**Tideswell Cemetery Updated Regulations**

Over the past 18 months the Parish Council have been working to improve the condition of the Cemetery. The Clerk and Cllr Chapman recently attended a Cemetery Management course where a number of issues were discussed and advice was given. To that end we have been encouraged to review our cemetery regulations. The new regulations will be in place from XXXX. A copy will be available on the website and notice board. A copy can be sent to you directly if required, please contact the Clerk.

One important change to the regulations is regarding the memorialisation of Graves. To allow for the successful maintenance and management of the Cemetery the Council has been advised to request the removal of any memorialisation other than head stones and approved vases. This would include any trees or plants, stones and decorative items.

We would like to continue to allow the placement of Christmas wreaths or memorials and will allow a period over winter for these items to be in place. These must however be removed by March each year.

The Parish Council would like to give relatives a 6 month period to remove any items which no longer meet the regulations of the cemetery and therefore graves have until 1st July 2017 to become compliant. After this period the Parish Council will have to remove any such items.

For all new plots the Parish Council will allow a period of 6 months for memorials to be left, once Head stone is in place or after 6 months, these items must be removed.

This decision has been made following the advice given to successfully manage and maintain the Cemetery. Improvements have been made but the Council want to make better changes and make the Cemetery a tidy, well maintained area. We have recently had a compost site introduced at the Cemetery for people to remove flowers. Please use the new facility and avoid putting these items by the car park area. There is also a bin at the cemetery for any non-compost items.

The Parish Council thank you in advance for your understanding on this matter, if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact Hannah Owen, Parish Clerk.