

**CEMETERY CHARGES 2018-19**

**Existing Wording of Charges Form**

1. The Fees and Payments below apply where the person to be Interred or in respect of whom the right is granted is, or immediately before their Death was, an Inhabitant or a Parishioner of Wem Town or within the last ten years their last place of private residence was in the Wem Urban parish.
2. The Funeral Director will always be responsible for arranging the digging of graves (in accordance with national guidelines) and for the payment of the officiating Clergy. No charge for either of these items will appear on Council invoices.
3. The Council has declared its intention to maintain the Burial Ground as a LAWN CEMETERY to facilitate maintenance and to keep down costs. For this reason the erection of headstones (not exceeding 3' 6" in height) will be allowed and one small moveable ornamental vase (not exceeding 8" high, 8" deep, 8" wide on a base no larger than 10" square) will also be permitted, but rails, kerbs, slabs, gravel and other adornments will not be allowed. Similarly, after the subsidence period has elapsed no mounding of soil on the graves will be permitted.
4. Persons wishing to erect headstones on graves should first consult the Clerk of the Council regarding the Council's conditions regulating the erection of monuments and the Council's written approval must be obtained before proceeding.
5. The fees for the burial of persons who do not qualify as residents under paragraph 1 above will be doubled.

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The need for an amendment to this wording came about following a challenge over the definition of what is meant by private residence. It is therefore recommended that Town Council considers amending the wording of point 1 to make the meaning clearer so no ambiguity exists.

**Suggested changes to wording of clause 1 (which will incorporate clause 5)**

**The Fees and Payments below apply where the person to be interred was, a resident of Wem Urban Parish or was a resident of Wem Urban Parish immediately prior to entering a hospital, hospice, nursing home or other care institution outside of Wem Urban Parish. .The fees for the burial of persons who do not qualify as residents will be doubled.**