

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council

Exhumation Procedures



- 1 Consent of Owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial – No body or cremated remains may be removed from a grave without the written and signed consent of the registered owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial for that grave, together with all other statutory documentation from the Home Office and Dioceses.
- 2 Statutory Documentation – The statutory documentation required, is dependent upon whether the exhumation is to take place from a grave located in the consecrated or un-consecrated section of the Cemetery. Original documents will be required for this purpose.
- 3 Exhumation from un-consecrated ground – where exhumation is proposed from a grave in un-consecrated ground a Home Office Licence is required, and this can only be obtained upon the application of the registered grave owner.
- 4 Exhumation from consecrated ground for interment in un-consecrated ground – where exhumation is proposed from a grave in consecrated ground, followed by interment in un-consecrated ground in another Cemetery, then both a Home Office Licence and a Faculty from the Diocese of Bristol are required.
- 5 Exhumation from consecrated ground for interment in consecrated ground – should exhumation be proposed from a grave in a consecrated section to another consecrated section in the Cemeteries then only a Faculty will be required.
- 6 Licence and/or Faculty conditions – in all of the various circumstance described above, the Home Office Licence and/or Faculty may prescribe specific actions that are to be carried out during the exhumation process. Exhumation will always take place very early in the morning and in most cases will require the attendance of a local Environmental Health Officer.
- 7 Fees and charges for exhumations – It will be the responsibility of the person requiring the exhumation to pay all fees for all requirements and to ensure that logistically the exhumation is carried out with due regard for the health and safety of all those involved, public decency and respect for the deceased.

Adopted by Full Council on 29 September 2021

Adopted by Open Spaces Committee on 31 July 2024