



INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO MAY WISH TO ERECT A HEADSTONE OR MEMORIAL IN AMBLE WEST CEMETERY

You are reminded that in accordance with Amble West Cemetery rules, permission is given to erect a headstone or memorial of an approved type provided it is erected by a National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM) or British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM) registered member and also that insurance cover is obtained.

Whilst we appreciate that Memorial Masons guarantee their work for a period of time, those who authorise the erection of a headstone or memorial are still responsible for any work required to ensure the safety of it after that period or for any other work required such as reinstatement after vandalism.

Due to the specialist work and the costs involved, it is advisable that you have insurance cover for the headstone or memorial you commission; please ask your Memorial Mason or Funeral Directors for details of this type of insurance

Please remember to renew this insurance when it becomes due and also to inform Amble Town Council of a change of address or ownership in the future.

General surveillance of memorials is carried out continually, but all memorials have a more specific check carried out at least once every 4 - 5 years in a rolling programme. This check applies to all memorials under 2 metres in height; it is usually a visual check and a hand test if it is considered safe to do so. Priority is given to those that are older, jointed or appear unstable. The ground conditions and local knowledge also aid staff in their assessment of priority.

Notice of these inspections is in the main noticeboard at the cemetery entrance. These assessments are carried out to minimise the risk to public safety by taking into account the likelihood of an incident occurring and the likely severity of any injuries.

If the memorial is considered an immediate danger, it may be made temporarily safe using a 'post and band' method, for up to 6 months. This alerts visitors, staff and contractors to the plot that action is required and also to any danger. Where contact details are known, owners will be informed that work is required. Should no remedial work be undertaken, under recommended Health and Safety guidelines, Council will arrange to lay the memorial down.

Contact details enable us to keep our records up to date and to contact you if there is a problem particularly that found after we have carried out this Memorial Stability Inspection. **It is your responsibility to repair the fault.** We would not wish to give offence or upset relatives of the Deceased but failure to give these details is likely to result in the laying down or the removal of the headstone or memorial **without prior notice** if it becomes unstable or dangerous.

Date:	April 2024	Approving:	Full Council
Policy effective:	Immediate	Date for next review:	May 2026

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