

THE BURIAL GROUND CHEVENING

Introduction

The Burial Ground is owned by Chevening Parish Council and administered by the Clerk; eligibility is outlined below, irrespective of religious denomination.

Right of Interment

A Qualifying Person is a current parishioner or a parishioner who has moved away from the parish and whose names appeared or is eligible to appear in the Register of Electors for Chevening; those who were resident in the Parish as children or born in the parish. In addition a Qualifying Person may be someone who has worked full time in the Parish for at least 10 years, but not lived there or someone who has made a significant contribution to the Parish. A qualifying person may be interred in the Cemetery on payment of the appropriate fee as set out in the scale of charges and subject to the Rules in place at that time.

The Parish Council reserves the right to adjudicate and their decision is final

Notice of Interment

At least 48 hours notice of every intended interment must be given to the Clerk to the Parish Council. Except in special circumstances, no notice will be received on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays. Such days must be excluded from the period of 48 hours notice. An exception will be made on production of a medical certificate stating that an early interment is necessary. Upon receipt of a notice of interment the Parish Council shall confirm the details. All fees in connection with an interment must be paid to the Clerk at the time that the notice of interment is given.

Certificates

A Disposal Certificate of the Registrar of Deaths, or, where appropriate, of the Coroner, must be delivered to the Clerk with the Notice of Interment. In the case of a stillborn child, the appropriate certificate under the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 must be produced.

Place of Interments

All graves will be allocated by the Clerk.

The digging and mounding of graves will be the responsibility of the Funeral Director but the work must be carried out to the reasonable satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Likewise, excavations to receive cremation caskets will be the responsibility of the Funeral Director or person arranging the burial and must be carried out to the reasonable satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Purchase of Exclusive Right of Burial

'Right of Burial' may be purchased at the time of the interment or in advance by qualifying persons on payment of the appropriate fee. If purchased in advance the right can only be purchased in the name of the qualifying person. The first person interred in the plot must be a qualifying person. 'Right' is granted for 99 years. The Exclusive Right entitles the deed-holder to determine who is buried in the grave and whether a memorial can be placed (subject to the payment of the relevant fee and permission being granted). All requests for transfers or refund of Exclusive Right must be in writing to the Parish Council.

Grave Depths

The Local Authority Cemeteries Order Act 1977 states that 3ft of soil has to be between the top of the coffin interred and the ground level (for an average coffin being 1ft 3 inches in height). Single grave depth should be at least 4ft 6 inches Children's grave depth is 4ft 6 inches

Cremated Remains

Caskets of ashes may be interred in an earthen grave or in the Garden of Remembrance. There is no facility for 'scattering' ashes. For further information contact the Clerk to the Council or Email:

clerk@Cheveningparishcouncil.gov.uk

Fees

The Fees shown below apply to residents of Chevening Parish, who will be entitled to pay the basic fee upon production of Proof of Residency presented to the Clerk. Fees do not include grave digging.

RESIDENT *

A current parishioner or a parishioner who has moved away from the parish within the last five years

EX-RESIDENT

Originally resided within the Civil Parish for at least two years and moved away from the Parish more than five years ago **50% additional charge (excluding memorials)**

NON-RESIDENT

Someone who has worked full time but not lived in the Parish for at least 10 years or someone who has made a significant contribution to the Parish **50% additional charge (excluding memorials)**

	2025 Resident	2025 Ex Resident	2025 Non Resident
1. TO PURCHASE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS IN A NEW GRAVE			
For an earth grave for a period of 99 years	£200.00	£300.00	£400.00
Interment Fee	£350.00	£525.00	£700.00
2. INTERMENT OF ASHES IN GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE			
Purchase of Exclusive Right for a period of 99 years	£145.00	£217.50	£290.00
Interment fee for ashes	£145.00	£217.50	£290.00
3. FOR THE RIGHT TO ERECT MEMORIALS			
Headstone	£220.00	£220.00	£220.00
Memorial tablet/vase etc	£110.00	£110.00	£110.00
Additional inscription on headstone/memorial tablet	£110.00	£110.00	£110.00
Full memorial on grave	£415.00	£415.00	£415.00

CHILDREN NOT EXCEEDING 18 YEARS AT DATE OF DEATH – NO CHARGES FOR INTERMENT OR MEMORIALS FOR THAT CHILD

NB Memorials are subject to approval and can only be erected on graves for which an Exclusive Right is also purchased.

Memorials

Anyone who wishes to erect a headstone/monument in the cemetery must first obtain permission from the Parish Council. The application must show a drawing or illustration of the design, dimensions; not exceeding 2 ft 6 inches in height or width and 12 inches at base for graves and for a Memorial Tablet 13 ¼" x 13¼" x 2" deep, materials to be used and any inscription required.

Where a grave is pre- purchased it must be marked with a Marker stone 12" x 12" at the owners expense.

All memorials must be installed to comply with BS 8415 and the NAMM Code of Practice. Those who erect headstones/monuments not in compliance with these directives may be compelled to remove them and pay all costs involved. Subsequent installation of additional memorial items must be applied for as above.

Memorials shall be constructed of granite, marble, slate or other hard natural stone of monumental quality. All memorials remain the property and responsibility of the owner.

The Parish Council shall not be held responsible for any damage or breakage, which may occur to any memorial through any cause whatsoever. The owner may have liability for any injury or death resulting from an unstable or incorrectly erected memorial.

Grass Cutting and Maintenance Work

This will be carried out by the Parish Council and the frequency will be determined by weather conditions. Individual maintenance of grave spaces is the responsibility of owners. The Council reserves the right to carry out levelling or in-filling on grave spaces where this becomes necessary.

Flowers, Litter and Rubbish

Flowers are only permitted in flower receptacles. Under no circumstances should glass containers be used. Wreaths and floral tributes from recent funerals should be removed when they have deteriorated. All rubbish should be placed in the bin provided. The Council reserves the right to remove unsightly items to preserve the appearance of the burial ground.

Risk Management

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and Occupiers Liability Act 1957 overall responsibility lies with the burial authority. However, any person who is employed by the burial authority, or by a third party, to carry out work within the burial ground has a duty to make sure that any activity is carried out in such a way that risks are properly managed.

Revision of Regulations

A review of regulations and charges shall be made annually or as deemed necessary to take effect 1 January each year. These regulations supersede all previously issued regulations.