

West Rainton Parish Council - 15 February 2018

Item 13:

Cemetery burial plots future sale position and memorial headstone dimensions.

Report of G Keedy, Project Officer

Current officers have understood that for many years the Parish Council's position has been not to allow the future reservation of burial plots in West Rainton Cemetery, and that dimensions for memorial headstones should not exceed 36 ins. height and 34 ins. width.

Members will recall that at the December 2017 meeting a complaint from a parishioner was considered. The complaints included a view that these aspects of Cemetery policy had not been properly adopted.

Advice has been sought from Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management.

They advise that burial authorities are under no obligation to offer the reservation of burial plots.

Turning to memorial headstones, there are no prescribed dimensions but those currently stipulated are in line with Audit Commission (abolished in 2015) guidelines published in 1989.

Parish Council is asked to formally record its' policy on both aspects.

GK 15 Jan 18