

Churchyard Policy

Churchyards are subject to the law administered by the Consistory Court of the Diocese

The Diocesan Chancellor, who is the judge of the Consistory Court, has issued Guidance for churchyard users, and a copy of this is available. By law, no one has the right to place anything in a churchyard unless it is permitted by the Chancellor. In cases within the Guidance, that permission may be given by the Vicar or Rector under the authority given by the Chancellor for this purpose, but in all other cases it can only be given by the Consistory Court in the form of a special permission called a Faculty. Advice as to how to apply for a faculty can be obtained from the Vicar or Rector or from the Registry of the Diocese, whose details are in the Guidance.

Please Remember

- 1. The graveyard is the property of the Incumbent of St, Mary's Church, Alderbury.**
- 2. Headstones are the property of the family of the deceased.**

The following points are intended as guidance for Alderbury churchyard and should be read in conjunction with the Diocesan Chancellor's Guidance.

- 1. The areas used for the burial of ashes are intended to be grassed areas, with only a memorial stone of the approved size. Placement of other items or the placement of gravel or other materials around memorial stones are not permitted.**
- 2. As the Guidance provides, no planting of shrubs or trees in the graveyard, or of plants on any grave is permitted unless by faculty.**
- 3. Objects placed in the churchyard should not obstruct mowing, and any which do so may be removed if necessary.**
- 4. Objects which are likely to shatter will be removed for reasons of Health and Safety. These will be put in a safe area for a period of time, where they can be collected.**
- 5. As the Guidance states, no plastic or synthetic materials are permitted but Remembrance Poppies are permitted between 20th October and 20th December. Any Christmas wreaths will be removed by church officers unless they have been removed by their owners by the end of the immediately following January.**

I have read the above, and agree to abide by these regulations.

Name:

Date:

Signature: