

In re Castle Combe, St Andrew's and in re the late Leslie Lars Iversen

In the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Bristol

JUDGMENT
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1. This is a petition for the introduction of a memorial that falls outside the Churchyard regulations. The petition has the support of the incumbent and the PCC.
2. The material that falls outside the regulations are the proposed introduction of side and foot kerbs to a matching headstone. The petitioners are the widow and son of the late Leslie Lars Iversen. Leslie Iversen was an enormously distinguished neuroscientist and pharmacologist (I note, in passing, that his widow is an extremely distinguished experimental psychologist).
3. The kerbs petitioned for are not generally allowed as they make tending the graveyard difficult when the grave falls into disrepair, as they make mowing the grass impossible and if they collapse they can create trip hazards.
4. I have been sent a photograph of the area where the kerbs are to be introduced. There are a large number of memorials with kerbs already in place. The area is well tended and is a welcoming and an easily accessible space. These other kerbed memorials do not create a precedent, but the appearance of the space makes it clear that all the memorials in place are well cared for and do not create any hazards.
5. In those circumstances I am prepared to grant a faculty for the introduction of side kerbs and foot kerbs to the memorial. This is on the condition that the kerbs are maintained safely.

15 February 2021

The Reverend and Worshipful Justin Gau,
Chancellor