



CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMNET GROUP – 1ST MARCH 2016

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY CENOTAPH MEMORIAL PLAQUE

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report contains details of proposed work to install an additional memorial plaque on the Cenotaph in Caerphilly town centre.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report sets out officers' responses to a request from local members for an additional plaque on the Cenotaph in Caerphilly town centre. Included in the report are provisional costings for the purchase of the new plaque and a request for funding to be allocated from the Council's Area Forum Budget.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Council has agreed to a five-year regeneration programme entitled "People, Businesses and Places". The proposals within the strategy are based on a number of regeneration principles, one of which is "Strengthening Town Centres".
- 3.2 "Prosperous Caerphilly" is identified as one of the key outcomes in the Council's "Single Integrated Plan". The Implementation of the *Unique Places* model of Town Centre Management in the County Borough's principal town centres is one of the actions identified to achieve this outcome.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 In November 2015, local members asked the Council's Town Centre Management team to investigate the possibility of installing a new memorial plaque on the Caerphilly Cenotaph to commemorate service personnel killed in conflicts since 1972.
- 4.2 At present there are three plaques fixed to the cenotaph which is situated by the Visitor Centre in Castle Street, Caerphilly. Two of the plaques on the monument list the names of those who lost their lives in each of the two World Wars. Another one lists the names of those killed in conflicts since the end of the Second World War. This final plaque has only three names on it, with the latest date recorded as 1972.
- 4.3 Following the initial request and subsequent site meetings with colleagues in Parks Services, the Town Centre Management team sent a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to the Secretariat at the Defence Business Services in Innsworth, Gloucester. The request asked for the names of Armed Services personnel who:

- Lived in the Caerphilly Basin (CF83 post code area) at the time of their death, and;
- Lost their lives in the line of duty between January 1972 and November 2015.

4.4 Two separate requests have been sent and to date there has been no response.

4.5 Without the exact number of names it is difficult to gauge an exact price for a new plaque. However, if the plaque were to contain 10 names it would cost approximately £(to be confirmed).

4.6 In the expectation that these details will be provided in due course by the Defence Business Services, the Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group is asked to consider a request for £(to be confirmed) to be provisionally allocated from the Area Forum Budget in order to fund the purchase of the new plaque. Should this project be realised, the aim would be to unveil the new plaque installed on the cenotaph to coincide with Armed Forces Day on 25th June. In preparation for the first Armed Forces Day to be held in Caerphilly, Parks Services are undertaking cleaning and maintenance work to the Cenotaph.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report is for information purposes, so the council's EqIa process does not need to be applied.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Funding would be granted from the Council's Area Forum Budget.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct personnel implications.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 For members to note the contents of the report.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 This report is for information only.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000.

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