh Town Council, the fees come into force immediately in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972. The Chudleigh Town Council reserves the right to alter, amend, suspend or withdraw any fees, terms & conditions or services, at the discretion of the Council without prior notice.

#### **Grave deeds, ownership and transfer of title**

When a grave has been bought, an Exclusive Right of Burial (EROB) is issued and the name of the Registered Grave Owner is recorded in the cemetery records as the person owning burial rights for 99 years, subject to any extension. The Grave Deed is an important document and must be produced in the event of any future interment. It is essential, therefore, to keep the Deed in a safe place to avoid any delay in the future.

The erection of a permanent memorial on a grave, and the inscriptions on that memorial, can only be authorised by the Registered Grave Owner, paying cognisance to the terms and conditions of Chudleigh Town Council Cemetery regulations. When the Registered Grave Owner dies, the title of the grave passes to the executors or administrator of their estate. If no executor or administrator has been appointed the title passes to his or her next of kin. The Registered Grave Owner (or the executors or administrator) however, can transfer the title of the grave to another

person. Transfers of Title are not valid unless they have been registered with the Chudleigh Town Council, from where advice is available on the procedure, and the relevant processes.

### **Misplaced deeds**

Chudleigh Town Council does not issue duplicate deeds. However, if a grave deed is misplaced you should inform the Cemetery Office to discuss it.

### **Transfer of ownership**

If the original grave owner has died and left a Will, transfer can take place according to their wishes. If no Will was left, please contact the Chudleigh Town Council offices for advice on how ownership can be transferred.

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1. These fees, terms & conditions, apply to any person(s) or third party contractor(s), purchasing or acting on behalf of a purchaser(s).
2. Grave plot sizes shall be 2.4m long x 1.5m wide. Normal depth for a double depth grave shall be 2.2m, single will be 1.4m and natural burial ('Underwood Meadow') to a depth of 1m. These dimensions allow reasonable space between each grave plot to aid grass maintenance.
3. All work carried out on behalf of a purchaser must be by a contractor(s) approved by the Town Council, and work carried out must be in accordance with the relevant and latest legal requirements of the health and safety at work act.
4. The Town Council is not responsible for 'digging out' nor organising the grave diggers.
5. A valid copy of any contractor(s) public liability insurance must be logged with the Town Council and should be for a minimum of £5,000,000 GBP. Where a Contractor(s) employ a third party to act for them, the Contractor must act as guarantor for the third party in the matters above.
6. The Town Council holds the purchaser and/or their contractor(s) responsible for ensuring that while on the property they treat the cemetery with respect and remind them of their responsibilities under the health and safety act. Any health and safety issues should be reported the Town Clerk's office as soon as is practicable.
7. Children should be supervised at all times and dogs should be kept on a lead.
8. Only authorised vehicles are permitted on the property. The vehicle operators are responsible for ensuring that their insurance is valid for the property. Chudleigh Town Council accepts no liability for, damage to, or accidents caused by vehicles within Town Council property boundaries.
9. The purchase of a plot can be either paid in full or a deposit of £50 can be made, the remaining balance can be spread over a maximum of 12 months. The price will be held provided the account is paid in full within the 12 month timescale. After this time the original purchase fee will no longer be honoured and will be charged at the new rate. Payment can be made by cash/cheque or bacs. The Exclusive Right of Burial Certificate will only be issued once funds have cleared our account.
10. The fees, terms and conditions applicable for any service will be those applying at the time the service is purchased.
11. A Chudleigh resident is defined as a resident who has lived in the Town within five years of the service requested being activated.
12. Services may only be purchased for a specified person, and no more than one interment plot may be purchased per individual.
13. No ashes caskets may be buried in the Walled Garden.
14. A maximum of 4 ashes interments are permitted in a grave plot and a maximum of 3 in an ashes plot.
15. Plaques within the walled memorial garden shall conform to the style, colour and font as defined by Chudleigh Town Council.
16. Plaques within the Natural Burial site must be made of either oak or teak and laid horizontally at the head of the grave.
17. No memorabilia (ie: flowerpots, bottles, baskets or vases, artificial flowers or similar, wind chimes, wooden crosses, pebbles, garden ornaments, ribbons, photo's, softs toys etc) is to be placed on graves or hung on trees within the Natural Burial site. We reserve the right to remove any items which are deemed inappropriate to the ethos and aims of a Natural Burial ground.
18. The Town Council's contractor will at regular intervals cut the grass and hedges – and although the utmost care is taken to ensure no damage to 'memorabilia', the Chudleigh Town Council and/or its contractor cannot be held responsible should any accidental damage occur.
19. No headstones, plaques or other monuments may be erected unless the plot has been purchased, and the Council's permission in writing been given. A Memorial Lease is issued for a length of 25 years and purchased separately. These must be erected by a BRAMM registered contractor to the code of working practice by the NAMM and to BS8415. Safety testing is carried out every 5 years, please be aware that the plot owner is responsible for any remedial action required. If owner cannot be contacted, Chudleigh Town Council reserve the right to remove the memorial.
20. Headstones need to be erected 300mm from the back of the grave.
21. The Council's 'banning order' applies to the cemetery.
22. The Town Council will consider that on the payment of the appropriate fee(s) for a service(s) the purchaser agrees to the terms and conditions laid out.

**NB:** Chudleigh Town Council wishes to safeguard the future dignity and sanctity of the Cemetery for the eventual use of Chudleigh residents and their families. Non-residents are welcomed to the Cemetery, but fees for non-resident are increased. Visitors are welcome and are asked to act with all propriety.



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## Scale of Fees 2023-24

### Grave Plots

<b>Purchase of the Grave – Main Cemetery</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Still born and children up to 5 years *	£145	£290
Children between 5 years and 12 years *	£280	£560
Adults over 12 years (Double Depth Plot) *	£495	£990
Ashes Garden (max. 3 interments per plot)	£100	£200

**\*Important: Please specify at time of purchase whether a standard memorial headstone or kerb set is required. This is due to kerb set monuments taking up markedly more space than standard monuments. This will allow us to make adequate provision for correct spacing between graves.**

Please note: Double depth 7ft, single depth 4'6.

Due to current water table levels, treble depth graves are no longer available. For the same reason Walled Graves are not available below 8ft (2.44m) depth.

Please note: The Code of Natural burials allows for only single depth graves (3ft). Please see Chudleigh Town Council brochure describing natural burials at our Underwood Meadow site.

<b>Purchase of the Grave in 'Underwood Meadow' – Natural Burial</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Still born and children up to 5 years	£250	£500
Children between 5 years and 12 years	£350	£700
Adults over 12 years (Single Depth Plot)	£695	£1,390

### Interment Fees Applicable upon Burial

<b>Interment of Earthen Grave</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Still born and children up to 5 years	£0	£0
Children between 5 years and 12 years	£145	£290
Single Adult over 12 years	£385	£770
Double Adult over 12 years	£495	£990
Single Natural Burial – 'Underwood Meadow'	£385	£770

### Cremation

<b>Cremation</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Interment of Cremated ashes in main Cemetery	£242	£484
Interment of ashes in Garden of Remembrance	£242	£484

The fees indicated above apply only when the interment is made between the hours 9am to 4pm Monday to Thursday or between the hours of 9am and 2.30pm on Friday or on the certificate of a coroner or a registered medical practitioner that the immediate interment is necessary. Outside these hours an additional fee of £235 is payable (£85 is applicable for the interment of ashes).

## Monuments

<b>Monuments (Purchased Graves Only)</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Headstones: (Full size plot) Max size 1.2mx900mmx150mm	£215	£430
Headstones: (Ashes plot) Max size 530mmx430mmx75mm	£215	£430
Kerb Set: Max Size 2mx1mx300mm (*Only permissible if specified at time of plot purchase)	£242	£484
Cover Slab: (Full size plot) Max Size 2mx900mmx100mm	£242	£484
Cover Slab: (Ashes plot) Max Size 450mmx450mm	£242	£484
Headstone and Kerb Set (*Only permissible if specified at time of plot purchase)	£242	£484
Additional Inscription	£70	£140

### For Example Only



#### **Headstones**

##### **Full size plot**

1.2mx900mmx150mm

##### **Ashes Garden**

530mmx430mmx75mm



#### **Cover Slabs**

##### **Full size plot**

2mx1mx100mm

##### **Ashes Garden**

450mmx450mm



#### **Kerb Sets Full Grave**

2mx1mx300mm



#### **Memorial Plaques**

330mmx230mmx35mm

(Walled Garden must be slate.

Natural Burial must be Oak or teak laid horizontally only)

<b>Monuments (Walled Garden &amp; Natural Burial Site Only)</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non Resident</b>
Memorial Plaques: 330mmx230mmx35mm (Slate only for Walled Garden. Oak or Teak (laid horizontally) for Natural Burial Site). Please note: Chudleigh Town Council does not provide or place the plaques.	£110	£220
Additional Inscription	£70	£140

**Walled Graves:** are permissible (see note page 1. above re water table restrictions). Price upon application (typically £1,400) will be in addition to earth graves in the above price list. NB walled graves, nor grave memorabilia, are not permissible in the natural burial site.

**Search Fees:** A fee of £40 is applicable for the search of Burial/Grave registers (except in the case of Funeral Directors and Solicitors making arrangements in respect of a death). Site meeting to establish location of a grave £35.

**Please Note:** Unused graves may be repurchased by the local Town Council for the original purchase price, less administration fee of £40 per application.

## Interment of Cremated remains

Upon being advised at the time of the first interment in a cremation plot, arrangements can be made for an additional interment to take place in the same plot at a later date.

**Bench Donations:** A Bench donation scheme is available. Please ask the Town Council staff for further details.

John Carlton  
Town Clerk  
29<sup>th</sup> September 2023