

Sennen Parish Council

Draft Memorial Policy

1. Sennen Parish Council supports the provision of memorial benches/memorial furniture within the parish and is mindful that these facilities are enjoyed by a wide range of people. This policy aims to ensure that provision of such furniture is managed and regulated for the mutual benefit of all.
2. The policy only covers broad common issues and is not therefore exhaustive. The content of this policy will be revised as necessary to meet changing circumstances.
3. Existing Benches/Memorial furniture
 - 3.1. At this time, the Parish Council does not have any records of agreements between the Parish Council / any landowners / any donors regarding the purchase/siting/adoption or maintenance of existing memorial furniture. The Parish Council does not currently hold details of any donors of any existing memorial furniture and so cannot be responsible for liaising with donors over the conditions of or upkeep/removal of existing furniture.
 - 3.2. Cornwall Council has in the past maintained public street furniture, however this is no longer the case and current policy provides solely for the removal of furniture where safety concerns are raised.
 - 3.3. Where existing memorial furniture is situated on public land/highway, Sennen Parish Council will consider their adoption on a case by case / as required basis. Where applicable, (i.e. on Parish Council or County Council land) the extent of the Council's adoption will be limited to holding the items on the Council's asset register for insurance purposes. Wherever possible, the Council will also aim to make contact with donor families to ensure liaison takes place regarding the conditions of or upkeep/removal of these existing pieces of furniture.
 - 3.4. Memorial furniture sited on private land shall continue to be the responsibility of the landowner and donor. The Parish Council will not adopt or control or maintain benches/memorial furniture sited on private land.
 - 3.5. Existing memorial furniture in Sennen Parish is shown on the attached Map
 - 3.6. There are currently several memorial benches sited within Sennen Parish, the majority of which are situated on private land and thus outside of the scope of this policy. Benches which are situated on public land/highway/land with unknown ownership, which may be considered for adoption by the Parish Council should the need arise are:

Map No	Location	Item
2	Sennen Cove Waterfront opposite old Boathouse Stores	Wooden bench
3	Sennen Cove Waterfront opposite Aubrey Villa	Wooden bench
4	Sennen Cove Waterfront opposite Aubrey Villa	Wooden bench
5	Sennen Cove Waterfront near Bus Stop	Wooden bench
6	Sennen Cove Waterfront opposite Sennen Cove Recreation Centre	Wooden bench
7	Sennen Cove Waterfront opposite Old Success Pub	Wooden bench
11	Stonechair Lane (on 118/17/1 gold path)	Granite bench with wooden slats
12	A30 triangle near footpath (on 118/20/1 gold path)	Wooden bench with planters

4. New Furniture

- 4.1. The Parish Council is prepared to consider the installation and adoption of benches and memorial furniture where the proposed site is on land owned by the Parish Council*.
- 4.2. The Parish Council will not adopt or control benches/memorial furniture sited on private land; in such cases the siting is entirely a matter for negotiation between the donor and the landowner.
- 4.3. Where applicable, (i.e. on Parish Council or County Council land) the extent of the Council's adoption will be limited to holding the items on the Council's asset register for insurance purposes.

5. Trees

- 5.1. The Parish Council is prepared to consider the installation and adoption of memorial trees where the proposed site is on land owned by the Parish Council*.
- 5.2. The Parish Council will not adopt or control trees planted on private land; in such cases the siting is entirely a matter for the donor and the landowner.

6. Land Ownership

- 6.1. *At this time: December 2021, Sennen Parish Council does not own any land suitable for the siting of memorial trees or furniture.

7. Terms and Conditions

- 7.1. All enquiries regarding memorial benches/memorial furniture should be made in writing to the Clerk, contact details may be found on the Sennen Parish Council website [Sennen Parish Council](#)
- 7.2. Where applicable, the Parish Council will keep a record of donors and contact details in accordance with Data Protection Laws. It is the responsibility of the donor to update the Parish Council of any changes to these details.
- 7.3. The Parish Council reserves the right to remove any donated benches or other memorial furniture on public land or land of unknown/disputed ownership which are in the view of the Parish Council beyond economical repair or no longer fit for purpose through age or damage. Regular inspections by the Parish Council will determine whether the bench etc. is safe and fit for purpose and the Parish Council or its officers shall be the final arbiters of such a decision to remove an item
- 7.4. The Parish Council accepts no replacement liability for Memorial furniture at the end of its useful life and will dispose of any such item, where possible returning any plaque to the donor/donor's family. Any replacement of bench/furniture/plaque will be the responsibility of the original donor.
- 7.5. The Parish Council accepts no liability for damage to any bench/memorial furniture from vandals or third parties.
- 7.6. If a donated bench/memorial furniture becomes damaged or unserviceable, it will be removed and the donor informed where possible. If the Parish Council can successfully claim for a replacement under the terms of its insurance, the item will be replaced at a cost to the donor, commensurate with the insurance excess payable. Otherwise the original donor will be given the option to replace the item at their expense.
- 7.7. The Parish Council will not be liable for relocation of benches/memorial furniture should any other authority or landowner decide to rescind their permission to allow the installation of such items on their property.
- 7.8. The Parish Council will publicise this policy with the aim of ensuring landowners and the public are aware of responsibilities regarding memorial furniture.

Adopted at the meeting of Sennen Parish Council under Minute

on Date:

For Review on