

Guidance on the use of Quaker Burial Grounds for Members and Attenders of Gloucestershire Area Quaker Meeting

5/1. If you wish to be buried at Shortwood Burial Ground:

Eligibility:

- *Members and Attenders listed in our Gloucestershire Area Quaker Meeting Book of Members and Attenders, including their dependent children.*
- *Non-Quaker spouses or partners if their Quaker spouse or partner has requested a Quaker burial and the non- Quaker spouse or partner has informed the relevant Funeral Friend in writing that this is their wish.*

- We ask those wishing to be buried at Shortwood Burial Ground to inform the Funeral Friend at Nailsworth Quaker Meeting on the GAQM Funeral and Memorial Meeting Wishes form.
- The plots are of single depth for one person.
- If your request is for more than one person, (such as for a couple) each should request a plot.
- If there are any specific wishes / requests these should be made known to and discussed with the Funeral Friend at the time of requesting the plot.
- There is no charge for a burial plot.
- The plots will be allocated by Nailsworth Meeting.
- We ask that you arrange for the grave to be made by an insured, qualified gravedigger to ensure that all legal issues are addressed.
- We ask that wooden coffins with rope or wooden handles are used as these would be the most appropriate for this natural burial ground.
- If you wish to mark the grave, please bear in mind that the burial ground is a place where we are seeking to support the natural environment. We therefore ask that you seek guidance through the Funeral Friend if you are wishing to mark a grave in some way.
- We ask that no edging is placed around the grave.
- If you wish to have a headstone we ask that it is sympathetic to existing headstones, no larger than 350 mm wide x 600 mm high above ground, and made from British limestone suitable for incised lettering.
- The incised wording on the stone should be only the name of the deceased, together with full dates of birth and death, plus age if wished, with no additional symbols or decoration.
- A wooden marker no larger than 350 mm wide x 600 mm high above ground, that would eventually return to soil, would be welcome.

5/2. If you wish your ashes to be interred at Cirencester Meeting House Garden, Nailsworth Meeting House Garden or Shortwood Burial Ground:

Eligibility:

- *Members and Attenders listed in our Gloucestershire Area Quaker Meeting Book of Members and Attenders, including their dependent children.*
- *Non-Quaker spouses or partners if their Quaker spouse or partner has requested a Quaker burial / interment and the non- Quaker spouse or partner has informed the relevant Funeral Friend in writing that this is their wish.*
- We ask those who wish their ashes to be interred to inform as appropriate the Funeral Friend at Cirencester or Nailsworth Quaker Meeting, on the GAQM Funeral and Memorial Meeting Wishes form.
- The hole will be made with sufficient depth to allow at least 150 mm of soil and turf above.
- The soil and turf will be carefully removed.
- The ashes will be poured into the hole.
- The soil and turf will be neatly replaced.
- If you wish to mark the place of interment, please bear in mind that this will either be a natural burial ground or a garden. We therefore ask that you seek guidance through the Funeral Friend if you are wishing to mark the location in some way.
- Friends should be aware that a Quaker Garden is likely to change over time, with interred ashes gradually becoming part of the soil.

5/3. If you wish your ashes to be scattered at Cheltenham Meeting House Garden; Cirencester Meeting House Garden or Siddington Burial Ground; Gloucester Meeting House Garden; Nailsworth Meeting House Garden or Shortwood Burial Ground; Painswick Meeting House Garden or The Dell Burial Ground:

Eligibility:

- *Members and Attenders listed in our Gloucestershire Area Quaker Meeting Book of Members and Attenders, including their dependent children.*
- *Non-Quaker spouses or partners if their Quaker spouse or partner has requested a Quaker burial, interment or scattering of ashes and the non-Quaker spouse or partner has informed the relevant Funeral Friend in writing that this is their wish.*
- *Members of another Area Quaker Meeting*
- *Non-Quaker family member of a Quaker for whom there is an existing burial / interment / scattering*
- Those who wish their ashes to be scattered at one of the locations above must inform the Funeral Friend at the appropriate Quaker Meeting, on the GAQM Funeral and Memorial Meeting Wishes Form