



## KEWSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

**“Here to protect the Rural Character and Environment of the Village  
and to promote Kewstoke as a pleasant place to live”**

### **The Scattering of Consecrated Ashes.**

#### **KPC026**

The Parish Council whilst having no actual ownership of the Dunes or Beach would not have any objections, providing it was a one off occurrence, but would not condone a service or the placing of a memorial or likewise, and providing the guidelines as outlined below are adhered to:- .

It is understood that in the UK there is no explicit law against scattering ashes, as long as you obtain permission from the person who owns the land.

#### **Dunes at Sand bay**

1. The dunes are manmade and have no official owner in so much as they were never registered in the land registry.

The area is designated an SSSI (site of special scientific interest) and as such Natural England requires consulting on things you can and cannot do on SSSI land.  
Natural England has no objection if it's a one off event.

The Dunes are also an asset of the Environmental Agency and used as a Sea Defense so it would be courteous to contact them in advance

#### **2. The scattering Ashes over the sea.**

The scattering of Ashes laws and regulations in the UK state that you don't need permission to scatter ashes over a body of water, noting the following:-

- a. Make sure the place you choose isn't near a fishery or marina
- b. Check that the site is no less than 1km upstream from a water plant or reservoir
- c. if possible, choose a day with calm weather so that ashes are not blown onto neighboring land or areas.

### **3. Beach at Sand Bay**

The rules for contacting the owner of the land are still applicable (particularly privately owned beaches), although, most of them in the UK will allow families to scatter ashes on the sand or rocks.

The area between the high water mark and the low water mark at Sand Bay belongs to the Crown Estate which permits broad rights of access to the foreshore subject to certain conditions (e.g. no commercial business) .

North Somerset Council to an extent can control activities on the Beach so it would be courteous to contact them in advance

### **General Advice**

Here are some tips on how to scatter ashes following UK regulations and environmental guidance.

- a. Use an ashes scattering container, known as a "scatter tube" to help you scatter the ashes
  - b. Find out who owns the land and seek their permission where necessary before you scatter the ashes although as it belongs to the crown this i don't think is required.
  - c. Scatter in a secluded area, Ideally away from other people and avoiding the main pathways
  - d. Be aware of the environment - avoid areas of special conservation and try not to disturb the ground.
  - e. Try to avoid busy periods such as Bank Holidays
  - f. Try to avoid windy days
  - g. If scattering on a cliff- top check that no one is walking underneath before scattering.
  - h. Avoid scattering ashes on land where animals are grazing
- . Memorials such as benches, plaques or plants should not be placed unless permission has been granted by the land owner. ( Please contact the {Parish Council if you are considering this option).

Adopted 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025