

# TITHE GREEN BURIAL GROUND

A meadow and woodland for remembrance in Sherwood Forest  
in the County of Nottinghamshire

All visitors to the Tithe Green Burial Ground are asked to comply with the Cemetery Regulations. When a burial takes place at Tithe Green, families will be given a copy of these regulations and are asked to read and abide by them. The regulations are our *terms and conditions* of use for the burial ground and have been set out to ensure that the ethos of natural burial is maintained.

With these regulations in place Tithe Green will endeavour to create a natural and peaceful environment for those who have passed on and those who mourn them.

## Cemetery Regulations

In the following document, Oxton Tithe Green is referred to as 'the Company' and Tithe Green Burial Ground is referred to as 'the Site'.

### **Terms and Conditions**

1. All visitors to the Site are requested to give due consideration, privacy and respect to any funeral, memorial ceremonies or services taking place at the time. It is requested that mobile phones be switched off at the Site.
2. In harmony with the aims of a natural burial ground, no gardening of burial plots will be allowed. This includes grass cutting or removal of turf on or around graves or trees.
3. No ornaments, toys, photographs or other memorials may be placed upon graves, with the exception of slate plaques provided by the Company, or those provided with the consent of the Company and to the set specifications of the Company.
4. Containers such as vases, pots, bottles or baskets are not permitted.
5. The planting of wild flowers is permissible on graves. This does not include potted plants, bedding plants, ferns, heathers, roses etc.
6. The picking, cutting or pruning of flowers, shrubs and trees is prohibited.
7. The Company reserve the right to remove anything found on the Site that it deems inappropriate to the ethos and aims of a natural burial ground.
8. In order to provide for a more natural environment, the Site will be mowed at the discretion of the manager outside the growing season. Paths will be mowed on a more regular basis allowing visitors access to the various burial areas within the site.
9. Litter is to be disposed of in the litter bin provided in the Car Park. Where the bin has become full, visitors are requested to take any litter for disposal off site themselves.
10. Dogs or any other domestic animals and pets must at all times be kept on a lead and must not be allowed to run free.
11. Children under 18 years of age are not allowed on the Site without an accompanying adult or with the specific permission of the Company.
12. No ball games or electronic games that emit noise are allowed on any part of the Site.
13. Amplified music is prohibited at the Site except with the express permission of the Company. Acoustic instruments may be played only when they will not disturb other visitors, ceremonies or services.
14. No camping or overnight stays are permitted on any part of the Site, including the car park.
15. Visitors must not unnecessarily disturb the wildlife. No shooting or hunting is permitted.

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## **Grave Plots and Burials**

1. The burial of pets and other animals is not permitted.
2. Each full grave plot measures 2.5m x 2m and can accommodate one coffin, or four cremated remains interments only. Cremated remains may also be interred together with the planting of a memorial tree
3. When purchasing in advance, it is possible to allocate whether a grave plot is to be in the meadow or woodland areas. However, it is not possible to choose specific grave plots until the time of interment. Family plots, or groups of graves bought in advance, are available.
4. In order to ensure a healthy ecosystem for the nature reserve, and in tune with its ethos of care for the environment, the Company only accepts the use of fully biodegradable and environmentally-friendly coffins. These include coffins made of wicker, bamboo, softwood, recycled paper (papier-mâché) and recycled board. Shrouds, ideally in natural fibres, are also acceptable.
5. A body that has been embalmed, or otherwise treated with noxious and toxic chemicals, cannot be interred at the Site.
6. Interments cannot take place at the Site until the death has been legally registered and the appropriate documentation received by the Company.
7. Cremated remains may not be scattered at the Site. Allowing this practice would alter the chemical balances needed to support a natural reserve
8. Cremated remains must be interred in biodegradable caskets or boxes, or poured directly into the grave plot. Plastic urns provided by some crematoria are not biodegradable and therefore cannot be interred.
9. Flowers, offerings and other tributes may be placed on graves at the time of a funeral or memorial ceremonies and services. These will be removed by the Company after five days (or when deemed appropriate by the Company) in order to ensure that any non-biodegradable matter is taken from the Site and natural ground cover is allowed to develop.
10. Trees acquired as living memorials in the woodland area of the Site are guaranteed for 10 years: if a tree dies during that period, it will be replaced. After that time, the woodland will begin to develop naturally, with some trees growing more vigorously than others. For this reason, the Company encourages an understanding that the woodland as a whole is the lasting memorial.
11. Visitors to the Site must comply with the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, Article 10, Paragraph 6, and with the Criminal Damages Act 1971, Article 1, Section 1. (see Notes below)
12. These Regulations may, from time to time, be altered according to need, and such alterations may be carried out at the discretion of the Company.

### **Notes**

#### **The Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order, 1977 Article 10 - Grant of Burial Rights**

(6) No body shall be buried, or cremated human remains interred or scattered, in or over any grave or vault, in which an exclusive right of burial for the time being subsists except by, or with the consent in writing of, the owner of the right. This paragraph shall not extend to the body, or remains, of

- the persons who immediately before his death was the owner of the right; or
- any other person specified in the deed of grant or in an endorsement thereon made at the request of the owner for the time being of the right by the officer appointed for that purpose by the burial authority.

#### **Criminal Damages Act, 1971 Article 1, Section 1**

A person who without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or damaged shall be guilty of an offence.

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