



WAR MEMORIAL REPAIRS

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 24/18

12 MARCH 2018

The purpose of this paper is to ask Members to consider a request from the Royal British Legion Ventnor Branch to fund the replacement of the 1939-45 slate named plaque, which has fallen from its mountings and smashed, in time for the major commemoration event planned for 11 November 2018.

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) The Legion members are naturally keen not only to see it replaced but for the work to be completed in time for the special Remembrance Service already being planned for Remembrance Day this year to reflect its coincidence with the actual end of World War 1.
 - c) The event is planned to include an invitation to the Isle of Wight Lord Lieutenant to unveil the reguiled plaques and for the British Legion Chairman and President and British Legion Standards to be in attendance with approximately 30 wreaths being laid by a cross-section of the community and 112 Ventnor school children placing a Poppy Cross.
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2) REPLACEMENT COST FUNDING

- a) The Town Council has received a written request to fund the replacement through an application to the War Memorials Trust (WMT) and to contribute the matching funding required.
 - b) The Legion has provided a copy of a quotation for the work from Wight Stonemasonry Ltd in a total of £4,510 plus VAT.
 - c) Their phone conversation with the WMT's Helpline has indicated that an application is likely to be eligible for funding at 75% of the cost.
 - d) If successful, the grant would be for a total of £3,382 with the Town Council being requested to provide the £1,128 match funding.
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3) TIMING

- a) Applications to WMT are a two-stage process with an initial short Pre-Application Form with a decision within 7 weeks as to whether the proposed works are eligible for funding.
 - b) If the Pre-Application is accepted as eligible, a full Grant Form will be provided that can be submitted at any time for assessment by the next Grants Committee meeting that, in this case, would be 30 June.
 - c) A decision would be available within six weeks of that date.
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4) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to consider this request from the Royal British Legion Ventnor Branch and determine its response.
