



WAR MEMORIAL RESTORATION

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

20 FEBRUARY 2012

The purpose of this Report is provide the update on progress made by the Working Group of Councillors Harry Rees and Jim Toogood and the Town Clerk as requested by the December meeting of the Town Council.

No. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The Town Council has been exploring the issue of the War Memorial's need for restoration work for several months.
- b) Minute 193/11 of the Town Council meeting of 12 December 2011 authorised the work involved in a bore hole to establish the need for underpinning and the submission of an Expression of Interest for funding from the War Memorials Commission.
- c) Both of these tasks have now been completed.

2) RESTORATION COSTS

- a) The completion of the bore hole has enabled an estimate of the cost of the underpinning necessary to guarantee long term stability.
- b) Estimates – though not yet quotations – for all the various elements of the work are now available as out in the following table:

ELEMENT	ESTIMATED COST
UNDERPINNING	10,900
SECURITY FENCING	480
SCAFFOLDING & REPAIRS TO TOP	530
REMOVAL OF EXISTING BASE	2,250
CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS & NEW BASE	6,190
EXCAVATION, CONCRETE LAYER & TARMAC	930
POINTING OF ALL JOINTS IN NEW BASE	900
REGUILDING OF BOTH PLAQUES	2,385
NEW CORBELS TO SUPPORT PLAQUES	325
EQUIPMENT HIRING COSTS	915
PROFESSIONAL ADVICE	400
CONSERVATION PRACTITIONER	2,000
CONTINGENCY @ 12%	3,385
TOTAL	31,590

3) FUNDING

- a) The War Memorials Trust is able to fund up to 50% of this cost level.
- b) The Trust adopts a six monthly programme of grant approvals with deadlines set at 31 March and 30 September.
- c) The requirement to develop, in conjunction with a Conservation Practitioner, a detailed specification as the basis for the required three quotations means that the earliest possible date for submission of an application would be in the context of the 30 September deadline.
- d) The Town Council's draft Budget includes a provision of £5,000 on the assumption that a combination of Ventnor Enhancement Fund and a British Legion-led fund-raising campaign would provide the remainder.

4) NEXT STAGE

- a) The Working Group has received an assessment from Civil Engineers Darren Keefe confirming that the Memorial, although leaning a little, is *structurally not unsafe*.
 - b) The Town Council is now in a position to decide what the next stage should be from options that include:
 - i) doing nothing;
 - ii) repairing the damaged top of the Memorial; and
 - iii) completion of all works listed in 2b) above, subject to funding availability.
 - c) If option iii) is selected, the Town Council will also need to determine the time scale it wishes to be adopted in particular for submission of a grant application to the War Memorials Trust.
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