



## STOTFOLD CEMETERY

### DEED OF GRANT FOR EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO BURIAL 2025

#### 1. What is a Deed of Grant for Exclusive Right to Burial

- 1.1 This is a vital legal document you receive after purchasing the burial plot, it confirms the **Registered Lessee (s)** of the grave. This gives the lessee the right to be buried in the grave and only they can give permission for any further burials, and they are the only person entitled to request a permit for a memorial on the grave.
- 1.2 The law requires the written consent of the registered owner of the exclusive right of burial before any burial can take place, unless the deceased was the owner and they can be buried without any written confirmation.

#### 2. If the Registered Lessee is Deceased

- 2.1 If the **Registered Lessee** is deceased the grave can no longer be used for further burials, unless the Deed is transferred by the Owner of the Cemetery.
- 2.2 This can be done through a Grant of Probate, or Statutory Declaration if there is a valid will.
- 2.3 Alternatively, Letters of Administration are issued if someone didn't leave a will, or the named executor(s) are unwilling to act. Note the transfer has to be registered by the Owner of the Cemetery, to be recognised, and this will incur a small charge.

#### 3. Memorials

- 3.1 Should the **Registered Lessee** be deceased, then the plot will need to be transferred before a memorial permit can be requested, as only the current owner has the right to erect a memorial.
- 3.2 If you would like to install a memorial on a grave in Stotfold Cemetery, then you will need to contact a local Stonemason, who must be registered with **BRAMM** (British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons) or **NAMM** (National Association of Monumental Masons) and have Public Liability insurance to complete the work. This is for Health and Safety Regulations, our regulations stipulate only approved Masons can erect a memorial in Stotfold Cemetery.
- 3.3 As a reminder, the memorial needs to be regularly checked for stability, and they need to conform to Cemetery regulations with regards to size and fixings. You may ask your memorial mason for a workmanship guarantee or details of insurance.

#### 4. Approved Masonry

- 4.1 Stotfold Town Council does not allow:
- Home-made gravestones or ones purchased from a source that is not registered with BRAMM/NAMM;
  - Any type of fencing, wooden or wire surrounding the grave plot;
  - Any glass vase on the plot.
- 4.2 An approved Stonemason will need to apply for a Stotfold Town Council Memorial Permit before erecting or replacing a headstone or masonry.
- 4.3 Only the **Registered Lessee** can sign the permit application, and the type of memorial should comply with the appropriate regulations for the area of the cemetery that contains the plot. Should the registered lessee be deceased then the deed needs to be transferred to the appropriate person/people. The Cemetery Officer can advise on the process that needs to take place before approving the memorial permit application. A permit fee is payable dependant on the type of memorial and where the deceased lived at the time of burial.

#### 5. Responsibility for the Memorial

- 5.1 It's important to note that the ownership of the memorial lies with the **Registered Lessee**, you have a responsibility to maintain a memorial in a safe condition.
- 5.2 If the grave lessee fails to do this or allows an unauthorised memorial to be erected, the cemetery staff may take action to remedy the safety of the memorial or remove the unauthorised memorial all together.
- 5.3 We will write to the grave lessee informing you that it is your responsibility to arrange repairs. If there is no response the memorial may be laid flat.
- 5.4 After further notification the memorial may be lawfully removed from the cemetery.

Contact us at [Enquiries@stotfoldtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Enquiries@stotfoldtowncouncil.gov.uk), write to us at Stotfold Town Council, The Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold, SG5 4HG or call us on 01462 416186.