

MA080 2627a) Cremated remains bases

August 2026

Stone maison raised concern that the cremated remains memorial bases at New Road do not conform to the NAMM Regulations (National Associate of Memorial Masons).

Clerk met with stone maisons onsite to discuss the issue.

The concern is that the bases are not the required thickness to hold the memorials as defined in our regulations.

- c. The **headstone base size for cremated remains** shall be a maximum of : 560mm (1ft 10in) wide x 460mm (1ft 6in) deep and the total height from the concrete base shall not exceed 760mm (2ft 6in). Applications for memorials measuring up to 585mm (1ft 11in) wide will be considered at the discretion of the Clerk.

Extract from Melbourn Parish Council regulations

The stone masons believe that, according to the NAMM Regulations, the maximum height of memorial for the bases we currently use should be up to 625mm.

The NAMM Regulations allow for stone maisons to affix to any bases as long as the Cemetery owner so long as the Cemetery Authority approves the installation.

6.9 Masons may be required to provide a foundation as specified by a particular Cemetery Authority. Some Authorities install or provide their own foundations and the mason must comply with the instructions for that Cemetery. In any of these cases the Cemetery must accept responsibility for any structural parts of the foundation which they supply or for their own foundation specifications that they require masons to comply with on which they fix memorials.

Extract from NAMM Regulations

Conclusion

- On this occasion the memorial was made incorrectly and had to be re-sized for the memorial base. This was an issue with the stone maisons approval.
- MPC have introduced a new form to ensure this does not happen again.
- This is the first time a stone maison has had issue with the memorial foundations.
- Stone maison in question has installed previously without issue.

Suggestion

- Proceed with cremated remains memorial bases as installed – if required a written disclaimer can be provided to the maison if necessary.
- Going forward, when new cremated remains bases are installed, ensure thickness of base complies with current NAMM Regulations.