



NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Development & Amenities Committee Meeting held on 18 December 2019 at 18 King's Arms Street, North Walsham NR28 9JX

Present :

Chair : Cllr R Murphy

Vice Chair : Cllr I Jackson

Cllr A Fryer

Cllr B Hester

Cllr P Oakes

In Attendance :

Mr D Gilbert – Head Groundsman

Lead Officer : Ms T Foster

Observers : Cllr G Bull

Town Clerk

Meeting opened at 18.00

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence : Cllr J Melville (family), Mr M Smith (family) and Cllr M Gray (no apologies)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

4. TO CONSIDER THE “PARKS CONTRIBUTION” CLAUSE OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENT - McCARTHY & STONE, NEW ROAD

Members were handed a Report on the Memorial Garden containing plans, quotes for items, drawings etc. The Chair introduced the meeting stating the only item on the Agenda was consideration of the “Parks Contribution” clause of the Section 106 Agreement for which the Committee were to give recommendations concerning the Memorial Garden.

The Chair worked through various points of the Report as follows :

Layout/Plan of Memorial Garden

- After discussion it was agreed the layout of Plan “C” of the Report was the best option and should be recommended. The Head Groundsman who prepared the plan commented this option would encompass the Cairn, with two raised shrub beds placed

*R. Murphy
15/1/2020*

in each corner, if a statute was placed in a grassed area a hand mower should be used around it, and the existing pathway would be re-gravelled as a matter course. As proposed by Cllr B Hester and seconded by Cllr I Jackson it was **RESOLVED**

To recommend Plan C of the Report

It was unanimously agreed.

Obelisks at the Entrance to the Memorial Garden

- The Chair stated all the services were not depicted on the individual obelisks, would attract vandalism and the following discussion of members concluded unfavourably for the erection of obelisks.

Replacement plaque on the Existing War Memorial

- It had been suggested a replacement plaque be placed over the existing plaque with new name inscriptions. However, it was preferred to keep the original plaque and clean up the inscriptions so the names were clear to read together with the stonework cleaned at the same time. Apparently there is a possible spelling mistake in one of the names to be investigated.

The inscription names need to be checked to ensure that none were missing, and if so, another plaque could be placed near the existing memorial bearing those names. Consideration could also be given to additional names being inscribed on the existing plaque depending on the number.

It was suggested the service in which the names on the inscription served should be sought. All present agreed that if the servicemen mentioned in the inscription should be part of the Royal Norfolk Regiment then that insignia should be represented on any new memorial.

The Royal British Legion ("RBL") and the Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Families Association ("SSAFA) should have some input in the renovation of the Memorial Garden and be contacted straight away.

War Memorial Monuments

It had been previously considered that a new memorial should be placed in the Memorial Garden :

- There were three drawings of Memorials in the Report to consider and the Memorial of the "Tommy" Soldier was the choice recommended (*the "tommy" relates to WW1*).
- There should be another two quotes obtained for Memorials with drawings and costs for consideration.

As proposed by Cllr R Murphy and seconded by Cllr P Oakes it was **RESOLVED**

To recommend the memorial with the soldier and to obtain two further quotes for memorials

It was unanimously agreed.

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Seats and Benches

It was advised that the Friends of North Walsham War Memorial Hospital wished to donate some benches to the Memorial Garden such benches being in the need of repair and were with Men n Sheds. It was agreed that seats and benches should be provided and would be on the next Agenda for consideration.,

It was intimated that although NNDC required the information from the Town Council as soon as possible that time to consider and make recommendations could extend to the end of January with the end of February a possibility, if required. *Lead Officer to make contact with the NNDC representative about time scales.*

Way Forward : Information for the Development & Amenities Meeting of 14 January 2020

To summarise the actions from the meeting:

The Lead Officer would

- *find out as much information as possible concerning the history of the existing War Memorial.*
- *check all the names of the service men on the existing War Memorial to ensure that none have been missed off and to investigate a possible spelling mistake.*
- *make contact with the RBL and SSAFA for input on the new War Memorial.*
- *also be able to make contact with a local historian, if necessary, with any questions raised by members. A DVD of the local historian on memorials in the immediate area may reveal more information such DVD has yet to be viewed.*
- *obtain two further quotes and drawings for War Memorials from Stonemasons for consideration.*
- *contact the representative of NNDC about time scales for submission of the application and advise of the up to date position.*
- *arrange, if necessary, a meeting with RBL and SSAFA representatives, D & A Chair, and other representatives prior to the next D & A Meeting on 14 January 2020.*

This item will be deferred to the D & A Meeting on 14 January 2020 when more information should be available.

The Chair allowed the following item to be included to which all present agreed.

18.25 Cllr B Wright arrived at the meeting.

Street Lights in Manor Road

A Site Meeting had taken place today (18 December 2019) with the Vice Chair of the Developments & Amenities Committee, Town Clerk and a representative from the Town Council's street light contractors concerning the street lights to be repaired at Manor Road.

The street lights have been out of action since late summer following an incident with a high vehicle causing the power lines to be affected and the street lights not to work.

Discussion over the layout of the power lines to the street lights and possible improvements were considered. A further site visit to be conducted.

*R. Murphy
15/1/2020*

The Town Clerk will be sending letters to residents on and near Manor Road with an update on the repair of the street lights.

Signage for Emergency Work

Discussion on “Town Council Aware” signs which would be an advantage for any emergency work such as repair works at Manor Road such signs making the public aware that work is being undertaken. Such signs could also show a time scale of the work if available. This would be referred to the Media & Information Committee.

Meeting closed : 18.30 pm

The next D & A Meeting to take place on : 14 January 2020