****

**Old Felixstowe Parish – Garden of Remembrance – Policies**

**Our Garden of Remembrance**

The primary purpose of the Garden is to be a welcoming space to meet the needs of the parish community, offering a respectful place of memorial for the interment and remembrance of loved ones.

We welcome everyone to visit the Garden at any time, to sit and reflect in peace.

To meet these objectives there are a few rules.

We may update these rules from time to time.

**What The Garden Is For**

Applications to use the Garden for interment of ashes, and mounting a plaque on one of the crosses can be found on our website, or are available from your undertaker.

Applications should be made by the legal personal representative of the deceased.

There is set price list for interments, and memorials.

The undertaker shall arrange the details with the Parish Office as necessary.

**Who The Garden Is For**

The Garden is open to anyone for whom the legal personal representative of the deceased can demonstrate the deceased had a connection to the Parish.

**Memorials**

The Garden features brick crosses, onto the faces of which a small limestone plaque may be fixed after the interment of the ashes. Each plaque may carry three or four lines of writing with a maximum of 25 characters in each line. To enhance the general appearance the minimum amount of wording should be used.

The wording required must be indicated on the application form and is subject to approval by the Vicar. The church office will make the arrangements for the plaque to be produced and fitted to the wall.

The position for the plaque will be the next free location in the sequence.

You may request a plaque be fitted to a specific quadrant / cross face in order to be ‘near to’ the plaque of a loved one. This would be on the same quadrant / cross face, not necessarily immediately adjacent to the prior deceased loved one.

The fixing of plaques is intended to be permanent and it will not be possible to amend wording once in place.

It will not be possible to guarantee a date when the plaque will be fixed but every effort will be made to have the work done in reasonable time.

Please note that private arrangements with stonemasons should not be made under any circumstances.

**Flowers**

The design of the brick crosses also allows the placing of a small number of containers for fresh flowers. Such a container may be requested when a plaque is fixed and it will be provided on loan, with name attached.

Relatives and friends should place containers in a position within the cross ‘quadrants’ appropriate to their plaque (bedded into the pea shingle). Containers in use by others should not be moved about. Flowers placed in the containers should preferably be fresh flowers, but ‘silk’ flowers 1 , not plastic, may be used. Should you wish, small pot plants (the pot to be no more than 100mm diameter) may be placed, the plant itself to be small and commensurate with the size of the pot.

To maintain the respectful appearance of the Garden, only flower containers supplied by the church will be allowed in the Garden. Other objects and types of containers will be removed. As we tidy the garden, we may remove containers, pots, large plants and other objects if necessary.

When you leave new flowers it’s helpful to also remove and dead or untidy flowers please. Flowers brought at the time or interment of ashes will be left for a reasonable time.

**The Lawn**

After burial in the Garden the lawn covering will be made good, but please note that no marking whatsoever will remain at that spot.

No caskets of any kind may be buried in the Garden.

NOTHING may be planted anywhere in the shingle or the lawn.

You consent to following these and subsequent rules when you submit your application.

1. as defined in the Churchyard rules for St Edmundsbury and Ipswich