

DRAFT

COLUMBARIA

Columbarium

A Columbarium is a place for the respectful and usually public storage of urns containing a deceased's cremated remains.

Current Position

With the scarce availability of space for the traditional internment of remains of the deceased (lack of space in traditional cemeteries).alternative forms of "burial" are being considered. Consideration is being given, in certain areas, for the development of Columbaria.

Columbaria

Columbaria could possibly be respectfully created in the following situations:

- A Graveyard/ Cemetery attached to a Parish Church
- A church with a crypt
- A large church with surplus "space" from that which is required for current appropriate liturgical requirement

It should be acknowledged that not all Parishes will be in a position to provide Columbaria.

Statutory Consents

In the proposed provision of Columbaria, Statutory Consents would have to be obtained from the relevant Local Authority in advance of commencement of works. Consultation with the Conservation Officer (of the relevant Planning Authority) with regard to a Protected Structure would always be required at the initial stages of consideration.

Construction

The constructional requirement should be such that the cremated remains would always remain "in tact" – "protected in perpetuity". Parishes should be mindful of this onerous requirement.

Maintenance

At the Planning Stage due consideration should be given to the long term implication of maintenance. In this regard the Parish should make honest provision for "maintenance in perpetuity"

Procedure

If a Parish is considering the development of a Columbaria they should consult the Diocesan Committees/ Commission at the preliminary development stage - (eg. Buildings Committee, Commission for Sacred Art and Architecture and Historic Buildings – particularly if a Protected Structure is involved).