PORLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT – PORLOCK CEMETERY GRAVE COMPLIANCE

Date: 2 November 2026 **Author:** Emma Hawkins



Purpose of Report

This report identifies a grave that exhibits non-compliance with the Council's cemetery regulations.

Observable Features

- An unsecured kerbed surround that contains loose stone chippings.
- Several unsecured memorial tablets sit within the grave space.
- Some artificial floral tributes appear to be plastic.
- Metal flower-support rods may obstruct maintenance and present a trip hazard.

Relevant Regulation

The Council's Cemetery Regulations prohibit kerb sets and require memorials to be installed by a BRAMM- or NAMM-accredited memorial mason.

Fresh and artificial flowers are permitted, but plastic flowers are not. Flower holders must be non-breakable, and visitors must respect safety and the burial ground's special nature.

Conclusion

The main concerns are the prohibited kerb sets and unsecured tablets. Suspected plastic flowers, insecure holders and items extending beyond the grave space also require checking. These features may obstruct maintenance or create safety risks.

Recommended Action

1. Contact the registered owner or next of kin, explain the concerns and agree a reasonable deadline for removal or replacement.
2. Request removal or replacement of any plastic flowers, breakable containers, unsecured tall items and objects on adjoining grass.
3. If unresolved or contact fails, follow the Council's enforcement procedure sensitively, retaining removed items where policy requires.
4. Record the inspection, correspondence, deadline and outcome in the grave file.