# GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

**You are duly summoned/required to attend the next meeting of Godshill Parish Council at 7.00pm on Monday 2nd November 2026**
**To be held in: Godshill Primary School Hall.**

**Clerk Stephen Cockett**

**Tel: 07763665812**

**THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY COUNCIL AND THIRD PARTIES**

**AGENDA**

**191/26 WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**192/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

**193/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of interest from Councillors regarding this agenda.

**194/26 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

To receive a report from James Whelan our IW Councillor.

**195/26 PUBLIC SESSION ****

Members of the public may speak on any issues concerning the Parish.

**196/26 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

To note and approve meeting minutes for the previous meetings of the Parish Council held on the 5th October 2026.

**197/26 FINANCE**

To review completed payments made and consider items at the council's discretion.

**198/26 PLANNING**

To review planning applications received and to comment as a consultee.

**199/26 LICENCING AND EVENTS**

To review changes to licencing and upcoming events in the parish.

**200/26 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

To resolve to note the Clerk's Report providing information on recent issues and work completed and agree actions as appropriate

To resolve to note the Correspondence received and agree actions as appropriate

**201/26 WORKING GROUPS' REPORTS**

To resolve to note the Working Groups' Reports and agree any actions

**202/26 YARBOROUGH CLOSE BIN**

To consider adding a bin to the council's assets

**203/26 TERMS AND CONDITIONS BRIDGECOURT**

To consider adopting terms and conditions for Bridgecourt cemetery

**204/26 ARMED FORCES DAY 2027**

To consider a request to support the 2027 event

**205/26 ARMED FORCES COVENANT**

To consider a request to take part in a local pledge

**206/26 PUBLIC SESSION ****

Members of the public may speak on any issues concerning the Parish

**207/26 MATTERS RAISED DURING PUBLIC SESSIONS**

To resolve to refer any business raised in the public sessions, and any other matters or items of information from councillors to a future meeting or to resolve to agree on any other actions

**208/26 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the School Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 7th December 2026

** Public Sessions last a maximum of 15 minutes. Members of the public can speak for up to 3 minutes on any issues concerning the Parish. Some questions asked without at least 3 working days' notice may need to be noted and responded to at a later date. No decisions can be made in Public Sessions.

## Godshill Parish Council meeting 02/11/2026

## 202/26 Yarborough litter bin

**Purpose:**

**For the council to consider the purchase and maintenance of a new litter bin on Yarborough Close**

**Background:**

Godshill Parish Council is aware of the absence of any public litter bin within the Lily Cross development. It is thought that the instances of littering may be reduced by placing a bin at the junction of Yarborough Close and Elodie way. This may also serve the nearby bridleway GL23.

The suitable parcel of land for placement is owned by Captiva, developer of Lily Cross. Permission has been sought and obtained from Captiva to place a bin there provided that the Parish Council takes full responsibility for its placement, servicing and maintenance.

**Details:**

The council can expect to pay around £500 + VAT for a suitable litter bin.

Installation may be achieved with an anchor driven into the ground or by the installation of a concrete pad, this will require further budgeting.

The council will be responsible for emptying the bin. The council's existing waste contractor has agreed that they could provide this service for £10 + VAT per emptying.

**Recommendation:**

Members are requested to consider the installation of a litter bin and the ongoing maintenance costs, and to provide the clerk with instruction on timing and other pertinent details for completion if it is decided to proceed.

## Godshill Parish Council meeting 02/11/2026

## 203/26 Cemetery Rules and Regulations

**Purpose:**

**For the council to consider adopting Rules and Regulations for Bridgecourt cemetery**

**Background:**

Godshill Parish Council maintains Bridgecourt cemetery, the clerk of Godshill Parish Council is the registrar of burials for that cemetery.

Currently the only document adopted to manage the cemetery is the schedule of fees.

The clerk has been approached by the holder of an Exclusive Right of Burial who is seeking a refund.

In the absence of rules it is unclear how to proceed.

Adopting rules will clarify this situation and other grey areas that may be open to different interpretations.

**Details:**

A draft Rules and Regulations has been prepared other local authorities documents as guidance but modified to suit local circumstances.

Prompted by the refund request please note section 26.

**Recommendation:**

Members are requested to consider the document for adoption with amendments if required.

# Bridgecourt cemetery Rules and Regulations

Adopted by Godshill Parish Council November 2026

## Foreword

Rules and regulations made by Godshill Parish Council for the management Bridgecourt Cemetery. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 & Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977.

The "Burial authority" referred to in this document is Godshill Parish Council. These rules and regulations will be applied and enforced by the clerk working for the burial authority.

These regulations are made under the Local Government Act 1972 & Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 as amended by Local Authorities' Cemeteries (Amendment) Order 1986 and the burial authority will review and amend these regulations as necessary.

Regulations have always existed in cemeteries and are a necessary requirement for the effective management of a burial facility and to ensure that the cemeteries are maintained for quiet contemplation.

As well as the following rules and regulations, the Local Authority Cemeteries Order 1977 applies. In particular, Clause 3(1) of this order states that:

**'Subject to the provisions of this order, a burial authority may do all such things as they consider necessary or desirable for the proper management, regulation and control of a cemetery.'**

## General conduct from visitors to the cemeteries

1. All persons are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner and should keep to footpaths when not attending graves.

2. Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by a responsible person.

3. Visitors should always deposit their dead flowers and other litter in the litter bins provided.

4. Dogs are not permitted onto the cemetery grounds except assistance dogs supporting registered disabled persons.

5. No person shall offer goods for sale or solicit orders for the sale of any goods within the cemeteries.

DRAFT

6. Visitors or other persons shall not interfere with any workmen employed by the burial authority and shall not employ them to execute any private work whatsoever within the cemeteries.

## Offences in the cemeteries

7. No person shall:

(a) wilfully create a disturbance in the cemeteries
(b) commit any nuisance in the cemeteries
(c) wilfully interfere with any burial taking place in the cemeteries
(d) wilfully interfere with any grave, vault, tombstone or other memorial, or any flowers or plants on any such manner
(e) play any games or sport in the cemeteries

## Conditions regulating burials

8. Burials may be arranged seven days a week between the hours of 9.15am – 3:30pm.

9. The burial authority may, from time to time, need to make certain burial times unavailable because of operational issues.

10. Allocation of Burial Plots and Coffin Requirements
The location of each new burial plot will – for the standard fee – be allocated by the burial authority to maintain orderly positioning of plots. The burial authority will make reasonable efforts to accommodate requests.

For a supplementary fee listed as 'selected site' on the fee schedule a site may be selected by the purchaser.

However, even in this case the final decision on the allocation and use of any new burial plot rests with the burial authority.

The standard grave width and length are designed to accommodate traditional shaped coffins to a maximum external size of 6 feet 10 inches long x 2 feet 6 inches wide x 1 foot 3 inches deep, including handles.

If a larger or outsized coffin or casket is required there may be limitations on the available space, as the site will have originally been prepared to accommodate a standard-sized coffin. In such circumstances, it may not be possible to meet the wishes of the family, and alternative burial arrangements may be required, which could include burial in an alternative location.

11. Instatement of headstone memorials following an interment is not permitted for at least a period of six months, to allow for settlement of the plot. After this time the instruction of the Exclusive Rights of Burial holder to the funeral director or monumental mason may be carried out.

DRAFT

12. All graves within the cemeteries will be excavated, without exception, by authorised contractors of the burial authority. Graves will be excavated to the depth and size instructed by the burial authority.

13. Floral tributes that are placed on the grave after a funeral should be removed when the tributes are seen to be decaying. If these are not removed by the owner, the burial authority may arrange for them to be disposed of.

14. After the coffin/container and body have been committed into the grave they shall not be removed or otherwise disturbed except for lawful exhumation by licence and or faculty or by the order of the coroner.

## Conditions regulating graves

15. Plants and flowers may be planted in approved areas within the grave space of a purchased grave subject to the Exclusive Rights of Burial holder consent and with permission from the local authority.

16. The marking of the grave space in either cemetery is by using approved memorials.

17. The burial authority is not responsible for any items placed in the cemeteries by grave owners or cemetery visitors and may remove any such items placed in the cemeteries at any time and without prior notice.

18. The burial authority may take over the maintenance of any grave where, in the opinion of the burial authority, the grave has not been suitably maintained.

## Conditions regulating exclusive rights of burial

19. An Exclusive Right of Burial must be purchased for a grave. This right of burial can be purchased for a period of up to a maximum of 100 years from the date of purchase.

The purchaser is not buying the grave freehold and does not own any land. The person who has purchased the right of burial can determine who may be interred in the grave. The burial authority permits two casket burials or four internments of cremated remains in suitable urns per grave.

20. The Exclusive Rights of Burial may, at the discretion of the Burial authority, be renewed for a further period of time on expiry.

21. The Deed of Grant issued in relation to the purchase of an exclusive burial right is an important document and should be kept in a safe place. This grant must be presented to the bereavement office by the funeral director before the grave can be opened.

22. The Exclusive Rights of Burial can be transferred to another person by assignment for which a fee is payable to the Burial authority as listed on the schedule of fees. Equally it can also be bequeathed in a will.

DRAFT

23. Any change of address must be notified to the burial authority in order that up-to-date records are maintained and so that the burial authority is able to contact Exclusive Rights of Burial Holder as and when required. No responsibility can be accepted for information which does not reach a grave owner if the burial authority has not been informed about a change of address.

24. Graves for which the exclusive right of burial applies can only be opened with the written consent of the person to whom the Deed of Grant is issued, unless the interment is to be that of the deed holder, before which the exclusive Right of Burial must be updated with the new deed holder details. Until the Deed has been updated no interments will take place, excepting in the event that a Power of Attorney exists in relation to the Deed holder, in which case interments in the grave will be at the discretion of the burial authority. A transfer of the Exclusive Rights of Burial may be required before an interment.

25. An interment fee is payable each time a grave is reopened.

26. If the Exclusive Right of Burial holder of an exclusive right of burial wishes to return this right to the burial authority, then the following shall apply: No refund will be made if any burials have been made in the plot. If the plot is empty a refund can be made equalling 75% of the original fee paid index linked to ONS RPI inflation. Refunds will only be given on receipt by the clerk of the original Exclusive Right of Burial deed of grant.

## Conditions regulating headstones, memorials and monumental masons

27. All memorials must be in keeping with the natural surroundings. Memorials are to be made of a natural stone

For monolith type. The maximum size is 2’6” wide by 3’ tall x 12” x 4" thick.

Stone kerbs are permitted around the perimeter of the grave.

DRAFT

## Godshill Parish Council meeting 02/11/2026

## 202/26 2027 Armed Forces Day

**Purpose:**

**For the council to consider a request to contribute to the 2027 Armed Forces Day**

**Background:**

A request has been made for Isle of Wight parish councils to financially support the 2027 Armed Forces Day.

Quote:

“AFD is returning in 2027, and we are starting the conversation now for one simple reason. By the time the event programme comes together early next year, many council budgets will already have been set. This is not simply another local event; it is the Isle of Wight’s Armed Forces Day. Supporting veterans, serving personnel, reservists, cadets and Armed Forces families from across the Island.

In 2025, the full-scale event attracted an organiser estimate of around 14,000 people in a single day, making it one of the Island’s largest free public events. RAF displays, parachute teams, military units, bands, a major parade, historic displays, charities, cadets, reservists, and family activities brought thousands to the event, generating substantial media and public interest including the BBC and ITV. Although hosted locally, its gained UK recognition and is growing.”

Ian Dore – lead organiser Isle of Wight Armed Forces Day.

**Details:**

The organisers are requesting that pledges are made now to enable budgeting to commence.

“As a guide, we hope Town and Parish Councils might consider support in the region of £500–£1,000, according to their size and circumstances. “

**Recommendation:**

Members are requested to consider the request with a view to making provision in the 2027 / 2028 budget.

## Godshill Parish Council meeting 02/11/2026

## 205/26 Armed Forces Covenant

**Purpose:**

**For the council to consider a response to an offer to take part in an armed forces covenant within the Central Rural division.**

**Background:**

At the October meeting of Arreton Parish Council Mandy Blackler (Armed Forces Ambassador for Isle of Wight NHS Trust) spoke about parish councils signing the armed forces covenant pledge.

*The Armed Forces Covenant is the nation's promise that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. This means that they should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services, and that special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most, such as the injured and the bereaved.* – NALC

At the Arreton meeting it was explained that to bring over armed forces representatives from the mainland there would need to be several organisations ready to complete the ceremony.

**Details:**

There are no further details at this time, only a desire to find a collective approach with neighbouring parishes.

**Recommendation:**

Members are requested to consider the offer and instruct the clerk to communicate with neighbouring parishes and the local Armed Forces Ambassador accordingly.