

NARBOROUGH CEMETERY CONSULTATION

Deedholders, Cemetery Users and Narborough & Littlethorpe Residents – Please get in touch

Narborough Parish Council reviewed its existing Cemetery rules and regulations and revised rules came into effect on 1st January 2019. Whilst rules and regulations had always existed, the lack of enforcement of these rules over the years meant that the maintenance by our staff (mowing, strimming, tidying etc) was becoming increasingly difficult and hazardous as they were being forced to navigate machinery around items on and in between graves.

The aim of the Council in reviewing, reintroducing and enforcing the rules was to create a set of rules that could be applied across the cemetery which would address some of the maintenance and health and safety issues and enhance the overall appearance of the Cemetery whilst offering some consistency on how graves were managed.

Rather than a blanket change, Officers adopted the approach of contacting deedholders individually and working with them to move plots in line with the new rules and regulations. No plots have been worked on in this respect without prior consultation with the deedholder. This individual contact has been successful in the majority of cases, but some concerns have been raised about items permitted on existing graves, as opposed to new ones, and therefore Council will be revisiting the rules again this Summer.

Council believes it would assist them greatly in their review to gather the views of interested parties (some comments have already been received and will be included in the review). If you would like to comment on any aspect of the Cemetery Rules, a copy is available on the website www.narboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk or a hard copy may be requested.

We would really welcome a broad selection of views on what users feel is both appropriate and inappropriate in the cemetery, especially items placed on graves and cremation plots. All comments will be treated as completely confidential and will only be used to gather the opinion of cemetery users to assist Council in its review. You may submit your comments via email, telephone or in person and the closing date is Monday 17th June 2019.

A meeting has also been arranged on **Monday 10th June 2019** at Littlethorpe Village Hall, Biddle Road, Littlethorpe, Leics. LE19 2HE at 7.30 pm at which Officers and Councillors will be pleased to explain the rationale behind the revised rules, answer any questions and gather any comments attendees wish to make.

We appreciate that the cemetery can be a difficult and sensitive subject and opinions can, and do, vary enormously. Please take the opportunity to let us have your comments. As has been the case since the revised rules came into effect, no changes will be made to plots without the agreement of the deedholder, and this will continue to be the case during the review process.

We hope you will feel able to share your views and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible on 10th June 2019. Council's final decision on the rules and regulations will be made at the September 2019 meeting and published in the minutes, which will be available on the website or a copy requested from the Parish Office.

Julie Whitehouse - Clerk to the Council
20th May 2019