

Woodland Burial Ground Planting Regulations

If a family would like to sow or plant around a loved one's grave, they must let the Council know in advance to ensure that the correct location is used.

The Council has identified a list of native plants which may be used once its permission has been sought and given. Please contact the Clerk on 01494 432585 or clerk@cheshamboispc.org.uk for further information.

- Only plants on the list provided may be used – whether as plants, bulbs or seeds. Hybrids and cultivars of these or other non-natives are not acceptable and will be removed.
- Please ensure that planting looks as natural as possible, without straight lines or delineating graves, otherwise plants may be removed.
- Nothing already growing in the burial ground may be disturbed or dug up.
- The earth on new graves may be topped a few times within the first few months after a burial, and the soil may take a year to settle fully; so plot owners should note that any early planting may become covered in soil.
- If plants require watering, families will need to do this themselves. The Council cannot be responsible for plants being eaten by local wildlife.

Only biodegradable materials should be used in the burial ground and there should be no visible markers for the grave. Any markers, ornaments or non-native planting on graves will be removed by the Council and kept for a short period for the family to reclaim.

If a memorial plaque is required, plot owners may choose to place one in the Garden of Remembrance following approval by the Council.

Families may wish to consider if they would like to purchase a bench in the Burial Ground in memory of a loved one. Benches in the Woodland Burial Ground must be of the approved style and can be placed only in designated bench plots. Benches can be installed, following payment of the appropriate fee and subject to the agreement by the Council in line with the provisions set out for memorial benches.

Alternatively, families may wish to consider whether they would like to sponsor a bird or bat box in memory of their loved one, which will be installed in the woodland near the burial ground.