

# TELSCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

## MEMORIAL POLICY

### **Introduction:**

Telscombe Town Council will permit in principle, subject to the terms of this Policy, the placing of a memorial to commemorate a loved one within Chatsworth Park, which is land owned by the Council.

### **Memorial Options:**

Benches or memory garden plaques shall be of the type approved by the Council as detailed below:

Memorial Bench – Memorial Benches are available for donation, complete with brass plaque and dedicated message at a cost of £1,150. Payment is in advance.

Our memorial benches are 1.5 metres and made from recycled plastic in Salfords, Surrey – see picture below.



Memory Garden Plaque – The Memory Garden is situated at the top of Chatsworth Park. Small plaques can be purchased at a cost of £15 and are placed on one of the posts with a dedicated message. Payment is in advance. The plaques are black plastic with white writing. Please note that there may be several plaques on one post – your plaque will not have exclusivity on a post.

### **Ordering of a Memorial Bench:**

Priority will be given to those who are or have been residents of the area covered by Telscombe Town Council. An order form alongside payment will need to be completed and a response will be provided once the application has been considered by the Amenities & Civic Centre Committee. It may take up to 12 weeks for installation of a new bench. Payment for a memorial is treated as a donation and the ownership of the asset is with the Town Council, who are deemed as the legal owners.

Telscombe Town Council will try to place the proposed bench as close as possible to the location of the donor's choice, but reserves the right to relocate if necessary.

Telscombe Town Council reserves the right to limit, in both location and number, memorials in any one area.

All applications for memorials must be made on Telscombe Town Council's application form to ensure the request can be recorded.

Telscombe Town Council will manage the installation of all memorial benches, the cost of which shall be incorporated in the donation.

Any changes to the donor's contact details will need to be passed to Telscombe Town Council to enable us to make further contact in relation to the Memorial if necessary.

#### **Ordering of a Memory Garden Plaque:**

All applications for a memory garden plaque must be made on Telscombe Town Council's application form to ensure the request can be recorded. Telscombe Town Council will manage the installation of all memory garden plaques.

#### **Maintenance - Benches:**

Telscombe Town Council maintain an asset register highlighting where all memorial benches are placed in the park. All options will be maintained by the Town Council for a period of 10 years. After this period has passed, Telscombe Town Council will attempt to contact the donor and offer the option to extend the period based on the current charges of the service at that time. If it is decided not to continue with the memorial, the plaque will be removed from the bench. Benches will be removed or refurbished to make available for reallocation to a new donor.

#### **Maintenance – Memory Garden Plaques:**

All options will be maintained by the Town Council for a period of 10 years. After this period has passed, Telscombe Town Council will attempt to contact the donor and offer the option to extend the period based on the current charges of the service at that time. If it is decided not to continue with the memorial, the plaque will be removed from the post.

#### **Maintenance – General:**

Telscombe Town Council do not allow mementos, such as wreaths, statues or soft toys, to be placed at a memorial for safety reasons. The Town Council will remove such items and attempt to contact the donor for collection of the memento. Items will be stored for 28 days and disposed of if the Town Council receive no further notification from the donor.

#### **Damage to Memorials:**

Telscombe Town Council accept no liability for damage caused to a memorial bench or plaque, including vandalism. The Town Council reserves the right to remove a memorial that is causing a health and safety concern and will endeavour to notify the donor of any such changes in accordance with the latest contact information provided.