

## TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL – EXTERNAL COMMITTEE

### WAR MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES OF A MEETING ON 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Present:** Cllr Mrs Pam Smith, Neil Beaven (RBL), Bill Chantler (RBL & TDRA) Canon Rev Lindsay Hammond, Maj. Alan O'Hagan, Fred Walker &. Member of the public Carol Douglas. The Town Clerk Phil Burgess was in attendance.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Cllr Justin Nelson.
2. **Appointment of Chairman.** The Mayor Cllr. Mrs. Pam Smith was appointed chair.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018.** Were agreed.
4. **Matters Arising. None**

5. **Listing and registration of the Memorial.**

Fred Walker's findings were similar to the notes attached from Cllr Nelson. It is possible to have the memorial *listed* in the same way a building is listed to protect it in the long term. This would be undertaken through Historic England. *Listing* would protect the monument from alteration and would require the cleaning of the monument to be done in accordance with instructions from Historic England. Once the memorial is listed as a significant building it is likely to attract grant funding for maintenance.

Members were undecided over the merits of this. No costings for the *listing* were available at the meeting

*Action: Town Clerk to approach Historic England to assess the "pros and cons" of listing for a decision by this committee.*

*Registration.* It is possible to register memorials with both the Imperial War Museum and the Memorials Trust. This includes all types of memorial, not specifically stone structures. The Memorials Trust suggested *listing* the memorial with Historic England. The Memorials trust may give grants. The *registration* seems to be a cataloguing function and it is worth *registering* Ebony and Smallhythe with the Memorials Trust and Smallhythe with the Imperial War Museum (with the agreement of the relevant people) *Action.*

Fred Walker would supply the Town Clerk with the results of his research.

6. **Names of the War Dead.** Carol Douglas informed the meeting that she had identified 240 names in the first draft and acquired Christian names for Lindsay to use at the service on Remembrance Sunday for those listed on the War Memorial. Associated photos were also sometimes available which gives the records more poignancy. Lindsay confirmed that there is easy access to back copies of parish magazine dating from prior to WW1 to assist in Carol's research. Carol confirmed that the Tenterden names missing from the War Memorials (both in the church and at the High St Memorial) were intended for a book of remembrance, as they may not have fulfilled criteria for inclusion on the War memorials at the time. Bill Chantler pointed out that this was probably the case for names appearing on the church memorial and not the main memorial, some of which were paid for. The following 4 names appear on the church and not the main memorial: Babbington, Harry Gibson, James Albert Larkin and Frank E Smith.

Carol has identified 11<sup>th</sup> other names for the remembrance book. Town Hall office scanning & copying facilities were offered for her research. As yet, she had not been in contact with Debbie at the museum. *Action: Town Clerk to provide contact details and those of Colin Young who will have further information.*

7. **War Memorial Cleaning.** The Town Clerk advised that there is some pointing work still to be done and a test area would be tried with an acidic treatment to see if the result is improved. Every effort would be made for members to be present when the contractors next attended. No decision was made at this point regarding the painting in or re-incision of names.
  
8. **Any other Business.**
  - a) Alan O'Hagan said it would be good to know the month in which RBL members' lives were lost, in order to compile a list in chronological order so that those persons could be honoured at meetings. He also raised the issue of RBL members who may not require a commemorative brick, being allowed to opt-out. These were both internal RBL issues and would be addressed at their meetings.
  - b) Bill Chantler requested that potholes near War Memorial where people stood were reported to KCC. *Action Town Clerk*
  - c) Neil Beaven enquired regarding the display on street names in the new development. The Town Clerk advised that a poppy would appear to the left of the sign preceding the name. Post meeting note – photo available and will be circulated. *Action.*
  - d) Cllr Edwards had intended to attend the meeting, but his contribution was more appropriate to the Remembrance Sunday committee. He will be invited to that committee to advise on the availability of the Cavell Van from Bodiam on that day – the van should arrive at Tenterden Station around 12.30. That meeting date was set as 14<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm and request was made that Kent Fire and rescue be invited.
  
9. **Next Meeting of this committee:** Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Sept at 6pm

Meeting Closed at 19.12 p.m.