



## Oswestry Rural Parish Council

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF TREFARCLAWDD CEMETERY

### Caring for the Community

The Cemetery shall be managed with competence and efficiency, to ensure that the entire bereavement experience occurs without error or insensitivity and meets the needs of the bereaved. The service shall comply with all statutory and Health and Safety requirements.

### Service Sensitivity

The burial of a human body is a highly emotional occasion for those taking part. The Cemetery will be managed to create and maintain an atmosphere of solace and respect throughout the entire proceedings. This sensitivity must extend to all staff and contractors working at facilities, through the application of bereavement sensitive specifications. The Parish Council will respond sympathetically to individual funeral needs and shall give a justifiable reason for refusing any specific request.

### Staff

All staff should undergo recognised training specific to their duties. The appointment of staff will emphasise the need for proper conduct and demeanour, as well as technical expertise. Staff must act and speak in a manner that recognises the sensitivity of bereavement both during and outside working hours. All staff should be willing to operate flexible working hours to meet the requirements of the service. Pay and conditions of service should be suitably adapted to reflect such flexibility. All staff should be identified by name badges.

### Environmental Issues

The Parish Council will endeavour to minimise the impact of bereavement upon the environment. This should encourage the greater use of earth friendly materials and environmentally friendly practices, particularly in employing the use of the most environmentally friendly materials in the maintenance of grounds and recycling of green waste from grounds maintenance works.

### Individual Service

The importance of human beings as individuals and the manner in which they inter-relate with relatives and friends does not diminish in significance following death. It is important for the bereaved to know that the burial is individually carried out, and the following requirements must, therefore, be met:

- i) No coffin/container shall be accepted at the burial unless the name of the deceased therein is clearly shown.
- ii) The identity shown on the coffin/container shall be verified at every funeral.
- iii) The body and its coffin/container shall be placed in the identified grave.
- iv) After the coffin/container has been committed into the grave, it shall not be removed or otherwise disturbed except for lawful exhumation, by licence or by the order of a Coroner.
- v) Immediately after the mourners have departed the graveside, the grave shall be entirely backfilled and made tidy. This work will be completed on the day of the burial and must not extend overnight.

*These guiding principles were adopted on 27 October 2015.*