



SNAITH & COWICK TOWN COUNCIL  
CEMETERY COMMITTEE

SNAITH, COWICK & GOWDALL CEMETERY  
USER GUIDE

**The Snaith and Cowick Town Council Cemetery Committee** is the Burial Authority for the Snaith, Cowick and Gowdall cemetery. When the Cemetery Committee holds a meeting a notice will be placed in the Snaith and Cowick Town Council notice board at least three clear days<sup>1</sup> prior to the meeting and where possible on their web page. Meetings shall be open to the public unless specified (see full Terms of Reference). Three days notice must be given to the Clerk by members of the public if they wish to speak at an open meeting with public participation.

The Snaith, Cowick and Gowdall Cemetery is located on the A645 (Pontefract Road) between Snaith and Pollington. The cemetery will be open during daylight hours. Anyone visiting the cemetery outside these hours does so at their own risk. For all queries regarding the cemetery please contact the Clerk to the Cemetery Committee,

**Mrs Vicky Whiteley**

Snaith and Cowick Town Council  
26 Market Place,  
Snaith,  
East Yorkshire,  
DN14 9HE,

Telephone: 01405 862663

E-mail: cemetery.snaithcouncil@hotmail.com

**Interment**

The fee for interment in plots 1,3, or 4 is £140. The fee in plot 2 is £100. If you are arranging a funeral without using a funeral director please contact the clerk for more information.

**Exclusive Right of Burial**

An Exclusive Right of Burial deed may be purchased from the Cemetery Committee This Right means a designated plot is held for 60 years, during which time the grave may not be opened or used as a grave without the written consent of the owner of the Exclusive Right or their representative. The Right must be purchased before interment or before a monument can be erected. Although the Right to Erect and Maintain a Memorial (10 year duration) is included in the Exclusive Right of Burial, there is a fee payable at the time a monument is placed/altere<sup>2</sup>. Transferring or selling an Exclusive Right of Burial must be authorised and carried out by the Burial Authority for which a fee is payable.

**Memorial Benches and Memorial Trees**

Memorial benches can be sited with the permission of the Burial Authority following a written application. Contact the clerk for more details. Memorial trees are not permitted.

## **Burial Sections**

### **Plots 1 and 4 - Consecrated Burial, and Plot 3 - Non Consecrated Burial**

Plots 1 and 4 are consecrated according to the Church of England specifications. Plots 1, 4 and 3 are full size burial plots with a grave marker (See “Memorials and Grave Decoration”). Kerb stones are not permitted on a plot.

Memorial decoration in all of these sections is restricted to flower bouquets, wreaths and/or vases for flowers. Planting is restricted to an area of 60 cm (24 in) in front of the headstone, and is for low-growing plants only. Trees, conifers, shrubs, and rose bushes are not permitted.

Headstones with attached vases must be agreed with the Burial Authority. Free standing vases are not permitted. The fee for the Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial in plots 1, 3 or 4 is £260.

Purchase of a Grant by anyone who is not an inhabitant or parishioner of Snaith, Cowick or Gowdall will be double.

### **Plot 2 Garden of Rest**

The Garden of Rest is for the interment of cremated remains. Memorials are permitted sized 18” square. Only bouquets, wreaths, or vases of flowers are

permitted within the Garden of Rest. Floral tributes will be automatically disposed of after two weeks. Artificial flowers will be disposed of when, in the view of the

Burial Authority, they have deteriorated and detracted from the aesthetics of the cemetery<sup>3</sup> The Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial in plot 2 is £140.

Purchase of a Grant by anyone who is not an inhabitant or parishioner of Snaith, Cowick or Gowdall will be double. Permission to scatter ashes within the cemetery must be obtained in writing from the Burial Authority.

## **Memorials and Grave Decoration<sup>4</sup>**

Grave decorations are restricted to bouquets of flowers: any items other than floral displays are not permitted. Inappropriate items will be removed. Permission for exemptions can be sought from the Burial Authority. Dead flowers and bouquets should be cleared by the family and/or deed holder. Such items will be removed and disposed of after two weeks. In extenuating circumstances some items may be placed upon a plot for a period of six weeks, after which the items will be removed if the family has not already done so. The items must be moveable in order to allow ground maintenance and include: children’s toys (dinkies, soft toys, etc), and balloons<sup>5</sup>. Food and drink<sup>6</sup> related memorabilia/mementos are not permitted and will be removed and disposed of immediately. Christmas wreaths must be removed by the end of January each year. All memorials must be made from stone/granite/marble or similar. All stone memorials erected within the cemetery must be installed by an approved mason with authorisation by the Burial Authority at an appointed time<sup>7</sup>. Memorial headstones, monuments and grave markers should not exceed a height of 75 cm (30 in). The base shall be no wider than

36 cm by 92 cm (18 in by 36 in). Unless specified, memorials should be of solid stone. Wooden grave markers are not preferred as they cannot be secured.

Included within the charge for an Exclusive Right of Burial is a 10 year Grant of Right to Erect and Maintain a Memorial. This right allows the deed holder to arrange, through an approved supplier, the bringing in and erection of a memorial into the cemetery. There is a further fee payable<sup>2</sup>. The deed holder is responsible for all repairs and maintenance<sup>8</sup> required for the duration of the Right (including acts of vandalism so it may be wise to purchase some insurance): the memorial must be made safe to the standard of the NAMM and be carried out in agreement with the Cemetery Committee. The Cemetery Committee will attempt to contact deed holders<sup>9</sup> to inform them of the need for repairs and to establish renewal of the Right.

### **Stability Testing**

Memorials will be visually inspected then tested by hand. In cases when a more detail evaluation is needed, an accredited monumental mason will undertake an inspection. Memorials will be inspected every five years. A record will be kept of findings. Those found to be unstable or not within safety standards will be made safe. All repairs must conform to NAMM standards and be carried out by an accredited mason. If a memorial is found to be unsafe, the Burial Authority always contacts the last known address of the deed holder. Should a memorial reach such a state that it is an immediate safety risk, despite safety arrangements made by the Burial Authority, the most extreme action will be the laying down of a memorial within the grave space.

### **Exhumations**

No exhumation can take place without either: A Home Office License, or A Faculty. A Coroner can also order an exhumation by Warrant. Contact the clerk for more details.

### **Behaviour**

Visitors must behave in a considerate manner at all times, respecting other people and the cemetery, keeping noise to a minimum and particularly not disturbing any burial which may be in progress. Wilfully interfering with any memorial, plot or memorabilia is not permitted and is a criminal offence for which perpetrators will be prosecuted. Games or sport of any kind are not permitted within the cemetery grounds. Children under 12 years of ages should be accompanied by an adult. Dogs are permitted to accompany a family member to a grave as long as they remain on a lead. Any person allowing a dog to foul in a cemetery is liable to be issued with a fixed penalty notice. Visitors are requested to keep to the defined roads and pathways. The consumption of illegal substances and alcohol is strictly prohibited within the cemetery.

<sup>1</sup>Three clear days does not include the day of notice, the day of the meeting, a Sunday, a day of the Christmas break, a day of the Easter break or of a bank holiday or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.

<sup>2</sup>Memorial fees. Memorials of maximum height 30" - £100. Cremation plaques 18"X18" - £75. additional inscriptions - £50

<sup>3</sup>The Burial Authority retains the right to remove any items deemed to be unsightly to the aesthetics of the cemetery. This includes broken/damaged items or objects that have become worn through exposure to the elements.

<sup>4</sup>Deed holders will be asked to sign a declaration stating that they agree to abide by the policy.

<sup>5</sup>The Burial Authority does not accept responsibility for damage to, or theft of any memorabilia within the cemetery.

<sup>6</sup>Alcoholic beverages are not permitted anywhere within the cemetery.

<sup>7</sup>The Burial Authority has the right to remove or instruct the removal of any structures erected without consent; or that deviate from the submitted design; or that are not in compliance with NAMM approved systems.

<sup>8</sup>The Burial Authority reserves the right to routinely carry out safety checks on all memorials. Any stability repairs needed following such testing, if within 10 years of interment, must be carried out by the mason under warranty (if there are multiple interments to a plot, within 10 years of the most recent). For repairs on monuments outside of the 10 year warranty, the Burial Authority will contact the deed holder or their representative. Should this contact prove futile, the Burial Authority reserves the right to carry out any necessary repairs in order to make the memorial safe.

<sup>9</sup>If the deed holder cannot be traced (see terms of reference) the Right to Erect and Maintain a Memorial shall become vested in the Burial Authority to be dealt with as they see fit

***The full Terms of Reference document is available to view in the Snaith and Cowick Town Council Office or on their website at [www.snaithandcowicktowncouncil.com](http://www.snaithandcowicktowncouncil.com) and is compiled within the boundaries of the Local Authorities Cemeteries' Order 1977 (England and Wales) (LACO) and in conjunction with the National Association of Monumental Masons' code of practice and the Charter for the Bereaved.***