



THETFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE 28/09/2017

Thetford Town Council is aware that there has been much discussion in the local press and social media over the past few days regarding the enforcing of lawn cemetery rules for N and P plots in the London Road Cemetery.

The Council apologises for the upset that this has caused to some members of the public but wish to assure deed owners that every effort will be made to relocate personal items left on the grassed areas in front of lawn cemetery graves onto the foundation stones where possible. Removal of items will be a last resort, after eight weeks notice is given, with the items being kept for a further four weeks for collection.

Notices regarding the rows on N plot are being posted weekly on the notice boards, our website and on the affected graves, giving the plot numbers, date by which items need to be removed from the grassed areas and the date to which items removed will be retained. This is a rolling programme to make the enforcement of the rules manageable and it is hoped that deed holders will make the necessary adjustments to bring their plots within the rules without Council intervention.

To provide clarity to a number of issues raised, the Council would like to inform the public of the following:

- The lawn cemetery rules have been in place for 30 years, or longer, and this campaign to enforce them more effectively commenced in January 2017, with R plot in the cemetery extension. (Cemetery Minutes 16th November 2016, available on our website).
- The deed owner's rights are limited to the "exclusive right of burial" although we also allow the placement of a memorial according to the rules and regulations. The deed holder does not own the land.
- If anyone wishes to make a complaint please do it directly to the Town Council as a telephone call may easily resolve an issue. If it does not, we ask complainants to write to the Council where their complaint will be considered in accordance with the Council's complaints policy (available on our website).

- The rules and regulations and a summarised version of the lawn cemetery rules are available on our website. The summary lawn cemetery rules are also available on our notice boards within the cemetery and outside King's House.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. Should you have any further questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the Council on 01842 754247, or by email on mail@thetfordtowncouncil.gov.uk or in writing to King's House, King Street, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2AT.

Website: www.thetfordtowncouncil.gov.uk