

Rules and Regulations

for

St. Kieran's Cemetery, Hebron Road, Kilkenny City.

- 1. Following Local Government restructuring in 2014 Kilkenny County Council replaced the Kilkenny Borough Council / Corporation. For the purpose of this document reference to Kilkenny County Council will include the Kilkenny Borough Council / Corporation with respect to plots purchased prior to the said restructuring in 2014.
- 2. There shall be kept continuously in the office of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny, a Ground Plan of the Cemetery showing in convenient sections, properly numbered and lettered so as to be readily distinguished, the different plots in which interments may take place. A corresponding Plan shall be kept at the Caretakers Lodge within the Cemetery. The Schedule of all charges in connection with the interments shall in both cases be kept with the Plans aforesaid.
- 3. Every application for interment shall be in such form as may be required (if any), which may be obtained at the office of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny between the hours 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except on Bank Holidays and Public Holidays.
- 4. An application for the purchase of a Plot or Plots shall be made to the office of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny, and must be accompanied by the required fee. Following receipt of said application, the next available Plot Reference Number will be allocated and confirmation of the purchase of the relevant Plot together with a receipt for fee paid and plot reference will be issued to the Purchaser.

- 5. In the case where a Plot has not been purchased in advance of the interment and a new plot is required, the family/Undertaker of the deceased will contact Cemetery Caretakers who will provide the family/Undertaker with the next available Plot Reference Number and will proceed to prepare the Plot for the upcoming interment.
- 6. A Register shall be kept of all grave spaces purchased in perpetuity, and each entry shall contain the numbers and letters corresponding to the numbers and letters of the Plan, showing the particular spaces so purchased and of any interments in same, with the name, age and description of person interred.
- 7. One person only shall be registered as proprietor of the grave space, or spaces purchased, and under no circumstances will Kilkenny County Council recognise joint proprietorship.
- 8. The space or spaces purchased are to be considered the personal estate of the purchaser, and may be assigned in their lifetime.
- 9. An Assigned Officer shall be appointed for St Kieran's Cemetery. It will be the duty of the Assigned Officer of Kilkenny County Council to enter the particulars of every assignment in the Register mentioned in Rule 4. The Assigned Officer shall also keep a Register of Burials in accordance with the requirements of Section 191 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878 as amended.
- 10. In all cases where persons claim the right to a grave space or spaces, whether as assignee, personal representative, or legatee, or in any other manner, the receipt for the original purchase money or the grant must be produced, but Kilkenny County Council (or Assigned Officer thereof acting on its behalf) may, if it deems fit, dispense with the production of such receipt or grant upon satisfactory evidence being given that it cannot be found or that it is not intentionally withheld.
- 11. When an application is made for an Order of Interment in a grave space already purchased, satisfactory evidence must be given to the Cemetery Caretaker or Assigned Officer that the person applying is entitled to have the interment take place in that particular grave.
- 12. No body shall be buried in any grave space already purchased except with the consent of the owner of such grave space, and such consent must be in writing if required by Kilkenny County Council or a duly Assigned Officer of the same, subject to the Rules and Regulations for

the Regulation of Burial Grounds as made by the Local Government Board dated 6/12/1888, as amended by the Burial Ground (Amendment) Regulations 2013 (SI1444/2013).

- 13. All money for the purchase of grave spaces, charges for opening graves, right to erect headstones and other charges, must be paid to Kilkenny County Council, who shall give to the party paying same a receipt setting forth the particulars of the charges for which the money was paid, and no payment made to any other person on account of interments will be recognised by Kilkenny County Council unless the receipt herein mentioned be produced.
- 14. A book shall be kept at the office of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny, in which there shall be entered by the Assigned Officer, immediately on receipt, the moneys paid in connection with the purchase of grave spaces, interments, etc. Such book shall be open to the inspection of any member of the Council at any time between 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except on Bank Holidays and Public Holidays.
- 15. The caretaker of the Cemetery shall, under no circumstances, permit an interment to take place unless there is produced to him an order, in the proper form, for such interment Such order shall specify the grave space in which the interment is intended to take place, and the time of interment; and the caretaker shall enter in a book to be kept for that purpose the particulars of such order of interment. The remains of a person to be buried must be enclosed in a coffin of wood or other strong material unless Rule 16 applies.
- 16. Under S.I. No. 144/2013 Burial Ground (Amendment) Regulations, 2013, un-coffined burials are permitted, save where Public Health Guidance directs otherwise, within the area of the Cemetery which is designated exclusively for that purpose, the said area is identified on Drawing No. SKC-01.
- 17. An order for interment can be obtained from the Cemetery Caretaker every day or from the offices of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny, between 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. and 4.30p.m. Monday to Friday, except on Bank Holidays and Public Holidays. The interment to which such order refers shall not be permitted to take place until at least twenty-four hours have elapsed from the time such order is handed to the caretaker of the Cemetery.

- 18. Applications for orders or interment must be made twenty-four hours before the interment is intended to take place, and upon such order being granted it must be delivered to the Cemetery Caretaker within two hours. Every application for an order of interment must set forth the name in full of the person to be buried. Forms of Application, etc., may be obtained from the Cemetery Caretaker or from the offices of Kilkenny County Council, City Hall, High Street, Kilkenny, between 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except on Bank Holidays and Public Holidays. The Order for Interment shall be completed in full , signed by some member of the family of the deceased when possible, or by some person acting on their behalf with their authority (Undertaker). Notice of interment on Sunday must be given at the Cemetery before 12.00 noon on the previous day.
- 19. All burials in the Cemetery must be between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. (children under seven years of age excepted). One body only shall be buried in a grave at one time, unless the bodies be those of members of the same family. No sub-division, all graves to be 9' 0" X 4' 0" (2.75m X 1.25m) or multiples of same.
- 20. All graves will be opened and closed by the Cemetery Caretaking Staff who are not be interfered with by any un-assigned person. Every grave must be flat. Mounds will not be permitted.
- 21. The burial ground caretaker shall be notified prior to the commencement of works, to mark out the location available for the headstone using 4 pegs.

The headstone shall be of natural stone only (marble, limestone, granite). The use of materials of a perishable nature will not be permitted.

If the headstone foundation has not already been put in-situ by Kilkenny County Council as part of planned footpath works. The headstone shall be erected on a solid masonry or concrete foundation not less than 0.6 m. below ground level. The minimum dimensions of the foundations shall be 225mm wide and 250mm deep and extend over the full width of the grave plot. The concrete foundations shall also be extended as necessary (within the confines of the grave plot) to ensure that the widest plan area of the headstone base and/or the headstone itself rests at all times over solid foundations. The foundations and the headstone/headstone base shall be appropriately linked together either by dowelling or by another approved method. The person(s) erecting any headstone shall be satisfied that the foundations as constructed are appropriate to the ground conditions and headstone proposed.

The maximum height of the headstone shall be 1.2 m. above ground level, except for Celtic Crosses which shall have a maximum height of 2.1m. Any kerbing placed around a grave space shall be placed on a solid foundation sunk at least 0.15 m. below ground level.

The headstone, kerbing and related foundations shall not extend outside the boundary of the grave space.

The dumping and mixing of sand, gravel and cement for making concrete is not permitted on paths or unprotected ground and must be carried out on portable platforms.

Any spoil and excess material resulting from the preparation for and erection of the headstone or kerbing shall be collected and removed by the person or contractor erecting the headstone/kerbing.

Kilkenny County Council reserves the right to order the removal of any headstone or kerbing, if in the opinion of the Council such headstone or kerbing is in its general appearance offensive or contradictory to good practice principles.

All works are subject to the supervision and control of the Council Engineer or his representative.

- 22. Kilkenny County Council will not undertake any responsibility with regard to the maintenance and upkeep of any existing headstone, tomb, monument, vault, inscription, tablet, kerbing etc; but the owners of grave spaces in which such are erected will be bound to keep them in decent order and repair, and in the event of their not doing so, Kilkenny County Council may have any necessary work or repair, or renovation done, and recover from the owners of such spaces the expenses so incurred.
- 23. No plant, shrub, etc., will be permitted to be planted without the consent of Kilkenny County Council, or a duly Assigned Officer of same. Dwarf shrubs only shall be planted on grave spaces and shall be kept clipped by the caretaker free of charge. Any trees or shrubs that may be planted on any grave become the property of the

Kilkenny County Council and may be removed by Kilkenny County Council.

- 24. All grave spaces shall be kept neat and in good order by the Cemetery Caretaker or any Cemetery servant free of charge.
- 25. No money perquisite or gratuity of any description shall be given to, or received by, any Cemetery Caretaker or staff member, and any Cemetery Caretaker or staff member receiving such perquisite or gratuity shall be forthwith dismissed.
- 26. No initial hewing or dressing of stones, or operations of any other description, shall be permitted in the Cemetery or in the approaches thereto. The building of vaults and other places of burial in the Cemetery shall be carried out under the supervision of an officer of Kilkenny County Council, and when necessary he may object to the manner in which such vault or other place of burial is being erected, and the work shall be forthwith suspended until Kilkenny County Council or a committee thereof, shall have dealt with such objections and made an order thereon, which order shall be final and binding on all persons interested in such vault or burial place. Kilkenny County Council will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be sustained by reason of the suspension or stoppage of any work under this rule in connection with the vault or burial place, except re-lettering or wording.
- 27. The Cemetery shall be opened for visitors and the Cemetery Caretaking staff shall at all times be entitled to remove from the Cemetery any person who may be guilty of misconduct.
- 28. Visitors must confine themselves solely to the walks of the Cemetery and must not trespass on the grass or interfere with the shrubs, plants, etc., or with any grave, tombstone, monument, etc. No persons conveying parcels or baskets will be admitted to the Cemetery. No dog or other animal shall on any account be permitted to enter the Cemetery grounds.
- 29. The charges for grave spaces, etc., shall be those as determined from time to time by Kilkenny County Council.
- 30. Kilkenny County Council shall have power to make from time to time such further rules and regulations for the management of the Cemetery as they may think fit, and shall also have power to alter and

amend the foregoing rules and regulations and any rules and regulations that may hereafter be made.

- 31. All moneys received by the Assigned Officer shall forthwith be lodged by him/her to the credit of Kilkenny County Council.
- 32. When interments take place in vaults and other places of sepulture exposed to the atmosphere, the remains must be enclosed in a coffin of stone, asphalt, or lead, or in a grave filled up with earth.
- 33. Demonstrations of all kinds are prohibited within the Cemetery in the strictest manner, other than the delivery of a funeral oration or the chanting by clergy or religious leaders in the service of a particular faith. The caretaker shall take such steps as may be necessary to prevent any breach of this rules and regulations.
- 34. The foregoing rules and regulations shall be binding on all parties having places of burial in the Cemetery and on all other persons connected with the Cemetery, until they are altered or amended by Kilkenny County Council, and shall be then binding as so altered and amended.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the up-dated Rules and Regulations for St. Kieran's Cemetery made by order of the Chief Executive and sealed by the Kilkenny County Council on the 14th day of April, 2020.

Signed by:

detto Bun

Colette Byrne, Chief Executive of Kilkenny County Council

Dated this 14th day of April, 2020

Witnessed by:

Peter 'Chap' Cleere, Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council







Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae, Sráid Eoin, Cill Chainnigh, R95 A39T.

Kilkenny County Council

County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny, R95 A39T



Pobal agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Creating Sustainable Communities and Places

Colette Byrne, Chief Executive.

13th April 2020

Re: Rules and Regulations for St. Kieran's Cemetery, Hebron Road, Kilkenny City

A Chara,

It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to make provision to facilitate the burial of its citizens. At present there is no provision for members of the public who, in keeping with their faith/preference, wish to have an un-coffined burial.

Legislation was passed in 2013 under S.I. No. 144/2013 Burial Ground (Amendment) Regulations 2013, whereby un-coffined burials could be permitted within an area of a Cemetery which was designated exclusively for this purpose, save where Public Health Guidance directs otherwise.

The Council currently operates 14 active burial grounds within the county with St. Kieran's Cemetery in the City the largest by far. In order to address the above short coming an area has been identified within St. Kieran's Cemetery which is considered suitable to accommodate un-coffined burials.

In order to permit this practice, the rules and regulations, prepared in 1931, for St. Kieran's Cemetery have been updated. A number of other minor amendments have also been made to bring the said rules and regulations up to-date with current practices.

Section 149(4) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, provides that every function of a local authority that is not a reserved function is an executive function to be carried out by the chief executive. Accordingly, amending the rules and regulations with respect to Burial Grounds is an executive function.

Interested parties including the Christian Bishops for the dioceses, members of the Municipal District of Kilkenny City and the Council's Corporate Policy Group were advised of the above proposal and all were supportive of same.

Thus, I hereby recommend that the attached updated Rules and Regulations for St. Kieran's Cemetery by signed.

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Sean McKeowh, Director of Services



KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDER

Ref. G176

Order No:

Subject: Rules and Regulations for St. Kieran's Cemetery, Hebron Road, Kilkenny City.

Order: Under the Section 149(4) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, I hereby update the Rules and Regulations for St. Kieran's Cemetery – previously referred to as Rules and Regulations Made by the Corporation of Kilkenny acting as the Burial Board of the Borough.

Signed:

Coletto Byme **Chief Executive**

Date:

14th April, 2020.



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Date:

14th April, 2020.

