All Saints Biddenden Policies

Reservation of Grave Spaces

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) considered the reservation of grave spaces in All Saints Churchyard on 10 January 2017, and reviewed the matter again on 6 November 2018 and 8 September 2020.

The PCC does not offer reservations for grave spaces for the following reasons:

1. **Limited space.** Although permission has recently been granted to use an enlarged burial area, available space remains limited.
2. **Risk of setting a precedent.** Allowing reservations could create pressure to reserve spaces and lead to an unseemly rush to secure plots.
3. **Administrative complexity.** Managing reservations would be difficult and could have serious consequences if errors were made.
4. **Uncertain timescales.** It is difficult to set a fair time limit for any reservation, as individual circumstances can change and there is no guarantee that a burial will take place.

It is the policy of Biddenden PCC to offer burial space in the next available position within the current row. This policy does not apply to a second burial in a double-depth grave. Requests for burial in other locations will be considered only in exceptional pastoral circumstances, subject to available space and PCC approval.

All Saints Biddenden PCC

17th January 2017

Revised 6th November 2018.

Revised 8th September 2020.

Reviewed and approved 08 09 2026

Next review date: first PCC meeting after 2027 APCM.