

HEMYOCK PARISH COUNCIL DIGGING REQUIREMENTS

It is the responsibility of the funeral director (employed by the bereaved family) to engage the services of the grave digger at their own expense. The Council expects the funeral director and the grave digger to hold the appropriate public liability insurance for any work carried out at Hemyock Cemetery and requires copies of the insurance certificates to be sent to the Council on an annual basis. It also requires that the funeral director/grave digger must have safe working practices which are Cemetery and Crematorium Management (`ICCM`) compliant copies of which must be supplied to the Council on request which relate to digging and backfilling of graves.

In particular, the funeral director /grave digger install appropriate shoring equipment if required during the excavation to support the ground and prevent collapse, to protect the health and safety of the grave digger during digging and the mourners, clergy and funeral director's staff during the interment. If, following the excavation of any grave, the grave digger and/or funeral director intends to leave it unattended for any period of time, a temporary barrier must be erected by the grave digger and/or funeral director around the grave or the grave be securely covered, to prevent falls. On backfilling the grave, the Council requires that the soil is compacted every six inches in depth by treading, to prevent the need for excessive reinstatements. The grave shall be left turfed and the site left neat and tidy with any surplus spoil removed to the designated area and the wreaths and flowers carefully placed.