

Memorial Policy

Parks & Open Spaces



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Across the borough the Council manages 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 may not be possible to accept every request.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 On specific sites existing agreements are in place regarding memorial maintenance. This policy will replace those agreements going forward.
- 1.4 The policy for Council-owned sites is detailed below.

2. YARROW VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

Benches

- 2.1 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

- 2.2 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.

3. ASTLEY PARK

Benches

- 3.1 From the Memorial Arch to Pets Corner only applications from military or ex-military personnel will be considered to reflect the parks war memorial status. Non-military related applications will only be considered for other areas of the park from Pets Corner to the Hallgate and Ackhurst Lodge entrances. 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. If they are vandalised or require replacement, the donors will be asked if they wish to replace the bench.

Other Memorial Items

- 3.2 No other memorial items are accepted within Astley Park.

4. CHORLEY & ADLINGTON CEMETERIES

- 4.1 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 the 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

- 4.2 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.

5. NATURE RESERVES

Benches

- 5.1 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 the 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

- 5.2 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.

6. OTHER COUNCIL-OWNED SITES

- 6.1 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
- 6.2 Only requests that are able to fully meet the criteria will be considered.

7. OTHER & EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 7.1 The Council recognises that there may be other or exceptional circumstances that may require the Policy to be deviated from. These requests will be considered on a case by case basis and applicants will need to demonstrate the reasons for an alternative memorial type or location. They would then be considered by the Executive Cabinet prior to a decision being taken at a Council meeting.