

Salisbury City Council Cemetery Regulations

Effective - October 2025

These Cemetery Regulations are in place to ensure a respectful, safe, and well-maintained environment across all Council-managed cemeteries: The Avenue, London Road, and Devizes Road in Salisbury, Wiltshire.

We kindly ask that all visitors and grave owners follow these guidelines out of consideration for others and the dignity of the space.

Terminology

- **"The Council"**: Salisbury City Council.
- **"The Cemetery"**: Refers to The Avenue, London Road, or Devizes Road Cemeteries.
- **"Cemetery Office"**: The administrative office overseeing all cemeteries.
- **"Memorial"**: Any headstone, kerb* (London Road & Devizes Road only*), monument, cross, or flat stone placed on a grave.


1. Visiting the Cemetery

- Open from sunrise to sunset (dusk).
- Vehicles are not allowed after dusk unless specifically authorised by the Council.
- Speed limit: 5mph.
- No bicycles, skateboards, or similar may be ridden in the cemetery.
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Dogs must be on a lead at all times and any fouling must be cleaned up.

Please remember: cemeteries are places of reflection, not recreation.

Contact:

Cemetery Office, Salisbury Crematorium
Barrington Road, Salisbury, SP1 3JB

 01722 333632

 crematorium@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

 www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

2. Grave Spaces

Type of Grave	Size	Notes
Adult Grave	2.7m x 1.5m (8'9" x 5'0")	Up to 3 full burials, followed by up to 6 cremated remains interments.
Child's Grave	1.2m x 0.9m (4'0" x 3'0")	For children under 12.
Cremated Remains Plot	London & Devizes Road: 0.61m x 0.61m (24" x 24") The Avenue: 0.46m x 0.46m (18" x 18")	Small Headstone & Flat Stones Flat memorials only.

The Council may temporarily place soil (spoil) on adjacent graves when preparing a burial plot. Spoil will be removed immediately after the service, and the area will be restored.

3. Funerals & Grave Maintenance

- After the burial, the grave will be backfilled and floral tributes placed neatly on top.
- Once the initial tributes have deteriorated or been removed, new tributes must be placed within the footprint of the headstone base only.
- The Council will level and reseed the grave as necessary for up to one year after the burial.

After that, the upkeep becomes the grave owner's responsibility.

4. Flowers, Wreaths & Other Items

We understand that leaving tributes is an important part of remembering loved ones. To ensure safety and respect for all visitors and maintenance staff:

✓ Allowed (within headstone base area):

- Fresh or artificial flowers (not in glass containers)
- Modest personal mementoes that are weather-safe and non-hazardous

✗ Not Allowed:

- Glass containers, oil burners, solar lights, spikes, wind chimes, flags
- Planting of any trees, shrubs, or flowers
- Artificial turf, fencing, kerbs (only London Road & Devizes Road), or gravel
- Benches (these are not permitted anywhere in the cemetery)

Prohibited items will be removed without notice for safety reasons.

All tributes are the responsibility of the grave owner(s). Please dispose of waste using the bins provided.

5. Memorials

Only those who have purchased the Exclusive Right of Burial may install a permanent memorial.

Temporary Markers

- A wooden cross may be placed temporarily until a permanent memorial is installed.
- The temporary marker must be removed once the permanent memorial is in place.

Memorial Installation Guidelines

- Only one memorial per grave is allowed.
- Memorials must not be installed until at least 6 months after burial (preferably through a winter season), to allow soil to settle.
- All memorials must be installed by a qualified stonemason registered with the National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM) and must comply with their Code of Practice.
- Work may only be carried out between 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), or until sunset, whichever comes sooner.
- No work is permitted during funerals or without Council consent.

Memorial Size Limits: Please note the Avenue Cemetery is a Lawn Cemetery

Area	Maximum Height	Maximum Width	Maximum Length
Full Grave	Headstone: 0.91m (3'0")	0.75m (2'6")	2.04m (6'7")
	Kerb: London Road & Devizes Road <u>Only</u> *	0.75m (2'6")	
Children's Section	0.7m (2'3")	0.61m (2'0")	0.75m (2'6")
Cremated Remains	London Road & Devizes Road <u>Only</u> *:		
	Small Headstone*: 0.7m (2'3")	0.61m (2'0")	
	Flat Stones*:	0.61m (2'0")	0.61m (2'0")
	The Avenue (Flat Stone <u>Only</u>):	0.46m (1'6")	0.46m (1'6")

- Memorials must include a stainless steel ground anchor system in line with NAMM/BRAMM standards.
- The grave number must be engraved clearly on the reverse lower left corner of the memorial.

Maintenance & Safety

- Memorial upkeep is the responsibility of the grave owner not the Council.

- It is recommended that owners take out memorial insurance.
- The Council conducts routine safety inspections:
 - Unsafe memorials may be supported, laid flat, or removed.
 - If no contact can be made with the grave owner, the Council reserves the right to act.

The Council is not responsible for any damage or loss to memorials. Unauthorised memorials may be removed and costs recovered from the grave owner.

6. Council Rights

Salisbury City Council reserves the right to:

- Update or revise any regulation at any time
- Address situations not specifically covered in this document
- Remove or manage any item, memorial, or structure deemed unsafe, inappropriate, or obstructive
- Temporarily remove fixed memorials to facilitate nearby burials

These regulations are issued under the Council's General Powers of Management as the statutory burial authority.