

## Rayleigh Cemetery

Rayleigh Cemetery dates back to the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century and has many varying styles of memorial. Headstones with full kerb surrounds and stone chippings are permitted on both graves and cremation plots.

## Maintenance

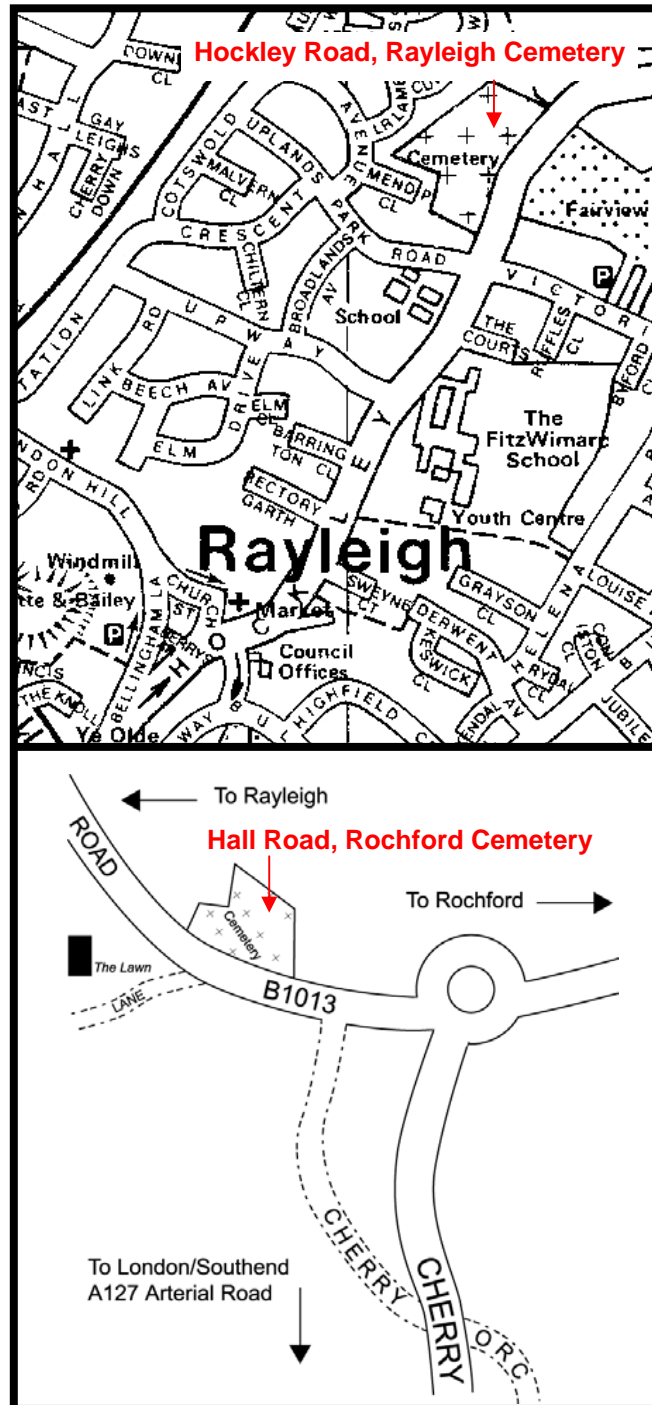
All grass cutting within the cemeteries is undertaken by the Council's contractors. To assist visitors tending to graves the Council provides a supply of water, watering cans and litter facilities at both cemeteries.

## Fees

These are available on our website and on request. For all queries relating to the cemeteries please contact:

Customer Services  
Phone: 01702 318134 or 01702 318191  
Email: [cemeteries@rochford.gov.uk](mailto:cemeteries@rochford.gov.uk)

Head of Legal, Estates & Member Services



# Cemeteries and Burials

## Introduction

The Council owns and manages two cemeteries within the District, one at Hall Road, Rochford and one on the Hockley Road, Rayleigh. With the exception of children's graves, the cemetery at Rayleigh has reached its capacity. Burials now only take place in previously reserved graves or cremation plots.

Hall Road Cemetery now serves the whole of the District for the purchase of new graves and cremation plots. Although the cemeteries were provided to cater principally for residents of the District, they are available for use by non-residents. A two-tier fee structure reflects this arrangement.

## Hours of Opening

Both Cemeteries are open to the public 365 days a year.

Winter 7.30 am – 4.30 pm  
(1 November – 31 March)

Summer 7.30 am – 7.30 pm  
(1 April – 31 October)

## Reserving a Grave Space

The Exclusive Right of Burial in a grave space may be purchased at any time. The period of exclusive use is 100 years.

Graves may be purchased for up to three burials and four sets of ashes. Cremation plots hold up to four caskets of ashes.

## Interments

All initial enquiries regarding burial should be made through the funeral director of your choice, who will contact the Council's Customer Services to make the arrangements on your behalf.

Enquiries regarding the interment of cremated remains may be made directly to Customer Services. Cremated remains must be in a biodegradable container. No plastics of any kind are acceptable.

Arrangements for an officiating minister are made by the relative or undertaker.

## Memorials

The Council's prior approval is required before a permanent memorial may be erected, and your stonemason will apply for a permit on your behalf. It is recommended that at least nine months be left after interment before erecting a memorial on a grave to allow the ground to settle. This does not apply to cremation plots where a memorial may be erected at any time.

The Council will allow the placing of a temporary wooden cross whilst arrangements are made for a permanent memorial.

All memorials must be kept in good order and the Council reserve the right to remove any memorial that is not maintained in an adequate or safe condition.

A living owner is required to give permission for a burial to take place or a memorial to be erected/altered. In order for the burial or memorial request to proceed, the Exclusive Right of Burial needs to be transferred to the person(s) entitled to the rights.

## Hall Road Cemetery

The Hall Road Cemetery is a Lawn cemetery and as such only a headstone on a base, in keeping with the style of the cemetery within specified dimensions is permitted. For cremation plots only a memorial vase/inscription panel is allowed, again within a specified size. All local memorial masons are aware of the regulation sizes for this cemetery.

Kerb surrounds are not allowed around either graves or cremation plots and the planting of trees, shrubs or flowers or the placing of plant containers or ornaments on the grassed areas is not permitted. This area must be kept clear in the interest of the appearance of the Cemetery and to facilitate its maintenance.