

ITEM 7 Proposals to recognise fallen service persons not recorded on the Andover WW1 War Memorial

Report of the Community and Leisure Portfolio Holder

Recommended:

That listed building consent (and any other necessary permission) is applied for, to enable the addition of an addendum panel at the steps of the Memorial in the Garden of Remembrance, Andover – as outlined in this report

SUMMARY:

- The Council has been approached to consider the addition of an addendum panel to the WW1 War Memorial, in recognition of service personnel not currently recorded on the War Memorial in the Garden of Remembrance.
- The report outlines the work undertaken to review the provenance of this request and its consideration by a group of representatives from relevant stakeholder groups across the town.
- Authority is required to proceed with the application for listed building consent for an additional addendum panel on the memorial in advance of determining suitable design and implementation. This will form the main part of the main part of the application process.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The report outlines the outcome of the recent work to consider names of service personnel who died in WW1, who are associated with Andover but are not recognised on the WW1 memorial. It is further proposed that these service personnel should be put forward for inclusion on an addendum panel on the steps of the WW1 memorial.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Council were approached by local historian Mr Craig Fisher, requesting consideration for additional names of service personnel killed as a result of WW1 to be remembered on the town's war memorial. Mr Fisher is considered an authority on the memorial and has been writing a biography published weekly in the local paper on each of the servicemen remembered on the memorial.

- 2.2 In February 2015 the name of Reginald Frank Bashford Robbins was added to the memorial and a service of dedication was held. R.F.B Robbins who served with the Royal Engineers died in 7th February 1920. Despite the programme for the unveiling of the memorial including his name amongst the 'Roll of the Dead', for reasons unknown his name was not added to the memorial. No evidence has been uncovered to account for this omission, hence the rededication service and addition of his name to the memorial itself.
- 2.3 Since then Mr Fisher has identified further names of service personnel who died as a result of WW1, with links to Andover who ought, as a consequence of his ongoing research, be recognised on the town's war memorial.
- 2.4 A working group was therefore established with representation invited from Andover Town Council, The Royal British Legion, St Mary's Church (Winchester Diocese), Borough Council representative from St Mary's ward and the Council's Conservation Officer. Whilst TVBC are custodians of the War Memorial and under the Local Authorities' Powers Act 1923 (and subsequent amendments) have the authority to add names to a war memorial, it was considered appropriate to bring together a broader stakeholder group for considering such a request and to evaluate the list of names.
- 2.5 The group met a number of occasions over a 6 month period and agreed criteria by which those names could be considered for inclusion on a memorial. The original criteria for inclusion could not be followed as this was simply by virtue of a request made to the church/vicar.
- 2.6 The criteria for the future inclusion of missing men and women to the town's roll of honour for the First World War were agreed as follows:
- They were born in Andover and lived for a significant time in the town; or
 - They moved to Andover and lived here for a significant time before the war or have strong links to the town (marriage, or children born here); and
 - They are not already recorded on any other borough memorial, with the exception of where that memorial is for a specific institution, for example the Andover Grammar School or New Street Mission Room memorials; and
 - They are not known to be recorded on any other parish, village, town or city war memorial nationally (excluding institutional memorials and those of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission - which are in lieu of a grave), unless their links to Andover are deemed significant enough to warrant inclusion.
- 2.7 Mr Fisher has provided detailed background information on each service person with this list including a number of females who died in service. There are currently no female's names on the town memorial. With the application of this criteria and considerable discussion a list of 16 names were unanimously agreed to be put forward.

- 2.8 If approval is granted the names for inclusion will be published in the local media. This would include the local paper and the websites of those organisations involved in the evaluation process. The memorial is a grade 2 listed so any change to its curtilage will require Listed Building Consent. We may also need Faculty Permission from the Diocese of Winchester (depending upon the final design, size and location of the panel).
- 2.9 The WW1 memorial stands as an historic record and in this sense should be maintained as such. It has been proposed that, any names to be added in future could be listed on an addendum panel placed on the steps of the memorial made from Portland stone (or similar). This would ensure suitable form of remembrance linked to the WW1 memorial whilst demonstrating that the names are a later addition.

3 Corporate Objectives and Priorities

- 3.1 The Council's Corporate Plan Investing in Test Valley 2015-2019 is dedicated to improving the quality of lives for the borough's residents. This project, if approved, would fit in to the priority 'contribute to and be part of a strong community'.

4 Consultations/Communications

- 4.1 Consultation has been undertaken with St Mary's ward members, Andover Town Council, Winchester Diocese via St Mary's church, The Royal British Legion and TVBC Conservation Officer.

5 Options

- 5.1 The options are considered as follows:
- 5.2 **Option 1** – Proceed and recognise those names of service personnel not listed on the WW1 memorial.
- 5.3 **Option 2** – Do not proceed and add the additional names.

6 Option Appraisal

- 6.1 **Option 1 - Proceed and recognise those names of service personnel not listed on the WW1 memorial.** Significant research has been undertaken by Mr Fisher to put forward a detailed biography of service personnel not recognised on the towns memorial. This work has been scrutinised by a group of town representatives as outlined in 2.4 using a transparent process. It is also intended to publish those names being put forward for inclusion on the addendum panel.
- 6.2 The adding of an addendum panel to the memorial will ensure that those service personnel are remembered whilst retaining the memorial as a historic record and a further scrutiny completed as part of the listed building application.

6.3 **Option2 – Do not proceed and add the additional names.** The option could be taken not proceed with the listed building application for the addendum panel. On the basis of the scrutiny undertaken and the further scrutiny which will follow with any listed building application the risk in proceeding appears to be low.

6.4 On balance option 1 is considered the most appropriate option given the scrutiny undertaken, the suggested process to follow and the requirement to seek Listed Building Consent.

7 Risk Management

7.1 A risk assessment has been completed in accordance with the Council's Risk management process and the existing risk controls in place mean that no significant risks (Red or Amber) have been identified.

8 Resource Implications

8.1 It is anticipated that any changes made to the war memorial will be undertaken within existing resources..

9 Legal implications

9.1 The war memorial is a grade 2 listed building. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires Listed Building Consent for works of alteration which might affect the special interest of a listed building.

10 Equality Issues

10.1 None

11 Other Issues

11.1 **Wards/Communities Affected** – Potentially All Wards of Andover. In particular, Councillors for St Mary's Ward have been involved with this work to date.

12 Conclusion and reasons for recommendation

12.1 The report outlines the work undertaken to assess names of fallen service personnel put forward for remembrance on the Andover War Memorial. 16 names have been put forward following an assessment by a group of representatives from the town.

12.2 Authority is required to proceed with the application for listed building consent for an additional addendum panel on the memorial. This application may in itself identify further work necessary to complete or take the project forward.

Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)

Confidentiality

It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.

No of Annexes:	Nil	File Ref:	
(Portfolio: Community and Leisure. Councillor Ward			
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