

Ashwell Cemetery Regulations: Monuments

All memorials to conform to and be installed according to NAMM guidelines

1. Applications to the Parish Clerk for permission to introduce a monument shall be made in writing. It shall show full particulars of the monument itself, of its materials, measurement, shape, colour, decoration and base, and the relationship of each part to the level of the ground. It shall also show full particulars of any inscription including the type, size and colour of the lettering.
2. The Parish Clerk has power to approve monuments and if he sees fit to do so, then such approval shall be given.
3. A headstone shall be no more than 4 feet (1220mm) high, 3 feet (910mm) wide and 6 inches (150mm) thick, no less than 2 feet (610mm) high, 1 foot 8 inches (510mm) wide and 2.5 inches (65mm) thick.
4. Crosses shall be no more than 4 feet 6 inches (1370mm) high, 2 feet (610mm) wide and 6 inches (150mm) thick, and no less than 2 feet 6 inches (760mm) high, 1 foot (305mm) wide and 2.5 inches (65mm) thick. No cross shall stand on more than two steps. The step, or the lower of the two steps, shall measure no more than 2 feet (610mm) from side to side by 1 foot (305mm) from front to back. The height of a cross is to be calculated inclusive of the height of any steps.
5. Simple decoration of a cross, ledger or headstone of normal shape may be allowed by the Parish Clerk (but see prohibited matter at point 8).
6. The foundation base of a headstone or cross shall be at or very slightly below the surface of the ground, so that a mower may pass freely over it. If any such base includes a vase for holding flowers, the vase shall be arranged so that the top of it is level with or below the surface of the base itself.
7. No monument shall include any kerb, railing, fencing, chippings, statuary, portrait or similar, sundial or birdbath. One small portrait-style photograph may be included on the face of the memorial but must not exceed 6 inches by 4 inches.
8. Surrounds to the grave space, raised or flush, are not permitted.
9. Plaques in the ashes area should be no more than 15 inches (385mm) by 12 inches (305mm) and laid horizontal. Plaques to be added to existing full size plots will be considered on an individual basis.
10. Freestanding vases adjacent to headstones shall be no more than 1 foot (305mm) in height by 8 inches (200mm) in width by 8 inches (200mm) in thickness.
11. Monuments shall be of natural stone (including granite and slate) or of wood. Stones traditionally used in local buildings, or closely similar to them in texture, are to be preferred.
12. If memorial stones are highly polished, it is requested that this be on the facing surface only. Reflective surfaces facing towards the direction of sunlight are not permitted.
13. The name of the mason shall be inscribed at the side or on the reverse of the stone monument in unpainted and unleaded letters no more than half an inch (13mm) in height.
14. Spring bulbs and small annual plants only may be planted in the turf of a grave, and plants or flowers may be placed in a removable sunken container, preferably of unpolished aluminium but if it appears to the Council that they are not kept tidy, the grave may be treated as part of the adjoining turf and mown.
15. Wreaths or cut flowers may be laid direct on any grave or in any vase authorised in accordance with the provisions of this memorandum but the Council may remove them when they appear to be withered.
16. Vases when no longer in regular use may be removed by the Council without notice.
17. Chimes or other noise producing items, solar powered lights and other devices are not allowed.