

*Document Number:* TWMP-PE-021  
*Document Title:* Statement of Needs – Tutbury St. Mary's War Memorial  
*Author:* Rick Nuth  
*On Behalf of:* Tutbury War Memorials Preservation Committee  
*Last Changed:* Mon 08 September 2014  
*File:* [12] TWMP-PE-021 Statement of Needs - Tutbury St. Mary's War Memorial.docx

---

# Petition for Faculty Tutbury St. Mary's Priory Church War Memorial Statement of Needs

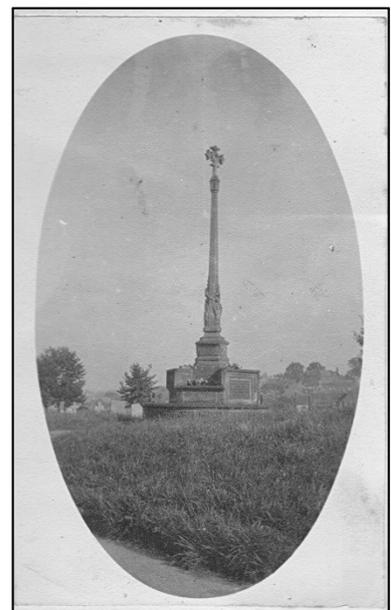
## Introduction

When the *Tutbury Book of Remembrance* was being researched and written ([www.tutbury-book-of-remembrance.org.uk](http://www.tutbury-book-of-remembrance.org.uk)) it became apparent that the Stone Cross War Memorial at St. Mary's Priory Church, Tutbury (referred to as the Memorial hereafter) was in poor condition.

Discussions about the Memorial's condition with the Parish Council over the course of 2012 did not produce any results apart from the suggestion that if we wanted something done about its condition then we should form a committee and do it ourselves; attempts to make contact with the church at the time elicited no response.

Therefore, in January 2013 the *Tutbury War Memorials Preservation Committee* was formed with representatives from St. Mary's Parochial Church Council, the Civic Society and the British Legion.

The Committee's remit is to research, document and preserve all Memorials to the Fallen that can be found in Tutbury.



*The Memorial in 1920*

## Memorial Condition

The Memorial is in poor condition – a cursory visual inspection shows that it is leaning, possibly subsiding, almost all the mortar has disappeared, stones have fractured and been badly repaired and some earlier repairs have failed completely.

The Committee decided that a professional examination of the Memorial was required. Quotes were sought from seven firms of accredited conservation architects; five firms

# TUTBURY WAR MEMORIALS PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

quoted and the Committee selected the quote from Richard Smith RRIB AABC, of Smith & Roper<sup>1</sup>, Conservation Architects, Bakewell. Note that the church's Quinquennial architect was one of the company's asked to quote but they did not respond to the brief set out by the Committee, rather appeared to answer a brief of their own making – it was also impossible to determine their costs.

The examination of the memorial was conducted in April 2014 and cost £3,852, funded equally by grants from East Staffordshire Borough Council and the War Memorials Trust.

The good news was that the structural engineer determined that the Memorial is not subsiding, rather there is ground heave under some of the paving surrounding the Memorial. It is, however, leaning and in poor condition.

The reports from Smith and Roper are included with this petition viz.

- *[25] TWMP-SC-091 1017\_001\_Ground\_Plan\_Existing*
- *[26] TWMP-SC-097 1017\_002A\_Ground\_Plan\_Proposed – Final*
- *[27] TWMP-SC-101 1017\_003\_Elevations\_as\_existing*
- *[28] TWMP-SC-107 1017\_004A\_Elevations\_as\_proposed - Final*
- *[31] TWMP-SC-077 1017 RIS Condition Survey Report - Final*
- *[32] TWMP-SC-082 1017 Specification of Materials and Works - Final*
- *[33] TWMP-SC-086 1017 Structural Report*

In summary:

- The memorial is leaning, the digital survey indicating a total lean of 138mm
- The shaft and cross have a sideways movement at the join with the shaft base when slight pressure is applied to the cross
- There is a ferrous metal spike between the plinth and its base and wood packers were also detected
- There are fissures on the cap of the shaft, caused by a ferrous dowel
- There is damage at the foot of both northern facets where a sizeable piece of stone appears to have sheared and has been rather crudely repaired
- Much of the mortar has disappeared
- The 1982 repair to the plinth has failed
- The lettering on the plinth is covered by lichen

## Recommendations

The recommendations are as follows;

- a) Dismantle cross, main shaft and upper plinth complete
- b) Clean stonework of lower plinth, redress and renew stone indent and repoint
- c) Rebuild upper plinth to level, allowing for limited grinding of underside of stones and packing as necessary

---

<sup>1</sup> Approved Quinquennial inspectors for the Lichfield Diocese

# TUTBURY WAR MEMORIALS PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

- d) Allow for incorporating stainless steel cramps to hold base and plinth together and provision of additional dowels between base and plinth
- e) Cut out defective stonework within foot of shaft base and provide new stone indent
- f) Provide minimum 3no non-ferrous dowels between base and plinth
- g) Re-erect main shaft
- h) Renew moulded upper section of shaft cap and refix cap and cross centrally set and correctly aligned incorporating non-ferrous dowels
- i) Lift perimeter paving and stone flag path, adjust levels to fall away from monument
- j) Relay paving incorporating additional line of pavers to path around monument
- k) Replace damaged stones to east side of steps
- l) Reduce the size of planted border, infilling and turfing as necessary

Failure to do the recommended work on the Memorial will lead to its continuing deterioration, causing more stone to fracture and joints to fail. Richard Smith, the accredited Conservation Architect, estimated the cost to be around £15,000 (plus management fees)

## Plan

The summary plan established by the Committee is as follows:

- 1) 3Q/4Q 2014 – seek permission for the work from the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Chancellor and from English Heritage
- 2) 4Q 2014/1Q 2015 – obtain quotes based on the *Specifications of Materials and Works*
- 3) 2Q 2015 obtain funds
- 4) 2Q/3Q 2015 execute the works
- 5) 1 July 2016 rededication of the Memorial on the Centenary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Battle of the Somme – six of the Fallen on the Memorial died that day.
- 6) Return maintenance of the Memorial to St Mary's Parochial Church Council.

A detailed schedule ([13] TWMPP-SC-0801 Project Plan 2014 08 26) is included with this Faculty Petition.

Funds will be sought from various sources. The principal source will be the War Memorials Trust, who may provide up to 75% of the cost depending on available funds.

Amongst other sources that will be approached are East Staffordshire Borough Council (as for Phase I), Staffordshire County Council Community Fund, the J & O Lloyd Trust, Tutbury Parish Council, various local companies with which the Fallen had connections and the local community, many of whom have said they would like to contribute (the Flower Club donated £500 last year).

---/ Ends /---