

## **Memorials in the Maldon District Policy 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

Memorials provide a lovely way to remember loved ones lost. At Maldon District Council, we offer the following options that you may wish to consider within our cemeteries, Parks, and other specific locations around the District.

Please note, as a general rule Maldon District Council do not own the seawall in the District. Any requests for memorial benches on the seawall must be directed to the relevant Private Landowner.

Maldon District Council no longer offer the sale of memorial benches and all new benches installed are the property of the council. This policy will not be applied retrospectively to the sale of benches prior to April 2022.

### **Bench Plaques**

8 x 2.5 inches / 20 x 63 cm maximum 90 characters for ten years = £600

Purchase of additional ten-year lease period = £500.00

Purchase of additional five-year lease period = £300.00

Plaques may be purchased to be installed on an available bench owned by Maldon District Council, for a period of ten years. There can be a maximum of three plaques per bench and full ownership of the bench will remain with Maldon District Council. Other members of the community will have the option of purchasing plaques for any available space on the bench in question.

After the lease period has expired, the bench space can be leased again, however this is not an automatic right and is subject to agreement of the Cemeteries Team. Where leases are not renewed the plaque will be removed and returned or placed on the memorial wall or pergolas at Maldon, Heybridge or Burnham on Crouch cemetery and the space offered to the next person on the waiting list.

Plaques are not permitted within woodland plantings or to be fixed to any tree.

### **Memorial Trees**

The Council will limit the maximum number of memorial trees in the following key sites:

- Maldon Cemetery
- Heybridge Cemetery
- Burnham-on-Crouch Cemetery
- Promenade Park, Maldon
- Riverside Park, Burnham-on-Crouch

The Council encourages the planting of semi-mature native species. Any Individual tree planting application will be considered in the context of its proposed setting.

All tree plantings will be installed with a support stake, guard, and (if appropriate) watering system. Guards will be removed once the tree has outgrown the need or three years after planting, whichever occurs earliest.

Trees which fail within the first year of planting will be replaced on a one-time only basis at the Council's expense. Any further replacements will be at the expense of the applicant.

The Council accepts no liability for any tree and all tree plantings (individual or woodlands) will be subject to a standard grounds maintenance regime for the site in which they are planted.

Should a tree become diseased or damaged to the point of being unsafe, then - following appropriate assessment by a suitably qualified officer / professional - the Council reserves the right to remove any such tree without notification. Should this occur, all efforts will be made by officers to contact applicants / families.

After 10 years from original planting date, the Council reserves the right to consider any tree as part of its general tree stock, and as such will subject to standard Arboricultural or Woodland management practices. These works will, in general, be implemented with no notification to applicants and may include (but not be limited to):

- pruning or thinning or crown lift
- limb removal
- coppicing
- pollarding
- felling / removal. Should this last be deemed necessary by a qualified officer / professional, all efforts will be made by officers to contact applicants / families to inform them of actions and justification, and to arrange a replacement planting if so desired.

### **Cemeteries Only**

#### **Headstones, kerb sets and monuments**

All applications for full burial and cremated remains monuments should be made by a NAMM registered memorial mason using the Memorial application form available on our website. All applications must be signed for by the Exclusive Right of Burial owner. Please see our website cemeteries / Exclusive right of burial for further information.

#### **Memorial Plaques**

6x4 maximum 70 characters £185

7x5 maximum 80 characters £195

Cast bronze plaques, inscribed to order, can be placed on

- The Maldon Woodland Memorial Wall, Maldon cemetery
- The Chapel wall at Heybridge cemetery
- The pagodas in Maldon and Burnham on crouch cemeteries

Plaques placed in these locations will be installed permanently.

**Plaques on plinths**

6x4 plaque on hardwood plinth £415

Plaques may be placed on hardwood plinths in designated areas for three years. After which time, they will be moved to one of the above locations where they will remain permanently.

**Garden of Remembrance only**

6x4 brass plaque on stake £185

7x5 brass plaque on stake £195

5 x 3 Perspex plaque on stake £55

Plaques on brass or Perspex stakes may be purchased for cremated remains plots in all three of our cemeteries in Maldon, Heybridge and Burnham-on-Crouch.

Please complete the online form in order that we may be able to process your application and discuss the availability of your option.

**Memorabilia and Tributes**

No memorial, tribute or memento such as vases, statues, solar lights, obelisks, flowers, wreaths, balloons or other ornamentation should be placed around a bench, tree or other location outside of a purchased formal burial plot. If this were to occur, the council reserves the right to remove and dispose of any such item.

Maldon District Council cemetery regulations points 60 – 71 clearly prescribe permitted tributes within cemeteries. The understanding of, and agreement with these terms and conditions is assumed upon the purchase of any burial plot.