

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL – EXTERNAL COMMITTEE

WAR MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING ON 15th May 2018

Present: Bill Chantler (RBL & TDRA) Canon Rev Lindsay Hammond, Maj. Alan O’Hagan, Fred Walker & Cllr Justin Nelson. Member of the public Carol Douglas (who attended the Town Hall part of the meeting) & the Town Clerk Phil Burgess was in attendance.

A visit to the site of the war memorial was made to determine the final placement of the bricks and some additional suggestions were made regarding the area around the war memorial which are detailed below. The meeting adjourned to the Town Hall.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Neil Beaven & Cllr Pam Smith.
2. **Appointment of Chairman.** Cllr Nelson remained in this role for the meeting.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held 6th March 2018.** Were agreed.
4. **Matters Arising.** Covered in the minutes below.
5. **Siting of Commemorative Bricks.** The commemorative RBL bricks would be sited in six rows between the central bench to the south of the site and the memorial itself (see plan attached). They would be close to the bench but not immediately adjacent. The names on the bricks would face the bench.
The bright red blocks on the attached plan will be available for commemorative bricks and will accommodate at least 20. The areas (white on the plan) to the side of the two double explanatory bricks will also be available for commemorative bricks when more are allocated. 2 new bricks plus the explanatory double bricks and 2 bricks to replace those misspelt will be ordered by Bill Chantler. In total there will be 17 bricks plus 2 double explanatory bricks.
Actions:
 1. *Ordering of Bricks (BC)*
 2. *Moving of bricks by maintenance staff once new bricks received, prior to war memorial cleaning. (Note: Town Clerk to contact Alan O’Hagan and Bill Chantler to attend site when bricks are to be fitted to ensure no mistakes)*
6. **Other changes at the War Memorial.** The memorial is surrounded on 3 sides by planting. The shrubs immediately adjacent to the war memorial will be removed and be replaced by grey gravel to allow easy passage around the memorial for wreath placement. The box bush is to remain and be clipped back. The grassed area to the rear of the memorial (designed to take memorial crosses near Remembrance Sunday) is to be dug out and replaced by grey gravel to a depth which would permit the placement of crosses.
Action: Maintenance team to make changes above
7. **Arrangements for Brick Rededication Ceremony.** This will be arranged between the RBL and Rev Canon Lindsay Hammond for an 11 am start on 30th June (Armed Forces Day).

- 8. RBL criteria for awarding bricks.** The following decision of the RBL at a recent meeting were noted:

Names may be added to the list and new bricks laid provided the late individual met one or more of the following criteria:

- a) Active and long-standing service to the Tenterden RBL Branch;
- b) Long-term service to the Poppy Appeal in Tenterden;
- c) Memorable service to Remembrance activities in Tenterden.

9. Any Other Business.

- a) Picking out the letters in black on faded names on the war memorial would be considered following the cleaning process in mid-June.
- b) Lindsay Hammond would provide Christian names for the war dead in preparation for the Remembrance Sunday ceremony
- c) A loose leaf-binder would be provided (to be held in St Mildred's) with details of the war dead. There is a good example in Wittersham church. Cllr Nelson would contact Debbie Greaves from the museum for assistance.
- d) Bill Chantler felt that no names were missing from the main war memorial although some needed to be added to the St Mildred's memorial to synchronize the two. Carol Douglas said that her research had revealed other possible names, but it is difficult to know the qualifying residential criteria employed at the time. No families had approached the RBL to request that a family member should be added.
- e) The war memorial is not registered with the war graves commission. Fred Walker would advise the clerk the details required for registration
- f) RBL presented a donation of £1050 for the cleaning of the memorial.

10. Next Meeting 24th July at 6pm

Meeting Closed at 19.02 p.m.