

**Contact information:**

*Ramoan Parish Centre  
3 Station Street  
Ballycastle  
BT54 6AP*

**Phone:** 028 2076 2888

**Email:** parishoframoan@gmail.com



Footnote:

\*A subscribing parishioner, either resident or accustomed, is defined as one who accepts the ministry of the Church of Ireland and has been subscribing to the funds of the parish through the parish financial system, either through regular giving or as a one-off donation. It must be contributed in such a manner that a receipt could be demanded for it. General Sunday cash collections are not recordable and therefore are not considered as qualifying subscriptions.



**Parishes of Ramoan and  
Culfeightrin**

**Culfeightrin Parish Church  
Ballycastle**

**Graveyard Regulations and Charges**



**Parishes of Ramoan and  
Culfeightrin**

Culfeightrin Parish Church  
Cushendall Road  
Ballyvoy  
BT54 6 QY



*Diocese of Connor*

Effective From: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### **PARISH OF CULFEIGHTRIN**

ALL GUIDELINES SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH CHAPTER 12 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND AND WITH THE DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

Throughout these documents the term “officiating member of the clergy” normally refers to the incumbent/rector. In the event of a vacancy, the officiating member of the clergy is the Rural Dean.

## **GOVERNING REGULATIONS**

1. The burial ground at Culfeightrin Parish Church is managed by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens of the parish in accordance with these Parish Graveyard Regulations.
2. All committals should follow a Christian burial service and be conducted by a minister who is authorised to do so by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.
3. Any requests to register an interest in an interment space, for permission to bury, or for the erection of headstones or grave surrounds, or alterations to these, must be directed to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.
4. Normally the holder of burial registration papers or a funeral director acting on their behalf will make application for burial to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens. These papers should be produced before a burial can take place.
5. The precise location of any new interment space will be determined at the time of need by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens, provided that suitable space is

## **Graveyard Fees (level of fees to be determined by select vestry)**

### **REGISTRATION OF AN INTEREST IN INTERMENT SPACE**

Registration of each new burial space:

To be paid by bona-fide subscribing\* parishioners: **£400**

To be paid by non-parishioners or non-subscribers **£800**

### **CHARGES FOR PERMISSION TO ERECT HEADSTONES:**

To be paid by bona-fide subscribing\* parishioners **£200**

To be paid by Non-Parishioners and Non-Subscribing Parishioners **£400**

### **CHARGES FOR OPENING INTERMENT SPACE**

To be paid by subscribing parishioners:	<b>£100</b>
To be paid by non-parishioners and non-subscribers:	<b>£250</b>
To be paid by bona-fide subscribing* parishioners, for the interment of cremated remains in an existing grave	<b>£200</b>
To be paid by non-parishioners and non-subscribers for the interment of cremated remains in an existing grave	<b>£300</b>

*\*Payment to the gravedigger is in addition to the above and is arranged locally.*

*\*See footnote at end of regulations*

of burial as the final resting place and accordingly a faculty for an exhumation will only be granted in wholly exceptional circumstances.

- 12.3 Anyone seeking a faculty authorising the exhumation of the remains of an individual buried in consecrated ground or cremated remains of such a person will therefore have to put forward special grounds in order to obtain a faculty. Mere convenience of visiting a grave or place of burial or the fact that relatives have subsequently moved to a different area are unlikely to justify the grant of a faculty for disturbing the remains.
- 12.4 Exhumation of human remains/cremated remains from a churchyard requires (in advance) a Petition and Faculty from the Bishop of the Diocese. For guidance/advice, please contact the Registry Clerk/Diocesan Registrar/Assistant Registrar.

### **GRAVEYARD RULES**

1. The officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens shall have the power to remove any bush, shrub or other form of growth which they consider detrimental to the burial ground or to any other interment space.
2. Artificial wreaths or other adornments are not permitted in the churchyard.
3. The time of the burial must not be arranged without prior permission of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens and reasonable notice must be given.

available in the graveyard at that time. The registration of a burial space does not confer legal title or exclusive right of burial.

6. When members of a family have been buried in a particular place, and following the death of the person whose name appears on the burial registration paper for that burial space, a family member/s may apply to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens, for the registration of interest in that space to be transferred to themselves or another family member. When such a transfer of interest has been approved by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens, either the existing burial registration paper should be endorsed accordingly, or the existing burial registration paper surrendered and a new paper issued. Other relevant parish documents should be amended accordingly.
7. Prior to installation or alteration, all plans and proposed designs for headstones, flagstones, surrounds and for any treatment of the grave surface must be submitted in advance to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens for approval.
8. Any proposed inscription or alteration to an inscription must be approved in advance by the officiating member of the clergy.
9. No permanent memorial marks, other than those approved above, may be placed on graves. Any hazardous or dangerous memorial or surround may be removed or laid flat in the interests of safety.

4. No burial may take place within 30 minutes of or during times of Divine Service.

5. Each single grave plot shall not measure more than **8ft x 4ft/2.40m x 1.20m** or less than **7.6ft x 3.6ft/2.3m x 1.1m**.

6. No coffin shall be laid in any grave nearer to the surface than 3ft 3 inches/1 metre, measuring from the upper part of the coffin.

7. No coffin shall be buried within 12 ft/ 3.66 metres of the fabric of the church except in an existing vault.

8. Foundations of headstones must be a minimum of 0.225 metres deep from ground level and have a minimum width of 0.8metres single, 1.2 metres double. No monument other than a headstone not exceeding a height of 1 metre, width of 0.8 metre (double grave 1.2 metres) and not less than 75mm thick, shall be erected over a grave. Each monument shall be of suitable stone, of simple design and be firmly secured on a concrete slab foundation below ground level.

9. A fee will be charged where cremated remains are being interred in an existing grave.

10. All floral and other tributes may be removed from the grave 4 weeks after the interment, on the instruction of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens. Dead flowers, wreaths etc. must be placed in the large green bin designated for that purpose.

11. No major or disruptive grave maintenance work may be carried out on a Sunday.

12. No domestic animals other than guide dogs are to be brought into the graveyard.

10. As the burial ground is subject to natural settlement, the registered holder of the burial registration papers should ensure that headstones, flagstones, memorials and grave surrounds are at all times maintained in good order.

11. Unauthorised memorials may be removed by instruction of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens at the expense of those holding the burial registration papers.

The charges outlined below are those approved by the Diocesan Council for this burial ground. Please note that interment spaces remain the property of the Church of Ireland. The charges itemised are payable to The Treasurer, Mrs. Christine Mitchell, 7 Churchfield Road, Ballycastle BT54 6PJ

### *12.Exhumation*

Exhumation is a legal matter and may require civil court permission as well as a faculty.

12.1 Whenever a deceased person is buried in consecrated ground, it is assumed that the place of burial is intended to be the final resting place of that individual. The same principle applies when the cremated remains of a deceased person are interred in consecrated ground.

12.2 The exhumation of human remains (including cremated remains) from consecrated ground for the purpose of reburial in another place is unlawful, unless it has been authorised by faculty. The relatives or personal representatives of a deceased individual will be deemed in the first instance to have chosen the consecrated place