

Sun Rising

Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve



Guidance for Planting Wildflowers and Grasses

According to the Regulations (point 15) for the burial ground and nature reserve, “No trees, plants, bulbs or flowers may be sown or planted on the Site other than by the Company or with the Company’s permission.” This regulation is in place to ensure that only plants and trees native to the area are sown or planted at the site, so contributing to the development of the nature reserve. Furthermore, it is important that Sun Rising continues to look natural, and not like a cemetery.

However, aware that some families would like to be actively involved in planting wild flowers and grasses, we are able to provide a list of plants suitable for the burial ground. We ask that families read and abide by the following guidelines.

- If a family would like to sow or plant around a loved one’s grave, they must let us know in advance. In this way we will know who has put the plants in and where, and can discuss ideas and possibilities to ensure everyone is happy.
- Only plants on the list provided may be put in – whether as plants, bulbs or seeds. Hybrids and cultivars of these or other non-natives are not acceptable and will be removed.
- When planting, we ask that families create pockets or swathes of plants and do not delineate graves. Where a number of plants mark out a specific grave, plants may be moved to create softer lines and a more natural feel.
- Nothing already growing at the burial ground may be disturbed or dug up, even if the intention is to replace it with another plant.
- Plants may be put in along verges and paths near a grave, but we suggest families wait to see what is already growing in an area during the spring and summer months before investing in more plants.
- Staff will top up the earth on graves a few times within the first few months after a burial, and the soil may take a year to settle fully; anything sown or planted earlier than this may struggle.
- While established plants native to the area will need no watering, if there is little or no rain in the period after a plant is put in it will only survive if watered. Families will need to do this watering themselves.

If you have any queries at all, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.