



Meeting	Full Council
Date	27 March 2024
Report Title	War Memorial - Phase 3 Renovations
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1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek the approval of Council to proceed with the Phase 3 renovations of the War Memorial.

2.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The Town Council have previously undertaken maintenance works as the owner of the war memorial.

2.2 In 2014 a program of works was identified by a specialist contractor to repair and protect the war memorial.

- Phase 1 took place in 2015 which included a clean of the memorial to remove the build-up of chemical and biological pollution using minimal intervention techniques, essential limestone mortar repairs and apply a shelter coat to further protect the war memorial.
- Phase 2 was undertaken in 2017 which included the replacement of a new Hornton Stone Cap that had severely eroded and repoint where necessary with Natural Lime Mortar. The repainting of the inscribed lettering with Gold Enamel was undertaken.

2.3 The original Phase 3 plans were delayed due to the Covid Pandemic, and are now overdue for attention.

2.4 The Council has received several concerns from the public and partners relating to the deteriorating condition of the war memorial.

2.5 On 6th March 2024 the Amenities Culture and Leisure Committee RESOLVED that:

- i) Councillors supported the proposed Phase 3 works to the War Memorial.
- ii) Councillors supported requesting additional unbudgeted expenditure of £24,247 from Full Council to enable completion of the works in Summer 2024.
- iii) Councillors recommended to Full Council to consider additional wording to commemorate the lives of all service animals from the Chippenham area that have died during human conflict, which could be included on the civilian memorial below the names of those killed. Councillors noted that this proposal would be consulted with the Royal British Legion and cost implications would be included in the report to Full Council.

3.0 PHASE 3 DETAILS

- 3.1 The Phase 3 works will concentrate on the Plinth area. The works will focus on a number of defined mortar repairs to all plinth areas, and the replacement of the column base at the junction of the South/East elevation.
- 3.2 Conservation steam cleaning and a two tone shelter coating to the structure will be applied. Note: shelter coating is a sacrifice coating that protects the eroding facade, by facing the elements and eroding saving the facade of the masonry from erosion.
- 3.3 A plaque will be produced and installed, containing the names of at least 11 civilians killed during the Second World War in Chippenham. These works were previously approved by ACL on 03rd March 2021. The works were originally proposed as a project by a Civic Partner who was applying for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. To ensure prudent completion it is proposed that these works now form part of the Phase 3 specification.
- 3.4 Works are proposed to be completed during Summer 2024 and would be of approximately 1 month duration.
- 3.5 The specialist contractor has quoted £24,247 for completion of the works.
- 3.6 The Royal British Legion has been informed of the intention to include additional wording to commemorate the lives of all service animals from the Chippenham area that have died during human conflict, on the civilian memorial below the names of those killed. The Chippenham Branch have confirmed their full backing for the inclusion of the proposed additional wording.
- 3.7 The specialist contractor has indicated that the addition wording would be unlikely to increase the costs of the works, but it is recommended that an additional £750 be allocated to cover this cost should it be required due to possible need for a larger plaque.

4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO CORPORATE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The Phase 3 works to the War Memorial will contribute to the following corporate plan priorities:
- Provide and develop facilities and services that promote Chippenham as an attractive and vibrant market town and celebrate its rich history, heritage, and culture.

5.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none identified.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The specialist contractor has quoted £24,247 for the works. It is recommended that a further £750 is budgeted to cover the proposed additions to the plaque.

7.0 CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Does the proposal/project/activity affect the environment in any of the following ways?

Type of impact	Long lasting positive impact	Short term or limited positive impact	No known impact	Short term or limited negative impact	Long lasting negative impact
Land use			x		
Soil and waterbody health			x		
Biodiversity			X		
Greenhouse gas emissions			x		
Water resources			X		
Pollution			x		
Air quality			x		
Materials economy			X		
Climate change adaptation			X		

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The necessary Listed Building Consent was approved for these works in 2014 - there is no expiration date for the implementation of phase 3 since the initial phase 1 works commenced within the required 3 year period.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 It is recommended that Councillors;

- i) Support the proposed Phase 3 works to the War Memorial.
- ii) Support the addition of wording to commemorate the lives of all service animals from the Chippenham area that have died during human conflict, on the civilian memorial below the names of those killed.
- iii) Request additional unbudgeted expenditure of £24,997 to enable completion of the works in Summer 2024.