

Memorial Bench and Planter Policy

From time to time members of the public will ask Sturminster Marshall Parish Council to allow them to place a planter or seat on council-owned land, usually in memory of a loved one.

There are a few seats and planters already installed in various places, and this policy has been developed to ensure that all seating placed on council-owned land conforms to a reasonable standard, and that there is not an excessive number.

1. All applications must be in writing to the Parish Clerk. Where possible details of the seat or planter should be submitted with the application, including its proposed location.

2. All applications and benches or planters will be considered for approval by the Full Council.

3. All seats and planters must be suitably robust and of a good quality and standard and must be installed by a Sturminster Marshall Parish Council approved contractor at the donor's expense.

4. Land for the siting of seats and planters is limited and Sturminster Marshall Parish Council reserves the right to refuse a request, where the decision is final.

5. The donor is welcome to attach a small plaque to the seat or planter. The size must not exceed 6 inches x 4 inches (15cm x 10cm). The words on the plaque must be agreed with Sturminster Marshall Parish Council prior to the plaque being installed.

6. Nothing other than agreed plaques should be placed on seats or planters at any time. No additional mementos to be placed near the bench or planters.

7. All seats and planters placed on council-owned land become property of Sturminster Marshall Parish Council and it is the responsibility of Sturminster Marshall Parish Council to insure them.

8. Sturminster Marshall Parish Council reserves the right to relocate seats and planters if necessary and will make every effort to notify the donor prior to such relocation. It is the responsibility of the donor to keep Sturminster Marshall Parish Council informed of their current address.

9. Sturminster Marshall Parish Council reserves the right to remove any seat or planter which reaches a state beyond economic repair. Every attempt will be made to contact the owner prior to removal.

10. Memorial plaques wherever possible will be returned to the donor if/when the seat or planters is no longer fit for purpose.