

TUTBURY WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

Distribution of finalised Minutes

to: Committee members
cc: Parish Council (Chairman, Clerk)
Parochial Church Council (Rev Ian Whitehead)
Civic Society (Chair)
cfi: Bishop of Stafford

MEETINGS Held on Monday 17th March 2014

at The Priory Suite of The Priory Church of St Mary the Virgin

Present: Mr Rick Nuth (Chairman) Mrs Kay Chapman Mrs Sue Norris
Mrs Jane Nuth (Secretary) Mrs Pol Wood Mr Bob Wood
Mr Brian Wright

In attendance Rev Ian Whitehead

Meeting No 1

EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING

An Emergency General Meeting had been called to comply with the Constitution, with reference to the Election of Officers.

As there had not been any new nominations, the current officers offered themselves for re-election.

This proposal was made by Mrs Chapman and seconded by Mr Wood, and unanimously carried.

The venue for the meetings was due to the commencement of Phase 1 of the Preservation of the War Memorial.

Mr Richard Smith of Smith & Roper, the chosen architects, and Mr Adrian Dempster, the structural engineer, were on site that morning and had had an informal meeting with the Chairman, the Secretary and Rev Ian.

Meeting No 2

This meeting followed an Emergency General Meeting.

- 1) **Apologies** had been received from Mrs Evans. The Committee wished her a speedy recovery from her recent operation.
- 2) **Minutes of previous meeting:** The Minutes of 16th February 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 3) **Matters arising from previous Minutes**

The Chairman said that he had emailed the Co-operative Society, with a view to providing funds, but he had been told that as TWMPCC did not *own* the Memorial, they

could not apply for Community Funding. Rev Ian said he was happy to make the application.

4) Funding

a) East Staffordshire Borough Council Ward Action Service Plan Fund

This would provide *half* the funding for Phase I of the Preservation Project and this had been secured. The Chairman explained how payment would be **made and that the deadline for payment was March 2015.**

b) War Memorials Trust

As had already been conveyed to the Committee, War Memorials Trust had agreed to fund the other 50% of Phase 1.

The Chairman explained that:

he and Mr Smith had signed a contract and this had been emailed and posted to WMT;

Mr Smith and WMT had signed a contract.

Another contract - between Smith & Roper and TWMP - had also been signed but retained as WMT can demand sight of this at any time.

c) British Gypsum

The Chairman reported that he and the Secretary had attended a meeting at British Gypsum, the result of a flyer seen at the Remembrance Service. This was an initial meeting, as the funds required were not known at this time.

d) Nestle

To date there had still not been any communication from Nestle, despite numerous emails.

e) Heritage Lottery Fund

The Chairman had again emailed but the difficulty remains that HLF look for learning projects, etc. Although we have been instrumental in the schools' project of "Goodnight George", this did not count.

5) Treasurer's Report . The amount in the bank account was £540.

6) Phase 1 – Review and Assessment

The scaffolding had been put up the morning of the Meeting (and remained for only 4 hours). The architect and structural engineer were on site whilst the Meeting was being held. Initial findings were that there was much more of a wobble than expected.

A draft report from Smith & Roper should be ready in about 2 months, then there will be time for discussion and then a final report issued (ie in June 2014 approximately).

A quote of £300 had been given verbally for Smith & Roper to assist in finding the right contractor.

If fund raising was then commenced, and was successful, it is hoped that Phase 2 – the Preservation work – could commence in Spring 2015.

On the War Memorial, almost half the men served in the North Staffordshire Regiment. Many died in the Battle of the Somme (6 on the first day of the Battle). The Chairman thought it therefore appropriate to think of the centenary of that first day – 1st July 2016 – as a suitable date for the Rededication of the War Memorial, ie Friday 1st July 2016.

7) AOB

The initial findings from Mr Smith were discussed – and due to this, the Committee's efforts to preserve the War Memorial were truly justified.

"Goodnight George"

The Secretary spoke of the Schools' Project, "Goodnight George", which would culminate with a joint production of Richard Wakefield and Horninglow Primary Schools on Thursday 20th March 2014 at 5.30pm in the Brewhouse.

The title is based on the letters of George Fearn, a Tutbury man on our War Memorial, copies of whose 36 letters can be seen in Tutbury Museum.

The Chairman and Secretary had been instrumental in obtaining some artefacts for the exhibition (such as the machine gun from Tutbury Museum). They would be displaying books, etc and giving out information prior to the performance.

Hi-Viz Clothing

The Chairman asked if it were appropriate to obtain hi-viz sleeveless jackets, detailing the War Memorial Preservation Committee on the back, for use when out at public meetings (such as the Local Vocals fund raising performance at the Leopard scheduled for 8th April 2014).

Discussion took place on the colour choice. The Chairman to investigate, with the help of the Secretary.

Press Release

The Chairman handed out a proposed press release. This was in response to an email from Cllr W Crossley that had been received questioning why it was thought necessary to repeat the Tutbury Parish Council's "assessment" of 2009 of the War Memorial. In view of the report of today, TWMPCC are totally justified in pursuing their aim.

A reply to Cllr Crossley was to be sent from the Tutbury War Memorial Committee.

8) Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting was provisionally set as Wednesday 7th May 2014 at 10am at 26 Hillcrest.

The Meeting closed at 11.15am