



WAR MEMORIAL REPAIR

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 84/18

10 SEPTEMBER 2018

The purpose of this Report is to ask Members to consider a proposal for the now increased match funding requirement for repairs to the War Memorial in time for the special events planned for around it on 11 November this year.

NO. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The slate plaque weighing an estimated 300lb carrying the names of those who died fighting in the 1939-45 war was added to the south side of the Memorial 68 years ago and fell from its mountings on the night of 29/30 January this year, breaking into many pieces.
- b) At its March Meeting the Town Council the Town Council received a written request from the Royal British Legion Ventnor Branch to fund the replacement through an application to the War Memorials Trust (WMT) and to contribute the match funding required.
- c) The Legion provided a copy of a quotation for the work from Wight Stonemasonry Ltd in a total of £4,510 plus VAT; the potential grant funding of 75% of that amount would have left a match funding requirement of £1,128 to which the Town Council agreed in Minute40/18 of its March meeting.

2) FUNDING APPLICATION

- a) The application was submitted to the War Memorials Trust on 14 June in time for the next deadline for submission on 30 June.
- b) The application required two quotations and the Legion had acquired a second one from Island Memorials Ltd in a total of £3,475 which we submitted as the second quotation with a clear statement that Wight Stonemasonry was the preferred supplier.
- c) The Trust had indicated throughout that its grant fund was under particular pressure this year due to the significance of the 100-year anniversary of the ending of the second world war and that was reflected in the grant award letter received on the 13 August.
- d) The grant is for a total of ££1,740, based on 50% of the cheaper quotation.

3) MATCH FUNDING REQUIREMENT

- a) If the Town Council agrees to place the contract for the works with Wight Stonemasonry, the total match funding requirement will be £2,255 or £1,127 than the Town Council has already agreed to commit.
- b) After discussions with the Legion, the proposal is that the additional requirement is met fully by the Town Council with 50% of it - £563.50 – being treated as a short-term loan to the Legion to be repaid as funds become available through its War Memorial Fund.

4) RECOMMENDATION

In view of the importance of the work, the limited timescale available for its completion and the constraints on the Legion in respect of funding project activity, the Town Council is recommended to:

- i) approve the additional £1,127 net cost of the repairs on the basis identified in section 3(b) above; and
- ii) authorise its Clerk to commission the repairs from Wight Stonemasonry Ltd.