



Bluntisham Baptist Church

Rules for the Church Burial Ground

1. The Church Burial Ground is part of the property of Bluntisham Baptist Church.
2. The Burial Ground is a private burial ground. It is not a public graveyard nor is it considered by Bluntisham Baptist Church to be consecrated ground.
3. The grant of permission by the Church for a burial or interment of ashes within the Burial Ground does not convey any ownership rights over the land itself. The ownership of the Burial Ground land remains with Bluntisham Baptist Church and its Holding Trustees.
4. The period of the grant of permission after payment of the required fee is normally 100 years.
5. The Burial Ground will be used for human remains only.
6. The Church reserves the right to decline any request for interment within the Burial Ground or for the reservation of a burial plot.
7. The Church will undertake to use its best endeavours to keep the Burial Ground in a well maintained condition. This will include regular cutting of grass and other grounds maintenance within the appropriate seasons, levelling of ground , repair of paths, boundary walls etc.
8. Both burials and the interment of cremation ashes are acceptable practices within the Burial Ground.
9. Burials must take place within defined plots. Ashes can either be interred within the grave plot of a close relative or within the memorial garden area within the Burial Ground. Ashes should not be scattered within the Burial Ground nor should ashes be interred outside the defined area of a grave plot or the memorial garden.
10. Headstones and other memorials remain the property and responsibility of those who first erected them. In exceptional circumstances, the Church retains the right in the interests of health and safety to repair, reset or remove unsafe gravestones or other memorials.
11. Headstones, other memorials and the wording of inscriptions on them are to be approved by the Church before they are erected. Such approval will not be unreasonably withheld. Chippings and other grave furniture are not acceptable.
12. The Church will keep an up to date record of burials and other interments, which will be made readily available to those making enquiries.
13. The number of new burial plots available within the Burial Ground is limited. Therefore, all requests for new burials will be carefully considered by the Managing Trustees and acceptance will be limited to the following categories:
 - a. Prior reservation of a plot will be honoured.
 - b. The deceased was an active Member of Bluntisham Baptist Church at the time of death. Membership is as defined within the Church Constitution.
 - c. The deceased was within the immediate family of an active Member.

- d. The deceased was a close relative of a person already buried within the Burial Ground and was acknowledged as being within the wider Church fellowship at the time of death.
 - e. Other persons within the church fellowship.
14. If a request for burial is declined, then interment of ashes within the memorial garden of the Burial Ground or a grave plot of a relative will be encouraged as an alternative.
 15. New burials, subject to these Rules, will be encouraged to take place within the same plot as a close relative, if available, suitable and appropriate.
 16. A request for reservation of a plot will be made in writing to the Church by the person concerned. A decision on such a request will be made having regard to these Rules. The decision will be confirmed in writing by the Church and if a plot is reserved then this will form part of the records of the Burial Ground.
 17. A List of Fees and Charges will apply to funerals, burials and other interments . These will be reviewed from time to time at the discretion of the Church.

Updated January 2020

Church Burial Ground and Funerals

List of Fees and Charges

Purchase or reservation of a grave plot and first burial	£360
Second burial within an existing grave plot	£60
Interment of ashes	£60
 Headstones and other memorials	
Erection of a headstone or other monument	£50
Additional Inscription	£35
Erection of a plaque on the Memorial Wall	£50
 Service fees	
Ministers fee - Church Service only	£200
- Crematorium Service only	£200
- Church & Crematorium Service	£300
Ministers fee – Committal/Burial & Interment/scattering of ashes	£50
Pianist (subject to availability)	£50
Use of the church	£60
Hire of Hall (subject to availability)	£15 per hour

The current Rules for the Church Burial Ground should be consulted for further relevant information. The Church reserves the right to alter the fees and charges shown above periodically.

Agreed January 2020