Dunnington Parish Council

Dunnington Cemetery, Eastfield Lane, YO19 5NE

Updated Rules and Regulations, approved by the Parish Council on 8th December 2025.

Dunnington Cemetery (the Cemetery) is owned, operated and regulated (subject only to Department for Constitutional Affairs (DCA) and The Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 (LACO) guidance and regulations in force at the time) exclusively by Dunnington Parish Council (the Parish Council). The Cemetery is situated on Eastfield Lane and is divided into three parts; phase 1 which opened in 2011, phase 2 which opened in 2024, and phase 3 which is for future use.
The Parish Council has chosen to discharge its responsibilities for the operation of the Cemetery to the Cemetery Advisory Group and, similarly, devolve day-to-day responsibilities to the Parish Clerk of the Parish Council.

The Cemetery is intended for the use of residents in the Parish of Dunnington. Qualifying persons to include the following:

- Those raised in the Parish of Dunnington.
- Those living in the Parish at the time of their death.
- Those wishing to be buried with a relative who has already been interred in the Cemetery or who has purchased a plot.

The Parish Council will consider any other requests for burial where the above rules are not met. The Parish Council's decision will be final.
Please note that where the deceased has never resided in the Parish of Dunnington a Non-Resident surcharge will be levied.

Facilities
The Cemetery provides the following facilities for the bereaved and visiting members of the public:

- Car Parking
- Water Supply for Floral Tributes
- Seating Areas
- Landfill and Green Waste Bins

Burials and Interments (including Cremated Remains)
1. Each plot can be consecrated individually.

2. Plots will be allocated by the Parish Clerk. Any available plots in Phase 1 will be allocated first. Cremated remains plots are interned in a separate area from burial plots in the Cemetery.

3. Exclusive Rights of Burial are granted subject to any rules, regulations and bylaws which are in force at the time.

4. Kerbs and vaults will not be permitted.

5. Only coffins and caskets ecological or environmentally friendly will be permitted.

6. Where two persons wish to be buried together only side by side plots are permitted. Both plots must be purchased either in advance or at the time of the first deceased plot is purchased.

7. Up to 3 sets of cremated remains can be interred in a burial plot once a full coffin has been interred, however should a cremated remains be interred prior to a full coffin, then only cremated remains can be interred up to a maximum of 4.

8. Written notice of an interment is to be given in the form provided by the Parish Clerk not later than 5 working days prior to the interment.

9. No interment shall take place in any plot in which Exclusive Rights of Burial subsists except with the consent, in writing, of the owner or successor of the Right. Nobody shall dispose of a pre-purchased plot without the consent of the Parish Council.

10. Only human remains and human cremated remains will be permitted to be interred in the Cemetery.

11. All graves and ashes plots are to be dug and back-filled by a person or persons so qualified and on the approved list of grave diggers subject to approval by the Parish Council. This is usually arranged by your Funeral Director.

12. Headstones for graves and cremation plots must be of a design approved by the Parish Council. Such a headstone may be erected only after any registration fee in force at the time has been paid, and a period of 3 months from the interment has elapsed. All headstones will must be fixed at the head of the plot.

13. No other types of formal or informal memorials are permitted without the specific approval of the Parish Council

14. All headstones and vases proposed to be placed in the Cemetery, and inscriptions thereon, are to be subject to the approval of the Parish Council.

15. Only headstones of natural stone will be allowed and only on the purchased plots. A wooden temporary marker may be used until the headstone has been installed. Glass shades, vases, jars or other ornaments are not permitted.

16. All headstones are to be kept in good repair by the owners or those responsible. The Parish Council reserves the right to remove headstones not kept in good repair or placed without the correct authority. Headstones will be inspected and tested regularly in accordance with health and safety regulations, and the appropriate action taken.

17. The maximum size for a headstone will be as follows:

- All graves – Height 3’6” (107cm), Width 3’ (91cm), Depth 1’4” (41cm).
- Cremated remains – Height 2’6” (76cm), Width 2’ (61cm), Depth 1’ (30.5cm).
- Only upright headstones are permitted.

- These sizes **include** the stone slab base which must be placed under every headstone and must comply with the NAMM code of working practice.
- Maximum size for a vase – Height 1' (30.5cm) x Width 1' (30.5cm) x Depth 1' (30.5cm).

18. No plastic flowers, mementos or boundary markers will be permitted, and any seasonal wreaths will be removed one month after the seasonal event.

19. Vehicles will be allowed in the Cemetery parking area for the specific reason of attending to Cemetery functions. No unauthorised parking is permitted.

20. Interments will only be permitted to take place on a Monday to Friday between the hours of 9am and 5pm. No grave or cremated remains plots can be dug outside of these times. However, the Parish Council recognises that some sections of the community will require burial facilities at short notice (such as Muslims and Jews) 7 days a week. Where feasible the Parish Council will try to meet burial facilities for all sections of the community. Due to the size of the Cemetery and the fact that the Cemetery is not consecrated the Parish Council is unable to provide separate faith areas.

21. The Cemetery is a lawn Cemetery meaning burial and interment plots can only be marked by headstones. Sprinkling of ashes is strictly prohibited. All landscaping, the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers, their maintenance and removal are the sole responsibility of the Parish Council.

22. The Parish Council will arrange for the maintenance of the Cemetery, including grass cutting, on behalf of the owners for which a fee may be charged if so approved by the Parish Council. The maintenance of headstones and associated costs will be the responsibility of the owner or those responsible for the burial or ashes plot.

23. With the exception of assistance dogs, no pets or animals are allowed in the Cemetery.

24. All visitors to the Cemetery are expected to act with due respect. Any acts of anti-social behaviour, vandalism (interfering with burial or cremated remains plots) and playing of any ball games or sport will be reported to the Police.

25. Hours of Opening - The Cemetery will be open from dawn to dusk. Access is not permitted during hours of darkness.

26. It is a criminal offence for any person not being an officer of the Parish Council, or their appointed contactor to enter or remain in the Cemetery at any hour when access is not permitted.

27. Fees - The cost of a plot and the burial fee, including those for cremated remains will be determined by the Parish Council and revised on the 1st April each year by the Cemetery Advisory Group, subject to approval of the Parish Council. The fees are published in a table and charged accordingly by the Parish Clerk. All fees due must be paid prior to interment.

28. Where the holder of an Exclusive Right of Burial no longer requires the plot, the plot must be sold back to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will refund the original purchase price less a 20% administration fee on the return of the Exclusive Right of Burial document.

29. It is up to the holder of the Exclusive Right of Burial to keep the Parish Clerk informed of any change in circumstance e.g. name, change of address.

30. An Exclusive Right of Burial may be transferred on the death of the registered owner to the persons or persons entitled to it. Production of Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration will be required as proof of transference.

31. Where the Right of Burial has not been exercised for 75 years (e.g. no internment has taken place) the Right may be extinguished, subject to compliance with due notice procedure.

32. Any item not covered by these Rules and Regulations will be determined by the Parish Council. The Parish Council in conjunction with the Cemetery Advisory Group, reserves the right to amend these Rules and Regulations at any time.

33. These Rules and Regulations supersede any other previously published by the Parish Council.

34. Any complaints should be made in writing to the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council have produced an Information Sheet for Internments which you may find helpful in ensuring that the internment runs as expected and things you can discuss with your chosen Funeral Director beforehand. Please see the Parish Council's website.

Please do not send any correspondence to the cemetery address.

Parish Clerk: Email: cemetery@dunningtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 07599226770

Website: www.dunningtonparishcouncil.gov.uk