

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Subject : Additional Names on the War Memorial
Committee : Full Council
Date : 27 Jun 2022
Author : Annie Child, City Clerk

1. Report Summary:

- 1.1. This report introduces a proposal to add additional bronze plaques to the War Memorial listing the names of those who died in the World War II (WWII), 1939-1945.

2. Background:

- 2.1. A member of the public, Mr Chris Hewitt, has asked the Council to consider granting permission to allow additional bronze plaques to be added to the War Memorial on the Guildhall Square. These plaques would show the names of Salisbury residents killed in WWII.
- 2.2. The City Council owns and manages the War Memorial.
- 2.3. Mr Hewitt proposes that the names of 240 of those who served from Salisbury and were lost during the 1939 – 1945 conflict would be commemorated on three bronze plaques on the back of the memorial. A central plaque noting the 1939 – 1945 conflict, then one middle and two curved plaques detailing the names, with the design matching the existing memorial.
- 2.4. Annex A shows a heritage statement concerning the war memorial and the proposal to add additional bronze plaques to show the names of those killed in WWII.

3. Funding:

- 3.1. Mr Hewitt and his associates have raised sufficient funding to purchase and install the additional plaques.
- 3.2. These costs are estimated to be circa £17,000- 20,000.
- 3.3. This has been raised by anonymous donations.
- 3.4. The City Council would be asked to pay for matters associated with the listed building consent application, and additional fencing required (in line with the current decorative fence, if required) plus any ancillary costs arising from this installation (e.g. any alterations to electric connections or other matters).
- 3.5. These costs are as follows:
 - 3.5.1. Listed building consent – application is free, drawings may be required estimated costs £500.
 - 3.5.2. Fencing - not yet determined
 - 3.5.3. Other - £2,000 contingency

4. Other Considerations:

- 4.1. Listed building consent will be required. Preliminary enquiries with Wiltshire Council's Conservation Officer did not reveal any likely difficulties with the granting of this permission.
- 4.2. Mr Hewitt reports that the Royal British Legion and Wiltshire Regiment Association are in favour of the proposal.
- 4.3. It was suggested once completed, a dedication ceremony takes place, and that during future Remembrance services dignitaries will pay their respects at both sides of the memorial.
- 4.4. Mr Hewitt is keen to ensure that there is community engagement with this project across the city and hopes to involve schools in this project.
- 4.5. If agreed, this new memorial to those who died in WWII will in no way diminish existing war memorial in the City, such as City Hall, which remains one of the principle memorials in the city.

4.6. The Names to be added:

- 4.7. Mr Hewitt is relying upon research on 2005 by Fiona Green of St Thomas' Church to support the Book of Remembrance in the church to authenticate the names
- 4.8. It is recommend that the names are of those who:
 - 4.8.1. Either were a resident of Salisbury or lived with close family in Salisbury
 - 4.8.2. Were in Military Service
 - 4.8.3. Died in action or hospital.
 - 4.8.4. Have their details logged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)

5. Recommendation:

It is recommended that:

- 5.1. The Council agree, in principle, to allowing the installation of new bronze plaques on the War Memorial showing the names of those who died in World War II.
- 5.2. The Council instructs the Clerk, in liaison with the Leaders of the Council, to work with Mr Hewitt and his associates to implement this project in the accordance with this report.
- 5.3. The Council note the potential costs to the Council from this project
- 5.4. The Council instructs the Clerk to report to Full Council the costs of the project to the Council, when known, to allow final agreement as appropriate.

6. Wards Affected: All

7. Background papers: Nil

8. Implications:

- 8.1. **Financial:** As shown in the report
- 8.2. **Legal:** Nil
- 8.3. **Personnel:** None identified as yet
- 8.4. **Environmental Impact:** Nil in relation to this report
- 8.5. **Equalities Impact Statement:** None identified as yet.

