

Memorial Policy

Parks & Open Spaces

Consultation Draft

The consultation runs to 2012

Responses can be sent to ?



INTRODUCTION

1. Across the borough the Council manage a variety of public open spaces that receive frequent requests for memorials. The most popular sites have very few spaces remaining and while on-going development work will create new locations it will not be possible to accept every request.
2. In order to offer the most appropriate memorial opportunities across the Council sites and retain the true character of these areas of public open space, a policy is needed to determine the forms of memorial that are appropriate.
3. On specific sites existing agreements are in place regarding memorial maintenance. This policy will replace those agreements going forward.

POLICY FOR COUNCIL-OWNED SITES

4. Yarrow Valley Country Park

Benches

Remaining locations for memorial benches are available from the Parks & Open spaces team. Due to the nature of the site only steel benches are acceptable and must be of a previously agreed design. Any purchased benches will become the responsibility of the Council and be maintained in line with other benches on site. If they are vandalised or require replacement, the donors will be asked if they wish to replace the bench.

Other Memorial Items

Applications for other forms of memorial (e.g. carvings and sculptures) will be considered on an individual basis by the Parks & Open Spaces team. Any such items of memoria must be in keeping with the location and add value to Yarrow Valley Country Park. Potential locations for these are available through the Parks & Open spaces team. However, memorial trees are no longer permitted due to the difficulty in managing the significant existing tree stock.

5. Astley Park

Benches

Only applications from military, or ex-military personnel will be considered to reflect the parks war memorial status. Plaques may be attached to existing benches, or additional benches may be purchased to complement the existing provision. Any purchased benches will become the responsibility of the Council and be maintained in line with the other benches on site.

Other Memorial Items

No other memorial items are accepted within Astley Park.

6. Chorley & Adlington Cemeteries

Remaining locations for memorial benches are available from the Parks & Open Spaces team. Due to the nature of the site a standard timber bench is available and can be purchased through the cemetery office. Any purchased benches will become the responsibility of the Council and be maintained in line with other benches on site. If they are vandalised or require replacement, the donors will be asked if they wish to replace the bench

Other Memorial Items

Applications for other forms of memorial (e.g. carvings and sculptures) will be considered on an individual basis by the Parks & Open Spaces team. Any such memorial item must be in keeping with the existing features of the cemetery and locations for these are available through the Parks & Open Spaces team.

7. Nature Reserves

Benches

The siting of memorial benches will be considered on a site-by-site basis. Benches must be of a robust nature and be in keeping with the site. Any purchased benches will become the responsibility of the Council and be maintained in line with other benches on site. If they are vandalised or require replacement, the donors will be asked if they wish to replace the bench

Other Memorial Items

Applications for other forms of memorial (e.g. carvings and sculptures) will be considered on an individual basis by the Parks & Open Spaces team. Any such memorial item must be in keeping with the location and add value to it.

8. Other Council-owned sites

Any requests for memorial items outside of the sites listed will be considered by the Parks and Open Spaces team on an individual basis, taking into account the following criteria;

- Requested item e.g. bench / tree / other
- Appropriate for site - design
- Appropriate for site - material
- Existing site provision
- Likely impact

Only requests that are able to fully meet the criteria will be considered.

9. Exceptional Circumstances

The Council recognises that there may be exceptional circumstances that require the Policy to be deviated from. If an applicant claims that there are exceptional circumstances, these would need to be put in writing. They would then be considered by the Executive Cabinet prior to a decision being taken at a Council meeting.

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