

27 March 2015

Asset and Enterprise Committee

Shenfield War Memorial - Post WW2 Memorial

Report of: *Adrian J Tidbury, Estates and Valuation Surveyor*

Wards Affected: *Brentwood North*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the request of the Royal British Legion to adopt both the new 1946 War Memorial and the recently installed 1914-18 Commemoration benches.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 **That the Council instructs its lawyers to draft the necessary deeds of adoption formally bringing the new 1946 War Memorial and the recently installed 1914 -18 Commemoration benches into the Councils ownership and that the Council continues to maintain those memorials in line with the existing maintenance of the existing memorials at the site.**

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The Council gave consent as the land owner for the new 1946 memorial to be placed on its land in February 2012. Funding for the memorial was raised by the Mayor. Any deficit in the fund was underwritten by the Co-Op who also funded the provision of the two benches commemorating the 1914 -18 Great War.
- 3.2 The conveyance of the land to the Council was dated 1921 by Thornton's who were trustees based in the Strand London. This Conveyance permitted the erection of a wayside cross or an approved public erection. These memorials were considered as approved public erections and therefore in accordance with the conveyance.

- 3.3 The new memorial and commemorative benches are covered by the councils indemnity insurance.
- 3.4 The new 1946 War memorial was commemorated on Sunday 19th May 2013 following a significant parade to the site.
- 3.5 Permission for the installation of the Commemorative Benches was provided on 31st October 2013 and the service dedicating the benches took place on Sunday 3rd August 2014.

4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 The main issue for the Council to consider is the level of insurance required which is consistent with the insurance cover provided for the adjacent memorials.
- 4.2 Maintenance of the both the memorial and the benches will be minimum, it is possible that some remarking of the text may be required in years to come, but no maintenance is likely to be required in the foreseeable future.
- 4.3 The Council has in the past received requests to take over war memorials in other locations and has declined the request. However, in this case the land is in the ownership of the Council and the Council already maintains the site in terms of both the grounds and renovations to the existing memorials which were carried out two years ago.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken.

6. References to Corporate Plan

- 6.1 To work with the local community and voluntary organisations to develop the priorities for community development, raise awareness of activities and promote opportunities for residents,
- 6.2 To continue to work with local businesses and community groups to deliver a number of community events.
- 6.3 To increase Community and Voluntary sector activity, initiatives and projects.

7. Implications

Financial Implications

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- 7.1 The additional costs associated with the adoption of the memorial and benches are negligible and will be met within existing budgets.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Philip Cunliffe-Jones, Solicitor

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- 7.2 Under the War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923 as amended responsibility for the overall control of war memorials was vested with local authorities, who are empowered to incur reasonable expenditure for the maintenance, repair and protection of war memorials.
- 7.3 The War Memorials Trust provides a guide to fund raising, and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport provides a Memorial Grant Scheme

- 8. Background Papers** (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

There are no relevant background papers for this report

9. Appendices to this report

Appendix A - Site Plan

Appendix B - Site Plan

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