



Advice for families

Re: COVID-19 Changes to Cemetery and Burial Procedures

Update for funerals in Kynaston Road Cemetery 5th November 2020.

As restrictions regarding the COVID-19 situation come into effect today, Didcot Town Council have amended regulations in line with Central Government's advice.

- As per the Government's guidance funerals can still be attended by up to 30 family members and close friends.
- If you have been instructed by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate because you have tested positive for COVID-19, or you are the close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you should not attend a funeral.
According to the Government's advice on their website:
'It is a legal offence for a person who is required to self-isolate to attend a funeral under any circumstance other than the funeral of a close family member.
Even if you are a close family member of the deceased, we strongly recommend that you attend remotely if possible, to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread to other mourners. However, if after careful consideration of the risk, you choose to attend in person, it is essential that you take all of the following precautions:
 - *advise the funeral organiser and other mourners that you are in your self-isolation period, and ensure that you do not attend at the same time as another mourner who may be clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable*
 - *maintain a distance of at least 2 metres between yourself and others at all times*
 - *practise strict hand and respiratory hygiene by:*
 - *wearing a surgical-grade Type IIR face mask or higher grade, properly fitting, to minimise any risk of viral transmission from yourself to others. If a respirator mask is used (for example N95), this should be non-valved*
 - *washing your hands more often than usual with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using a hand sanitiser*
 - *avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth*
 - *covering your coughs or sneezes'*
- Mourners will be asked to stand 2m from the grave and to avoid contact with each other. Those from the same household or are in a support bubble with another household, are asked to stand together.

Full the full advice on attending a funeral, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

It is understood that these requests are difficult at a time of mourning, however by following them we will help to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In this fast-moving situation, it may be necessary to update this advice in the coming weeks. As soon as the Government issues further advice, Didcot Town Council will endeavour to update these measures.

Please rest assured that your safety and wellbeing is at the forefront of our decisions.

