**TRIMDON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEMORIAL BENCH POLICY**

**INTRODUCTION**

Trimdon Parish Council will consider requests for commemorative benches to be installed on any public space owned by the Council, including the Parish Cemetery. These facilities will be enjoyed by a wide range of people and the Council will ensure that they are managed and regulated for the mutual benefit of all.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY**

This policy has been produced with the following guiding principles:

* To be respectful, sympathetic and easily understood by customers;
* To balance the sometimes, contrasting needs of a variety of facility users;
* To maintain and enhance the high-quality appearance of sites and not detract from their prime recreational purpose;
* To clearly establish the responsibility for maintenance, repair and replacement of memorials; and
* To achieve full cost recovery by Trimdon Parish Council for any memorials provided

**MEMORIAL BENCHES**

Memorials will be positioned to maximise the benefit and development of the site and the number of memorials in a particular area will be limited. However, the Council will attempt to accommodate the wishes of the applicants wherever possible.

In order to maintain consistency of appearance, quality and control over location, all benches will be ordered and installed by Trimdon Parish Council.

The total cost of the installation of a memorial bench (including plaque) will be dependent on style appropriate for the site and will be based on cost price plus 10% to cover materials and labour and ongoing maintenance.

The Council will maintain the bench. However, no replacement liability will be accepted at the end of the useful life of the bench or if it is damaged through vandalism.

Payment should be received prior to completion of the installation.

The wording on any inscription shall be agreed by the Council.

The Council reserves the right to remove any memorial bench that has been damaged and that in the view of the Council is beyond economical repair.