



South Swindon Parish Council

Memorial Policy

South Swindon Parish Council recognises the wish for memorials and will consider a memorial on land owned or managed by them. The Parish Council will consider requests for memorials on an individual basis and retains the right to refuse or limit the number of memorials. The content of this policy may be revised as necessary at the discretion of the Parish Council.

OBJECTIVES

This policy has been produced with the following guiding principles:

- To be respectful and sympathetic to those seeking to install a memorial
- To establish responsibility for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of memorials
- To ensure that memorials are not out of place in the area in which they are situated

GENERAL

- All applications for memorials should be made using the appropriate Memorial Application form available on the website or on request from enquiries@southswindon-pc.gov.uk
- All memorials must be paid for by the applicant prior to purchase and installation by the Council. South Swindon Parish Council will inform the applicant of the price on receipt of an application form.
- South Swindon Parish Council will attempt to accommodate the wishes of the applications, but it may limit the number of memorials in a particular area.
- South Swindon Parish Council accepts no responsibility if a memorial is damaged, vandalised or stolen.
- South Swindon Parish Council reserves the right to remove memorials at any time.
- South Swindon Parish Council will only permit memorials to individuals or, in exceptional circumstances, a historical event. Applications for pets will not be considered.
- Memorials will be limited to benches and trees. No additional mementos e.g., vases, statues, flowers, wreaths, balloons, or other ornamentation etc., shall be permitted on or around the memorial. These will be removed without reference to the original applicant.

MEMORIAL BENCHES

- Benches must be of the type specified by South Swindon Parish Council in order to be coordinated with any other benches already situated in the intended location or to fulfil health and safety or access requirements.
- South Swindon Parish Council will be responsible for all installation work.
- Memorial plaques fitted to benches will be supplied and fitted by South Swindon Parish Council. The inscription on the plaque must be agreed with South Swindon Parish Council and there will be a limit on the number of words.
- South Swindon Parish Council will maintain the bench within its maintenance programme.
- The total cost of the installation of a memorial bench will be dependent on the type of bench allowed and the fittings required. South Swindon Parish Council will purchase the bench, all materials and supply labour for installation and will be reimbursed by the applicant.

MEMORIAL TREES

- Memorial plaques will not be permitted on or near trees. Existing plaques will remain.
- A list of memorial trees and any commemorations will be available on the Parish website.
- Trees will be chosen by South Swindon Parish Council in discussion with the applicant to fit the planting scheme of the area. The applicant will be notified of the tree species to be planted.
- The planting of trees may not be possible in some areas.
- South Swindon Parish Council will charge for the tree, stake, guard, and planting labour. The tree will be maintained by the Parish Council in line with its current maintenance programmes.

Policy Review

This Memorial Policy will be reviewed annually by the Parish Council. Details of the review and/or amendment will be recorded below.

Date	Description	Page Number	Who
May 2024	Issue	All	CEO/JM

May 2025	Annual Review	All	CEO/JM
May 2026	Annual Review	All	GSL/MT