

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Strategic Outcomes

Date of Meeting: 21st July 2014
Report of: Principal Manager, Local Area Working
Subject/Title: Allocation of War Memorial Grants
Portfolio Holder: Councillor D Brown

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To determine the award of War Memorial Grants to voluntary and community organisations and Town and Parish Councils which meet the criteria approved by Cheshire East Council Cheshire East Council decided to provide one-off funding to support a War Memorial Grants Scheme within the boundaries of Cheshire East for the financial year of 2014/15. The aim of the War Memorial Grants Scheme is to support not for profit organisations and town and parish councils to fund repairs and refurbishment of War Memorials across the Borough.
- 1.2 The report covers the applications for War Memorial Grants for July 2014 and makes recommendations totalling £21,067 in line with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of War Memorial Grants.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the following War Memorial Grants be conditionally awarded or declined as indicated:

Bickerton Joint Burial Committee	Awarded £475
Bollington War Memorial Fund	Awarded £5,500
Burleydam Village Hall Fund	Awarded on receipt of suitable quotes
Goostrey Parish Council	Awarded £892
Haslington Parish Council	Awarded £2,620
Minshull Vernon & District Parish Council	Awarded £2,500
Mobberley Parish Council	Awarded £2,500
Peover Superior Parish Council	Awarded £3,780
Rainow Parish Council	Awarded £2,500
St John's Church, Chelford	Awarded £2,500
The Royal British Legion – Holmes Chapel Branch	Awarded £420

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (details of Grants)

3.1 Bickerton Joint Burial Committee

Total Cost of Project - £475 Amount Requested - £475

The War Memorial is a stone cross situated in Bickerton Cemetery. Bickerton Joint Burial Committee wants to carry out specialist cleaning by Richard Yates, a monumental mason. They also want to treat the memorial with silicon to keep it cleaner for longer. They are not contributing towards the project and do not have any other contributions. It is recommended that the committee seek approval for the work from the Diocese. The works

will not require planning permission. It is recommended that £475 is awarded and is conditional on not using a silicon sealant. It is also recommended to meet the conservation officer, Elizabeth Rodgers, to finalise works.

Bollington War Memorial Fund

Total Cost of Project – £7,954 Amount Requested – £5,500

Bollington War Memorial Fund is applying to create additions to the existing memorial to include all of the names of those that served in WW1 from the area. The current memorial cannot be restored or cleaned. Some names are missing from the original memorial and inscriptions have become hard to read. The war memorial is currently owned by Cheshire East Council but the Town Council have asked to take on ownership and responsibility for the memorial. It is recommended that they are awarded £5,500 once the transfer of the asset to Bollington Town Council from Cheshire East Council has taken place. Planning permission and Listed Building Consent is required. Grant subject to securing planning and Listed Building Consent and liaison with the conservation officer Andrew Ramshall.

Burleydam Village Hall Fund

Total Cost of Project – up to £2,500 Amount Requested – up to £2500

The memorial is a small tablet located within church grounds. The Village Hall group wish to fund the re-cutting of names on the tablet and are currently obtaining quotes for the work to be done. They will be making a small contribution themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded a grant for the work subject to the receipt of suitable quotations. Ecclesiastical exemption is likely to apply and the group are advised to contact the Diocese to establish this and liaise with the conservation officer Elizabeth Rodgers.

Goostrey Parish Council

Total Cost of Project - £892 Amount Requested - £892

The memorial is owned by St Luke's Church and permission has been granted for restoration to take place. Goostrey Parish Council wish to remove biological growth, re-point and repair parts of the memorial. The work is due to be carried out by Stone Central Ltd. They are not contributing themselves as they are a small Parish Council and have not budgeted to do so. Ecclesiastical exemption applies due to it being within the church grounds. Need to contact the Diocese to secure approval. It is recommended that they use a DOF pressurised steam clean for stonework to remove algal growth. It is recommended that they are awarded £892 subject to securing Diocese confirmation and liaising with conservation officer David Hallam.

Haslington Parish Council

Total Cost of Project - £3,630 Amount Requested - £2,620

The memorial is a stone cross, set upon a raised stone plinth with steps for access. The Parish council wish to raise the front area to remove the trip hazard, repair cracks, remove chain fixings and install a hand rail for safety. The work is to be carried out by Quadriga. The War memorial is not listed. No planning permission is required for repairs but the Parish Council will need to check with the planning office regarding the new access hand rail. The works proposed appear to be reasonable and will be in keeping subject to detail. We would recommend that Elizabeth Rodgers be contacted for advice with the project details. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,620 subject to approval from the planning office and the conservation officer.

Minshull Vernon & District Parish Council**Total Cost of Project - £3,500 Amount Requested - £2,500**

Minshull Vernon Parish Council wishes to add names of soldiers that lost their lives following a plane crash in the Second World War. The work to add these names will greatly enhance the entire memorial. The work is to be carried out by Oxley's Funeral Services. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 on the condition of holding an event in commemoration of the First World War. It is also recommended that advice is sought from the Heritage and Design team.

Mobberley Parish Council**Total Cost of Project - £5,300 Amount Requested - £2,500**

Mobberley War Memorial is located in front of St Wilfred's Church, Mobberley. They wish to re-cut and re-black the names of the soldiers. Work to be carried out by Twyford's. They have already paid for cleaning, repairs and re-blackening of the main lettering. They are contributing themselves and have donations. The Heritage & Design team would not advocate sealing the stone. Ecclesiastical exemption is likely to apply and the group are advised to contact the Diocese to establish this and liaise with the conservation officer Emma Fairhurst. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 on the condition of securing Diocese confirmation.

Peover Superior Parish Council**Total Cost of Project - £3,780 Amount Requested - £3,780**

The memorial is a stone cross, set upon raised steps. The Parish Council wish to pressure wash the entire monument and apply a biocidal treatment, re-align the stone steps and even the joints, lift the paved area, re-lay and re-point it, replace 2 missing timber posts and re-instate the chain link fence. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 subject to contacting the conservation officer Emma Fairhurst for further project advice.

Rainow Parish Council**Total Cost of Project - £2,954 Amount Requested - £2,500**

Rainow's memorial is set in a memorial gardens and comprises of a monument and memorial seat. The Parish Council wish to clean both the memorial and seat, re-paint the lettering, re-level the York stone flags and repair the sunken wings to the memorial seat. The work will be carried out by Robertson Memorials and local tradesmen and village volunteers. They are contributing themselves and have in kind contributions. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 on the condition of contacting the conservation officer Andrew Ramshall for further project advice.

St John's Church, Chelford**Total Cost of Project - £2,954 Amount Requested - £2,500**

The memorial is a Portland Stone Calvary situated on the roadside boundary wall of the Church grounds. The Church wish to repair and clean the Calvary. The works are to be carried out by Bullen Conservation Ltd. They are contributing themselves and have a contribution from the Parish Council. The memorial is not listed but is in church grounds. Ecclesiastical exemption is likely to apply. The Parish Council need to contact the Diocese. The Heritage & Design Team would not advocate sealing the stone. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 on the condition of contacting the conservation officer Emma Fairhurst for further project advice and securing Diocese permission.

The Royal British Legion – Holmes Chapel**Total Cost of Project - £2,954 Amount Requested - £2,500**

The War Memorial is a tablet situated in St Luke's Church yard. Upon erection, one of the soldier's names was spelt incorrectly. Therefore, the Royal British Legion (RBL) wish to fill in the surname and re-carve. The RBL also wish to repair part of the tablet that has been

damaged by constant jet washing. They are contributing to the project themselves, as well as with a contribution from the Parish Council.

Quadriga Ltd will complete the alteration and repairs, who are also wanting to add a chemical seal to protect the memorial. As Ecclesiastical exemption is likely to apply they are advised to contact the Diocese. The Heritage & Design Team would not advocate sealing the stone. It is recommended that they are awarded £420 on the condition of securing Diocese confirmation and contacting the conservation officer David Hallam for further project advice.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 The recommendations relate to all wards within Cheshire East

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 All Ward members

6.0 Policy Implications (including carbon reduction and health)

- 6.1 All of the applications contained in this report have been considered in the light of the Council's Policy for the Allocation of War Memorial Grants, and the recommendations on each one conform to that Policy.

7.0 Financial Implications (authorised by Chief Operating Officer)

- 7.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2014/15

8.0 Legal Implications (authorised by Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 The Council has the powers to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. In essence this means that in making the decision the Council must have taken into account only relevant considerations, followed procedural requirements, acted for proper motives and not acted unreasonably. A grant policy is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying and is essential if the Council is to defend any challenge to its decision making process.
- 8.2 Cabinet has approved and Cheshire East Council has put in place a Policy for the Allocation of War Memorial Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations and Town/Parish Councils. This Policy deals with the allocation of war memorial grants which are awarded to defined Organisations following an application process and against set criteria. There are conditions requiring that Organisations report back to the Council upon expenditure of the grant and to enable further appropriate conditions to be imposed. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order ensure that decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.
- 8.3 Grant funding organisations based on the application of the Council's grant policy satisfies the Council's public law duties.

9.0 Risk Management Implications

9.1 None identified.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 Applications received and allocated in accordance with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of War Memorial Grants.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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