



Memorial Safety Policy March 2019

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council has an overriding duty to take, as far as reasonably practicable, measures to prevent injury or death from unstable memorials.

Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council recognise the need to balance the risk of injury on the one hand with the possibility of causing distress to families.

The condition and general safety of a memorial during its whole life span remains the responsibility of the grave owner/purchaser.

Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council have adopted the following policy.

Survey and Testing of Memorials

Any concerns about the safety of a memorial should be reported to the Parish Clerk who will:

- Determine what if any immediate action to make the memorial safe is required, taking expert advice if necessary;
- Make every effort to contact the grave owner;
- Ensure that a notice explaining the action taken and giving contact details for the Parish Clerk is placed on the memorial.

Action after a Memorial has been made Safe

If after a period of not less than twelve months it has not been possible to contact the grave owner to agree the action required, the matter will be referred to the Community and Environment Committee to consider what action, if any, will be taken under the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977.

Review: March 2021