

**IN THE CONSISTORY COURT OF THE DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD  
A PETITION FOR A FACULTY TO AUTHORISE  
THE RESERVATION OF A GRAVESPACE**

		<b>To the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Lichfield</b>	<p>Please write your answers in THIS COLUMN:</p> <p>Where possible please answer 'yes' or 'no' by deleting the inapplicable; but you may wish to give additional information by typing in the boxes provided</p> <p>Where you are asked to supply documents, please confirm in this column what documents have been supplied</p> <p>Where suggested wording is provided in this column please amend it so as to suit your particular circumstances.</p>
		<b>Churchyard of:</b>	
		<b>In the parish of:</b>	
		<b>Name of the person(s) for whom the grave space is to be reserved:</b> <i>A space can be reserved for more than one burial, but it is not common for more than 3 persons to be buried in one space (because of the depth required).</i>	
		<b>Your full name and address</b>  <b>Your date of birth</b> <b>Your email details</b> <b>Your telephone number</b>	

1		<p>I apply to the Court for a Faculty to authorise the following:-</p> <p><i>Please ensure that the plan is agreed with the incumbent, so that it is of a sufficient scale to enable the land to be identified properly</i></p>	<p><i>The reservation, for a period of 50 years, of a plot of land within the churchyard of</i></p> <p><i>within the parish of</i></p> <p><i>as shown edged in red on the plan attached</i></p> <p><i>for the burial of the mortal remains of the above named persons</i></p>
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2	a)	Are you a parishioner of this parish with an entitlement to be buried in the churchyard	Yes/No
	b)	Have there been any burials in the space to be reserved <i>The name of the person buried, the date of burial, and any connection with you should be stated. Please confirm if a burial has taken place that it was at a sufficient depth to enable the envisaged further burial to occur</i>	Yes/No Details
3		Please indicate the nature of the intended burial (delete as applicable)  <i>Please note that this Petition will not authorise any particular form of memorial or kerbing to a grave. You may if you wish petition for such, but you must make this plain.</i>  <i>A condition will be imposed on any Faculty requiring a marker to be placed on the reserved space until a burial occurs</i>	The mortal remains of the persons to be buried in the reserved space are to be buried in an ordinary grave or a brick lined grave  <i>[It is intended that the remains of ... will be cremated before burial and then buried in a position so as to enable a future burial of a body in the grave]</i>
4		<b>Please obtain information as to the current position in relation to the use of the churchyard</b>	The present population of the parish is approximately ... persons; There are approximately .... Grave spaces left in the churchyard; The average number of burials in the churchyard during the last five years has been ..... per year.

5		<b>PCC Resolution</b>	
		If the petition relates to a Churchyard, you should ask your incumbent to bring the matter to a PCC meeting so that the PCC can express a view on your proposal.  <i>(A supportive PCC resolution is not essential but it is important that the Incumbent and PCC have the opportunity to express their views)</i>  <i>If the PCC has not passed a resolution, please put a line through the box that asks for details of the resolution, but provide details of the reasons for not approaching the PCC.</i>	The Parochial Church Council at its meeting _____ on _____ passed a resolution [supporting/opposing] the proposed reservation _____ unanimously/ by a majority of - _____ to _____ among those present and voting There are _____ members of the council. A copy of the resolution signed by the chair/secretary is included with this petition.  OR: reasons for not approaching the PCC:

Please read the Guidance Notes for Gravespace Reservations, The Guidelines including fees for non-parochial Faculty Petitions, and Costs of Faculty Petitions. You will be responsible for the Registry's fees and may be responsible for other costs and fees in addition.

In the box below, set out your reasons for seeking the reservation of a gravespace. *The box will accept 'free text' and will expand to fit your statement.*

Please ensure that you explain the full circumstances that you wish the Chancellor to take into account. In particular you should consider the normal principle that Christian burial is available to all parishioners when they die, if there is space available, and that by reserving a space, you may prevent someone else being interred in the churchyard who would have been entitled to burial there; you should explain the situation. Faculties are sometimes granted where people have had a particular connection with a parish over a long period of time, but the Court has a complete discretion in this matter and you need to explain why that discretion should be exercised in your favour. Some parishes have policies as to reservation, and you should read the policy carefully and if your case does not accord with it, please explain why it should not be followed.

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Please be aware that your Petition and documents supplied may be served on family members to enable them to comment on it, or to object. Please also note that the information you provide to the Court may be made public in any judgment issued by the Court. If you consider that there is some reason why information should be withheld you may explain your reasons, but the Court is not bound to follow your wishes, and will not do so unless there is a special reason to override the normal principle of transparency in judicial proceedings

**Petition and Statement of Truth**

		For the reasons set out above, I therefore Petition the Court that a Faculty should issue to authorise the reservation of the gravespace. The contents of my above Petition and of the details provided on the accompanying Forms and Documents are true
		Signature*:
		Print your full name:
		Date:

\*signatures can be typed if this document is being submitted by email but you must confirm in your email that you have sent the relevant fees to the Registry by cheque.

**When you have completed this form** you should send it to the Registrar at the address below. The Registrar will forward it to the Chancellor who will make a decision as to whether

or not to grant the Faculty. It is not possible to provide a time estimate in relation to the procedure

The Registry Assistant, Lichfield Diocesan Registry

FBC Manby Bowdler LLP

Routh House

Hall Court, Hall Park Way

Telford

TF3 4NJ

[a.chong@fbcmb.co.uk](mailto:a.chong@fbcmb.co.uk)

01952 211303