

Stourbridge Area Committee – 8th March 2011

Report of the Director of The Urban Environment

Stourbridge War Memorial – Mary Stevens Park

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Stourbridge Area Committee of an alteration to Stourbridge War Memorial through the addition of a name to the Roll of Honour.

Background

2. Private Shaun Patrick Taylor was killed in action during the Gulf War in 1991, and is buried in St Mary's Cemetery, Oldswinford. He was born in Stourbridge, attended local schools, and his family home is in Grange Road.

With the approval of Private Taylor's family, the community raised sufficient funds for the manufacture of a plaque bearing Private Taylor's name that is to be attached to the Memorial in Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge. It is anticipated that the work will be undertaken shortly and that a Service of Dedication will take place on Sunday 27th February 2011.

Council officers have satisfied themselves that the plaque is in keeping with the Memorial and that the necessary documentation and permissions are in order. The Plaque has the approval of the Private Taylor's family, the local branch of the Royal British Legion, Ward Members and the Friends of the Park.

Once erected, the plaque will be maintained by the Council [as defined in its powers War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, as amended] as an integral part of the complete Memorial.

Finance

3. There is no direct cost to the Council associated with this decision other than the ongoing maintenance associated with the new plaques. This cost is considered to be small and will be met from existing revenue budgets.

Law

4. S111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 empowers the Council to do anything calculated to facilitate or which is conducive to or incidental to the discharge of any of its functions.

The War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923 enables local authorities under certain circumstances to maintain, repair and protect War Memorials vested in them.

The Local Authorities Act 1948, extends this power to any War Memorial in their district, "whether vested in them or not". It also confirms that local authorities may alter, or correct any error or omission in the inscription.

Key Decision DUE/42/2010 provides delegated authority to the Director of the Urban Environment, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council, to approve requests to modify the inscriptions on War Memorials.

Equality Impact

5. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equal opportunities and diversity.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

Director of the Urban Environment

11 Mille

Contact Officer: Paul Bickerdike

Head of Building Surveying Telephone: 01384 814107

Email: paul.bickerdike@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

War Memorials - Inscriptions (43KB)

Key Decision DUE/42/2010: Link