

Grave Space Markers

A burial authority may enclose, layout and embellish a cemetery as it thinks fit and improve it, and is obliged to keep it and its associated buildings, walls and fences in good repair¹.

At its December '21 meeting the committee considered options for grave digging ([WPC.EC.21.10.03](#) and [WPC.EC.21.12.04](#) refer) and agreed that its preference was to move to contracting with a company or individual(s) to undertake all the grave digging (allowing funeral directors to dig ashes plots). The parish council resolved to appoint a Sole Contractor at its January '22 meeting (**Min 22.01.10.3 refers**).

As part of the budget review and preparation of a draft budget, the Estates Committee considered a draft 3 year plan ([WPC.EC.21.12.02](#)), which included a proposal to purchase materials for Reserved Grave Space Marking, in order to reduce the risk of reserved plots being incorrectly allocated (and the reputational damage to the council arising from such a circumstance).

A budget of £500 was allocated to Cemetery and Churchyard, (which includes the cost of Grave Space Markers) and approved by Full Council on 13th January 2022.

The Parish Council has powers under Local Government Act 1972, s.214 (2) to provide and maintain cemeteries in or outside the council's area.

The proposal is to purchase Stainless Steel Markers



to which heavy duty labels can be attached identifying the grave space reference and indicating it as reserved.

It should be noted that the clerk has only been able to obtain one quote for the markers, at a cost of £250.00 (for 40) plus £38.76 delivery, plus VAT.

Costs of polycarbonate labels are summarised at Appendix A.

Recommendation:

To purchase grave space markers and waterproof labels for the purpose of marking reserved plots at a cost of not more than £375.00 plus VAT.

¹ Arnold Baker on Local Council Administration – ref Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, SI1977/204, art 4(1).

Appendix A

Label Options:

Supplier	Description	Cost
Custom Labels	Artwork 40 @ 22964-1 WPC Serialised Asset Label 80 X 80 square 1103 Vinyl - Gloss White Digital Hi-tack 10 @ 22964-2 WPC Non-Serialised Label Delivery	£25.00 £119.40 £ 52.50 £10.00 Total: £206.90 plus VAT
Custom Labels	Artwork 80 X 80 square 1103 Vinyl - Gloss White Digital Hi-tack 50 @ 22964-2 WPC Non-Serialised Label Delivery	£25.00 £ 61.50 £10.00 Total: £96.50 plus VAT
GSM Graphic Arts	Artwork 100 @ Polycarbonate labels 90 x 90 x 250 mic VM & Adhesive 90.00 x: 90.00 Adhesive 468 610mm	£30.00 £152.00 Total: £182.00 plus VAT
GSM Graphic Arts	Artwork 50 @ Polycarbonate labels 90 x 90 x 250 mic VM & Adhesive 90.00 x: 90.00 Adhesive 468 610mm	£30.00 £99.00 Total: £129.00 plus VAT
Avery	Ultra Resistant Labels 57 x 99 mm, All printer types, permanent Product Code B7173-50 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resistant to chemicals, abrasion, UV, water and tearing (in one direction) • Designed for labelling curved, rough, dusty or oily surfaces, rubber and chemical containers. • Unaffected by temperature changes from - 40°C to +150°C • Wipeable and steam cleanable material • Works on metal, plastic, painted surfaces, fibre, polycarbonate, glass and more. 	£41.26 plus VAT