



DARTMOUTH

TOWN COUNCIL

Adopted 18th September 2023 at Finance and General Purposes Meeting

Dartmouth Town Council

Memorial Safety Policy

Approved at Finance & General Purposes 18/09/2023

Dartmouth Town Council (DTC) check the memorials in Longcross Cemetery every five years. An inspection is carried out and the memorial is tested for stability. If the memorial is unsafe the following procedure will be carried out:

- Immediate risk - the memorial will be laid down
- Not an immediate risk but requires attention - the memorial will be identified with a warning sign and tape
- Low risk - further inspection will be carried out in one year
- No risk - further inspection in five years
- The deed holder/owner of the grave is responsible for the memorial (recent memorials will be guaranteed by the stonemason), so if a memorial is found unsafe and/or in need of repair DTC will send a letter to the address we have on record. When DTC can't contact the deed holder/owner DTC will ensure the memorial is made safe.

If your memorial has to be laid down, you can:

- advise DTC that you don't want it repaired (but DTC will ensure that it is safe)
- have the memorial repaired by a registered monumental mason

If your memorial has been taped and has a sign warning you can:

- have the memorial repaired by a registered monumental mason
- give your permission to have the memorial laid flat or buried with the inscription still visible
- If you want your memorial repaired, please don't attempt to do this yourself, only a registered monumental mason can carry out this work. For a full list of registered monumental masons please contact the office as per below

Email admin@dartmouthtowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01803 832281 for more information.

For further information on headstone testing or for independent advice visit the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management website.