

COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL



PD037 GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE REGULATIONS

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Green Infrastructure Plan

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Chairman	Wendy Plant

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GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE REGULATIONS

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GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE REGULATIONS

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Colwich Parish Council (the Council) has acquired the land off Coley Lane, Little Haywood to create a haven of peace where villagers may plant a tree or dedicate a bench in the memory of a loved one or to commemorate a village group or event.
- 1.2 This Garden of Remembrance (the Garden) is open to everyone to walk through, to sit and relax or to just contemplate and remember. It is intended to be an area where wildlife and the local flora can be allowed to flourish to help nature to thrive.
- 1.3 Villagers are welcome to walk their dogs through the area, providing they clear up after them.
- 1.4 The Garden provides a link between two Public Rights of Way (CPC40 & CPC45) to encourage residents to make use of the footpaths across the fields between our lovely villages.
- 1.5 Whether you choose to walk or just to sit and take in the scenery, emphasis is placed on expecting users to behave responsibly particularly in respect to litter and ensuring that dogs fouling is cleared up straightaway.
- 1.6 The over-riding ethos of the Garden is to promote and assist the natural environmental character of the surrounding area.

2 GENERAL CONDUCT

- 2.1 The Garden is a place of rest and peace. Any activities that diminish this will not be permitted.
- 2.2 All visitors must conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner at all times and ensure compliance with any measures or restrictions in place.
- 2.3 The Council reserves the right to exclude or remove any member of the public at their discretion.
- 2.4 Whilst the Garden does not specifically come under the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977, the Council will treat the area as being covered. Consequently, the Council will not tolerate anyone who wilfully:
 - 2.4.1 Creates a disturbance in the Garden.
 - 2.4.2 Commits a nuisance in the Garden.
 - 2.4.3 Interferes with any trees, benches, memorial, flowers or plants in any such manner.
 - 2.4.4 Plays any game or sport in the Garden.
 - 2.4.5 Enters or remains in the Garden when it is closed to the public, unless authorised by the Council to do so.

3 MAINTENANCE

- 3.1 A general appearance of tidiness and orderliness will be maintained whilst nurturing a natural feel to the Garden.

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3.2 Wildflowers will be encouraged to thrive in the hedges and throughout the Garden..

4 MEMORIAL PLAQUES

4.1 The following guidance has been agreed by the Council for those wishing to purchase and install a plaque.

4.2 Only plaques approved by the Council, via the Chief Officer, may be installed.

4.3 The first point of contact for those wishing to have a tree dedication and/or a plaque is the Chief Officer or the Head Lengthsman.

4.4 The Council has provided numerous trees within the Garden, provided free of charge from the Woodland Trust, near which a plaque may be installed. There is no charge for these trees.

4.5 The Council has also installed six benches in the Garden to which a plaque may be attached.

4.6 Alternatively, the Council may plant a tree specially purchased for the Garden. These trees should be native species, in line with its Green Infrastructure policy (PD036).

4.7 The Council will arrange for the purchase of a plaque, which may be either installed on the ground or attached to a bench. However, the cost of the plaque, including carriage and VAT, will be invoiced to requester and will not come from the public purse. Payment must be received before the Council will agree to the manufacture of the plaque.

4.8 The Council will liaise with the requester, and the manufacturer, to agree the wording for the plaque.

5 MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

5.1 The Council accepts that, from time to time, people will want to lay flowers or leave a token of remembrance by a tree/plaque, these must be for a limited period only and it is the responsibility of each individual to arrange for their removal.

5.2 No marking or delineation of a memorial space is allowed. Fencing, edging stones or borders of any kind are not permitted and will be removed.

5.3 The only tributes permitted are:

5.3.1 Flowers.

5.3.2 Floral or green wreaths and arrangements.

5.3.3 Plant pots of a modest size and number.

5.3.4 Cards (and similar) of a modest size, which should be secured to the floral tributes or tree.

5.4 Other items will be removed.

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- 5.5** The Council may remove, without notice, any articles that are likely to cause risk or offence to other visitors or which interfere with maintenance.
- 5.6** Any flowers or tokens of remembrance which remain for more than 4 weeks will be removed.
- 5.7** Any flowers that have been affected by the weather will be removed at the discretion of the Chief Officer and/or Head Lengthsman to preserve the appearance of the Garden.
- 5.8** Christmas Wreaths must be removed by the end of January.
- 5.9** As the Garden is a wildlife haven, users are asked not to leave tokens of remembrance that are either harmful to wildlife or are not biodegradable.
- 5.10** Plastic items are prohibited and will be removed.
- 5.11** Requests may be made to provide flower planters to be placed in appropriate locations around the Garden. The type and location must be discussed with the Chief Officer or Head Lengthsman. Such planters should be made of a natural material that fits in with the rural ethos of the Garden and the plants contained therein reflect the native species.
- 5.12** Any plants that are planted around a dedicated tree or bench must be native species e.g. primroses, violets, British bluebells or native daffodils, to maintain the ethos of the project to enhance and encourage the natural habitat of the Garden.
- 5.13** Any plants should not impede the Council's ability to maintain the field.
- 5.14** The following items are not permitted to be left within the Garden and will be removed:
- 5.14.1** Food and drink, including alcohol.
 - 5.14.2** Glass vases, jars or any other glass item.
 - 5.14.3** Balloons, wind chimes, solar lights, candles.
 - 5.14.4** Photographs.
 - 5.14.5** Toys.
 - 5.14.6** Artificial flowers.
- 5.15** Any items left are at the owners' risk and the Council cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage, however caused.

6 REVIEW OF POLICY

- 6.1** The Garden is an ongoing project and these regulations may change over time in keeping with developments made and will be reviewed annually.

SIGNED	<i>W Plant</i>
COUNCILLOR WENDY PLANT, PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	