**CHURCHYARD RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Please read carefully**

Special rules apply to a Church of England churchyard. If you have any queries relating to these rules please contact [                              ] on [                           ].

1. There is a legal right to be buried here:
2. for anyone who was a parishioner at the time of death;
3. who died in the parish; or
4. who was on the Electoral Roll of the parish at the time of death.
5. Graves are not owned by family members:

**This means that no one can place items on a grave other than fresh flowers without permission. [Artificial flowers which are appropriate to the season may also be placed on graves without permission.]**

**Anything which is placed in the churchyard without permission is technically a trespass and you can be asked to remove the item in question.**

**Please be very careful to ensure that you have obtained permission to place any kind of memorial, headstone, cross or other item in the churchyard before you order it or bring it into the churchyard.
All inscriptions must also be approved.**

**There are strict rules about what is allowed.**

Application for permission must be made in writing to the Vicar. More unusual requests will be referred to the Diocesan Registrar and may require a Faculty Order. A fee is payable for such permission and details are available from the Vicar.

1. The Parochial Church Council has the responsibility for maintaining the churchyard. Grass cutting is done on a regular basis by volunteers and it is much easier to mow the churchyard if flowers and containers are placed only beneath the headstone and the rest of the grave allowed to grass over.
2. Please remove wreaths and cut flowers when they have withered – we will remove any withered flowers which have not been removed.
3. No fencing, kerbs, edging or other artificial enclosure of any kind is allowed.
4. Please note that this is a Christian churchyard and that the graves are to be treated as memorials and not shrines: **no pictures, photographs or other personal items are to be placed on the graves**.
5. Unfortunately, from time to time we have had problems with vandals in the churchyard who have stolen wreaths and flowers. Once you have obtained permission to place an item on the grave it is to be placed there at your own risk and we regret that we cannot accept any liability for loss or damage.

**The PCC of [                                    ]**