

Eye Town Council Green Cemetery

A part of the Eye Town Council Cemetery (both consecrated and non consecrated land) has been designated a Green Cemetery for the burial of human remains in an environmentally friendly way.

The philosophy behind a Green Cemetery

Once a burial has taken place the grave remains “forever” in the natural setting of the cemetery and there is a return to nature in a very real sense. Thus, only biodegradable coffins and caskets (wooden, natural products or cloth shroud) are allowed. Individual graves may be marked by a wooden marker which will be allowed to decay naturally. Markers may be replaced after they have decayed if so wished. No memorabilia may be placed upon graves with the exception of cut flowers (with ribbons and cellophane wrappers removed) and no vases or jars of flowers may be left on the grave although at Christmas wreaths may be placed on graves, but these will be removed at twelfth night.

The Green Cemetery area will be kept in a way to encourage wild flowers and birds. Some parts may be mowed while in other parts native grasses and wild flowers will be encouraged. In the centre of the Green Cemetery it is proposed to plant a copse of native trees and shrubs both as a wildlife sanctuary and a quiet place for people to visit. If you wish you may pay for a tree in the copse to remember a relative or friend providing there is a space for a tree/shrub. No trees or shrubs may be planted on graves. A wooden marker may be placed on the tree in the copse to commemorate the gift and remember a deceased person.

An area of the Green cemetery will be set aside for the burial of ashes and cremated remains

If anyone so desires, they may request a grant of burial rights to reserve a space in the Green Cemetery for a period of 50 years.

The embalming or remains of those who have been embalmed is not within the philosophy of the Green Cemetery and will only be allowed by Eye Town Council in exceptional circumstances e.g. Where the relatives or friends of a service man or woman killed in action wish to have the embalmed remains buried in the Green Cemetery.

Benches made of wood are allowed in the Green Cemetery, but their size and siting must be agreed with Eye Town Council

Both religious or humanist services/ceremonies may be held in the Green Cemetery. Eye Town Council advises those arranging the burial in the Green Cemetery to liaise with their funeral directors to decide the type of service/ceremony they wish to use in the Green Cemetery.

All the provisions contained in the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 and any other relevant statutes or statutory orders shall apply to the Green Cemetery

Regulations

1. Only bio degradable coffins and caskets may be used in the Eye Town Council Green Cemetery.
2. Only wooden markers may be used to mark a grave or as commemoration upon a tree in the copse. The size and shape of any wooden marker placed in the Green Cemetery shall be approved by Eye Town Council.
3. No memorabilia may be placed on a grave with the exception of a wooden marker, fresh cut flowers (ribbons and cellophane removed) and a wreath at Christmas which must be removed by Twelfth Night.
4. Trees and shrubs may not be planted upon graves but only in the copse (if there is space) . The species of tree or shrub and the exact place where it is to be planted shall be agreed with Eye Town Council.
5. If a relative or friend wishes to purchase a tree or shrub to be planted in the copse, the species of tree or shrub and where it is to be planted will be agreed with Eye Town Council before the planting takes place.
6. The precise place of any internment must be agreed with Eye Town Council.
7. Eye Town Council shall not be responsible if a tree or shrub in the copse is damaged, becomes *diseased* or dies.

Any questions or queries regarding the Green Cemetery should be addressed to The Town Clerk Eye Town Council, c/o Eye Volunteer Centre, 20 Broad Street, Eye IP21 5AF 07554 733621 or townclerk@eyesuffolk.org

This policy was adopted by Eye Town Council on

Signed

..... Mayor.