

## Slough Borough Council

<b>Report To:</b>	Trustee Committee
<b>Date:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	Baylis Memorial Garden - Update on Memorial Improvement Works
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Richard West, Executive Director of Place and Community
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Savio De Cruz
<b>Ward(s):</b>	Elliman Ward
<b>Exempt:</b>	No.
<b>Appendices:</b>	None.

### **1. Summary and Recommendations**

1.1 This report sets out to update the Trustee Committee members about the status of the works to move and refurbish the War Memorial in Baylis Memorial Garden.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Committee is requested to note the update on refurbishment works.

**Reason:** To provide the Trustees with an update for the works to move and refurbish the Baylis Park War Memorial.

#### **Commissioner Review**

*“Commissioners are aware of a national charity that supports refurbishment of War Memorials and consideration should be given to whether an approach should be made here before depleting local funds.”*

### **2. Report**

#### **Introductory paragraph**

2.1 The main body of work to move and refurbish the memorial is yet to start on the ground but the following actions have been completed or are under way:

- Plans for works agreed and costed.
- New footpath is ordered and due to be started at time of writing this report. Completion due end of September.
- New plinth stone ordered and being delivered to monumental mason.
- Refurbishing of existing WW1 and WW2 memorials ordered and due to be carried out early October.
- Localised shrub planting to be carried out once the memorial is in place.

2.2 The Memorial refurbishment will help fulfil the following objectives of the Recovery Plan and Corporate Plan:

- A council that lives within our means, balances the budget and delivers best value for taxpayers and service users by ensuring that the delivery of the scheme is within the budget and delivers best value for money.
- An environment that helps residents live more independent, healthier and safer lives by making improvements to the memorial site allowing safer access to the memorial itself and making the area more attractive to encourage more people to use and exercise in the park.
- Infrastructure that reflects the uniqueness of Slough's places and a new vision for the town by delivering high quality infrastructure that continues to support the development of the area.

## **Options considered**

*None. The scheme is currently being constructed and works ordered, the report is to update the Trustees about the completed and outstanding works.*

## **Background**

The Memorial in Baylis Park has been suffering for some decades from poor positioning and lack of easy access, especially during the winter when it is most visited on Remembrance Day.

Over the years the stones have deteriorated, making the inscriptions hard to read. Officers presented a report to the Trustee Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021 that set out proposals for the refurbishment of the Baylis War Memorial as requested.

Three costed options were presented to the Committee and option 2 was chosen. Officers were asked to proceed with this option on the understanding that the fully costed project did not exceed the estimated cost by more than 10 %.

## **3. Implications of the Recommendation**

### *3.1 Financial implications*

The project is to be fully funded from the reserves held by the Trustee Committee for works in Baylis Park War Memorial Garden. These are independent of the Council's capital and revenue funds. The Trustees hold a reserve of £85,000 for the Baylis Park Memorial Garden. Cost of works are anticipated to be £10,110.

### *3.2 Legal implications*

*None.*

## 3.3

*Risk management implications*

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities	Status
<p><b>Legal:</b></p> <p><i>None, this scheme has no legal impact.</i></p>			
<p><b>Health and Safety:</b></p> <p>Safety hazards during construction</p>	<p>No health and safety concerns have been identified. The scheme will be carried out by the DSO and Ross Stonecraft employees following their adopted risk management procedures.</p>	<p>Risk assessments in place and employees working under supervision of their management and parks staff.</p>	<p>No Risks identified to date. Construction works to be completed by end of October 2022.</p>
<p><b>Equalities Issues:</b></p> <p>Compliance with Equality Act 2010</p>	<p>Improved access to the memorials will be achieved via a tarmac and stone chip path suitable for all abilities.</p>		
<p><b>Financial:</b></p> <p>Funds not secured</p>	<p>Funds are to be drawn down from monies held independently of the council by the Trustee Committee.</p>	<p>Funds are in place and have been approved.</p>	<p>Risk minimal.</p>
<p><b>Project Capacity:</b></p> <p>Delays during construction stage.</p>	<p>There was initially difficulty in obtaining the limestone plinth via the stone supplier but this has now been resolved. Works are under way and will be completed in time for Remembrance Day. We have sought and been given assurance this will be the case.</p>	<p>DSO and Ross Stonecraft have assured us of capacity to carry out works on time.</p>	<p>Works are scheduled to be completed by end of October.</p>
<p><b>Other</b></p>	<p>None</p>		

3.4 *Environmental implications*

None.

3.5 *Equality implications*

None

3.6 *Procurement implications*

None

3.7 *Workforce implications*

None

3.8 *Property implications*

None

**4. Background Paper**

Report to Trustee Committee 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021.