Iden New Burial Ground Rules and Regulations

To Undertakers and Grave Diggers

1. Graves to be positioned as per plan (or as directed) and to be 6 inches between graves. The Burial Plan is maintained by the Parish Clerk and those reserving plots may be assured that strict confidentiality will be observed at all times.
2. Graves must be aligned East/West. All burials feet to East.
3. All graves plots are 9ft long by 4-foot-wide and the grave is to be dug in the middle of the plot's width.
4. A foot clear length at the head must be left clear for memorials.
5. A single depth grave should be dug to a depth of 5 feet for a single internment and to 7 feet for the first of a double grave plot.
6. Cremated remains of a body are to be interred in a grave in such a manner that any part of the casket is at a depth of not less than one foot below the level of the surface of the ground of the grave space.
7. Before commencing digging, a suitable sheet of material is to be laid down to receive earth as removed, unless otherwise agreed. If turf is removed it must be reserved for re-use on the grave. Earth not required for filling in or allowing for any settlement must be moved to the waste ground at the end of the Cemetery and spread out as directed by the Burial Authority.
8. All graves to have wall supports when digging has been completed.
9. No mounds will be allowed after settlement. The grave shall be turfed level. A garden not to exceed 1 foot deep by the width of the grave/ headstone will be allowed. If these gardens are NOT maintained, after twelve months of neglect the Council can take action and have such areas grassed.
10. Monument specifications allowed as per separate regulations in force.
11. The grave will be marked in advance by a named cross and wooden pegs prior to the grave digger attending. Loss of marker cross shall be charged to the undertakers, £30.

To Monumental Masons

1. Headstones are to be erected where shown in the foot space specifically left for it and inscriptions read from the left.
2. No foot stones are permitted to allow the burial ground to be kept tidy and mown.
3. No kerbs stones are permitted to allow the burial ground to be kept tidy and mown.
4. All memorial stones are to have the Grave Section and the Number engraved on them.
5. Sizes permitted for Headstones: Height not exceeding 2 feet and 6 inches, width not exceeding 2 feet and thickness not exceeding 6 inches and not less than 3 inches. A base forming part of the design of the headstone may be included provided it does not project more than 2 inches beyond the headstone in any direction. In addition, the base shall be on a suitable foundation and may include the provision of a socket to receive a vase flush with the ground.
6. Stones permitted: Limestone – Portland, Purbeck, Derbyshire, York, Hopton or Nabresina; Slate – Light grey, Blue/Black or green; Granite: Light grey. Wording of inscription, any carving or decoration and style, size and colour of lettering is to have prior approval form Iden Burial Authority and to be in keeping with the existing memorials.
7. Tablets for Cremation ashes to be finalised by Iden Burial Authority.
8. Before commencing digging, a suitable sheet of material is to be laid down to receive earth as removed. Earth not required must be moved to the waste ground at the far end of the Cemetery and spread out as directed by the Clerk.

   Note: It is recommended that memorials are not erected until twelve months after an interment in order to allow for settlement.

General Rules and Regulations

1. The right of interment in Iden New Burial Ground is exclusive to the parishioners of the Iden Parish or worshippers at All Saints Church Iden, upon payment of the appropriate fee as set out in Iden New Burial Ground Charges. At the discretion of the Iden Parish Council, non-parishioners may be interred in the New Burial Ground subject to payment equivalent to those of Ashford or rother District Council.
2. Purchasers or owners of exclusive right of burial cannot under any circumstances dispose of their rights to non-parishioners, nor to parishioners without the consent of Iden Burial Authority.
3. Data protection regulations will apply to information provided by those reserving or purchasing plots.

4. All Notices of Interment shall be given to the Clerk at least three clear days before the proposed interment, exclusive of Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Bank Holidays (emergencies excepted).
5. All fees and charges must be paid to the Clerk on notice being given of an interment and before the notice is accepted.
6. The Registrars Certificate or Coroners Order or Cremation Certificate must be provided to the Clerk with the notice of interment before an interment takes place.
7. Prior to any subsequent interment in a grave in which the Exclusive Right of Burial has been purchased, the written consent of the owner or his/her personal representative must be obtained and given to the Clerk with the Notice of Burial (included within the Internment Form).We recommend that those reserving burial plots make their intentions clear either in wills or a side letter.
8. All grave spaces will be allocated by the Clerk and will normally be in the next available plot.
9. A plan of the Cemetery showing the situation of each grave space will be kept by the Clerk.
10. All Funeral Directors will be required to provide the gravedigger and be responsible for the digging of the grave at the allotted site, and seeing that the earth and turf are replaced, and the grave site left in a tidy condition.
11. The hours of interment in Iden New Burial Ground will be between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday and between 10am and 3pm on Saturdays. Interments will not be allowed on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday or Bank Holidays, other than in cases where there are special reasons acceptable to the Clerk.
12. Up to two interments will be allowed in any grave space provided a double depth grave is requested with the notice of the first interment. Up to three interments of cremated remains will be allowed in graves where no subsequent coffin interments are to be made.
13. Owners of an exclusive right of burial, if financially necessary, may have their ashes interred in the grave plot. Interment of cremated remains will be limited to three per plot. One at the head, one at the foot and one in the middle.
14. Nobody will be permitted burial in any grave unless placed in a properly constructed coffin of wood or other perishable material. Only coffins of wood will be allowed for the first interment in a double depth grave.
15. A body shall not be interred in a grave in such a manner that any part of the coffin is at a depth of less than three feet below the level of the surface of the ground of the grave space, nor shall the cremated remains of a body be interred in a grave in such

a manner that any part of the casket is at a depth of less than one foot below the level of the surface of the ground of the grave space.

16. A Register of Burials will be kept by the Clerk. Searches can be made, and extracts provided upon payment of the prescribed fee, by appointment with the Clerk.
17. Care of wreaths and flowers is the responsibility of the relatives, but any dead or unsightly artificial flowers, or unsuitable containers, may be removed. Small shrubs, plants and flowers may be placed at the headstone of any grave. Iden Parish Council Burial Authority reserve the right to prune, cut down, dig up, and remove any of the shrubs, plants or flowers where in their opinion they have become unsightly or overgrown, or when necessary for the purpose of allowing the grave to be re-opened
18. Iden Parish Council Burial Authority are not responsible for damage to memorials and graves caused by animals (wild or domesticated). The Parish Clerk will provide assistance where possible.
19. No mounds, kerbstones or raised edgings will be permitted on any grave.
20. Memorials are only allowed on graves where an interment (body or cremated remains) has taken place. The consent of the Clerk shall be obtained before any memorial is erected or any inscription placed on a proposed or existing memorial. Payment of the appropriate fee must be received with applications for approval. Such consent will only be given if the proposed memorial complies with the requirements of these regulations. Details of the form, material, dimensions and foundation of every memorial proposed, and the wording of all inscriptions, must be provided for approval. The design must be in keeping and not compromise the integrity and serenity of the burial ground. Iden Parish Council Burial Authority will not be responsible for the costs of removal of any unauthorised memorial.
21. Memorials consisting of Headstones must not exceed 2’ 6 high x 2’ wide x 3- 6” thick and must be placed on a suitable concrete foundation which shall be wholly below ground level and must span the width of the grave (minimum 3’ x 1’ x 2” thick). Details of the foundation and fixing of any memorial shall be provided at the time of seeking consent.
22. Every memorial remains the responsibility of the owner and must be kept in safe repair at all times. Iden Parish Council Burial Authority reserves the right to remove any stone, monument or memorial where the owners fail to comply with these regulations.
23. No memorial shall be removed from the New Burial Ground without the consent of the Clerk.
24. Cycles and motorcycles must not be ridden in Iden New Burial Ground.

25. Iden Parish Council Burial Authority reserves the right from time to time to make any alterations in the foregoing Rules and Regulations consistent with the Local Government Act 1972 and Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977.
26. The penalties prescribed in the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 and Criminal Damage Act 1971 for damaging the Cemetery or committing nuisances therein will be strictly enforced.

Headstones

Maximum 2'6" high x 2' x 3'6" permitted on burial plots.

Tablets for Ashes

To be finalized by Iden Burial Authority

Any form of memorial must have the permission of the Parish Council.