

Summary of the Salisbury Diocesan Regulations for Memorials

Generally nothing should be fixed over a grave or ashes for the first six months after the burial. This is to allow ideas to crystallise and the ground to settle. An application should then be made to the Team Rector on the standard Diocesan form (available from the Team Office) through a stonemason or funeral director. No work can proceed by stonemason, funeral director or anyone else before permission has been granted.

Graves

Headstones, including those made of oak, should not exceed 150cm (5') high nor 90cm (3') wide.

Crosses, whether simple or celtic and whether of stone or oak, should not exceed 180cm (6') high nor 90cm (3') wide.

Flat stones should not exceed 150cm (5') long nor 90cm (3') wide.

Plain open books (that is without wings, elaborate supports or other ornamentation) should not exceed 45cm (1' 6") high nor 75cm (2' 6") wide.

Fixed memorial vases should not exceed 30 cm by 20cm by 20cm (1' by 8" by 8").

Bases must be sunk 5cm (2") at least below the surrounding ground, so that a mower can pass over them. Any flower container must be sunk in the same way.

1/8/2016

Plinths: A headstone or cross may stand on a stone base or plinth of the same stone as the headstone, provided that it is an integral part of the design and does not project more than 100mm (4") beyond the headstone in any direction. There is an exception for a receptacle for flowers, which must be flush with the top of the base or plinth and may extend up to 150mm (6") in front of the headstone. The base or plinth must be fixed on a foundation slab which is flush with the ground so that a mower may pass freely over it. The foundation slab must extend from 75mm (3") to 150mm (6") all around the base.

Cremation plots

Flat stones over cremated remains should not exceed 30cm (1') by 37cm (1' 3"). They must be laid flush with the surrounding grass so that a mower may pass easily over them. Small headstones, 60cm (2') high by 45cm (1' 6") wide, are permitted where these back on to a hedge. No fixed or empty vase, or other object, may be placed on stones over cremated remains.

Materials

Stone should be natural and with a non-reflecting finish. The type and colour of the stone should be in keeping with what is commonly used locally. If granite is used it must not be polished above eggshell, and dark grey, black or any colour not in keeping with the local environment are prohibited.

Inscriptions

These should be simple, dignified and reverent. If a nickname is to be included it should appear after the given name and in brackets or inverted commas as follows:Robert (Bob) Smith. There should be no inscription on the arms of a cross.

*More details of the regulations may be obtained from the Team Rector;
see also the Diocesan website at:
<http://www.salisbury.anglican.org/whos-who/registry/churchyards-headstones-and-burials>*