

NON KEY DECISION: REPORT TO CABINET PORTFOLIO MEMBER

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Cllr John Smith
Healthy Environment

REPORT AUTHOR: Susie McCahon

REPORT NO. AFM0083

DATE: 20th April 2009

SUBJECT OF NON KEY DECISION:	MEMORIAL TO THE FALLEN – ST PETER’S HILL GREEN
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CORPORATE PRIORITY:	Quality Organisation	
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	MINOR	
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	This report is publicly available via the local democracy link on the Council’s website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	Carried out and appended to report? Not Applicable	Full impact assessment required? No
BACKGROUND PAPERS:		

(1) PURPOSE OF REPORT

Discussions have been taking place with representatives from the National Malay & Borneo Veterans Association who have requested permission to erect a Memorial to the Fallen in conflicts since the end of the Second World War on St Peter’s Hill Green, Grantham. The Veterans Association Committee have mounted a highly

publicised campaign to raise funds with high levels of support from the British Legion, Royal Naval Association, RAF Association and Malay and Borneo Veterans Association and the Grantham Journal. There have also been many letters of support to the Council and the Grantham Journal from the people of Grantham.

The funds raised by the Committee will be used to purchase the memorial and provide a commuted sum for future maintenance. The Association has requested that the Council give permission to erect the memorial on St Peter's Hill Green and to provide the necessary concrete base.

The proposed memorial will be made from Ancaster stone with a marble centre piece and measures 1500cm high by 1500cm long by 750cm wide. The proposed site is in the shrub bed beneath the Cherry Tree near to the site of the Remembrance Garden to the west of the statue of Sir Isaac Newton. The monument will be inscribed "In memory of all service and civilian personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the interests of freedom and peace during wars, campaigns and peacekeeping operations and from terrorist actions since 1945 to the present day".

The Veteran Association would like the memorial to be erected in June in readiness for a dedication ceremony on 27th June 2009 being Armed Forces Day.

(2) RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the council give permission for the Memorial to be sited on St Peter's Hill Green as requested by the Veteran Association and take over responsibility for future maintenance in line with other memorials or provisions in public open spaces.

(3) REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) (including any alternative options considered and rejected)

The Veteran Association Committee have raised the necessary funds and will be responsible for the procurement and purchase of the monument.

Quotations have been received by the Council for the preparation of the concrete base and placing the monument in the sum of £535.00 plus VAT. This cost can be funded from existing budget allocation for 2008/2009.

The Committee will pay the Council a commuted sum of £500 to be used for the on-going maintenance of the memorial. This is based on current fundraising levels and will increase in due course as further fund raising takes place.

The Council's Arboriculturalist has confirmed that the position of the Memorial beneath the Cherry Tree is acceptable as there will be minimal disturbance to the root system of the tree.

The Council's Development Control Lead Professional has confirmed that planning permission is not required.

Furthermore the Council's Health and Safety Officer has confirmed that there are no particular issues with Health and Safety due to the design of the monument discouraging any persons from using the monument inappropriately.

It is considered that the Council should be supportive of this initiative which has received high levels of involvement and support from many parties.

(4) COMMENTS OF THE CORPORATE HEAD OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES (SECTION 151 OFFICER)

The report confirms that the financial cost relating to the preparatory work can be met from existing financial budget provision. Going forward the budgets will need to reflect the commuted sums payments the Council will receive.

(5) COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

The Development Control Lead Professional has confirmed planning permission is not required because the proposed works are permitted by virtue of part 12 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 as amended.

The title deeds relating to St Peter's Hill do not restrict the use of the site for this purpose.

(6) OFFICER CONTACT

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(7) DATE DECISION EFFECTIVE:

If decision made on 11th May date effective will be 20th May 2009.