

**ST MARY MAGDALENE BOLNEY IN THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER.  
POLICY FOR THE CARE OF THE CHURCHYARD**  
[www.stmarymagdalenebolney.org.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenebolney.org.uk)

**We follow the Diocese of Chichester's general directions concerning churches and churchyards which the Parochial Church Council is bound to observe. Please follow the link 'Care of the Churchyard' to view the full directions on our website.**

- The churchyard is consecrated ground; the final resting place of the mortal remains of the loved ones who have left this life. It is a place where the living can remember those who have been commended to the mercy of God; a place of peace to be respected.
- It is also a haven for many kinds of wildlife, other parts of God's creation. Some areas of our churchyard remain uncut in rotation at certain times of the year to allow wild flowers to bloom and seed. The remainder is regularly mown and hedges cut.
- The P.C.C. does what is possible to manage the churchyard in an appropriate way and is grateful to those who help to care for this special place. The guidelines we follow have been drawn up so that all may work together for this purpose and for the avoidance of causing distress.

**Graves and memorials**

- Bulbs and small plants can be planted and wreaths and cut flowers may be laid here.  
Any container used must be appropriate to the size of the grave or memorial.
- No glass to be used as broken glass becomes a hazard when the grassed area around the memorials/graves is cut. Plastic flowers, toys, are not appropriate items to leave on memorials or graves and may cause distress to other visitors to the graveyard. No shrubs or trees may be planted on graves or memorials.
- The P.C.C. can take no responsibility for the care of monuments, vases etc associated with graves and memorials.
- If a grave ceases to be cared for, the P.C.C. may do what is deemed appropriate to keep it in order.

**For any further guidance please visit our website or contact a church warden.  
*Please see noticeboard or parish magazine for contact details***

**Reviewed annually: 2nd meeting after each APCM**