

27 September 2012**Agenda Item:8****REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER PLANNING****RESPONSE TO PETITION TO FULL COUNCIL OPPOSING A GRANT TO
BUILD ANOTHER WAR MEMORIAL IN KEYWORTH (REF: 2012/018)****Purpose of the Report**

1. To respond to the petition opposing the giving of a grant to build another war memorial in Keyworth, presented to the Chairman and to the meeting of County Council on the 5th July 2012.

Information and Advice

2. Nottinghamshire County Council received a Local Improvement Scheme suggestion form from Keyworth Parish Council in July 2011, requesting funding for the erection of a war memorial on land in public ownership. The request acknowledged that a war memorial already existed on private property but indicated that there had been difficulties of access during the 2010 Remembrance service.
3. The scheme was included in the approved programme for 2012/13, subject to more detailed consultation, design work and costings being carried out, and a letter to this effect was sent to Keyworth Parish Council on 16th April 2012.
4. Following detailed discussions between Nottinghamshire County Council's Community Conservation Project Officer, the Parish Council, the Royal British Legion and the County Councillor, however, it was agreed that it would be more appropriate for the project to be re-directed to the restoration and enhancement of the existing Memorial Gates.
5. The Gates were originally donated by Mary Ward College and stand on Nottingham Road alongside the Rectory Playing Field. They have already been identified as requiring refurbishment and the revised project will ensure that the available funding is used to deliver much needed improvements in the Parish.
6. The project will include replacing the old, damaged brick pillars with stone, engraving names and text on the pillars in accordance with the wishes of the local branch of the Royal British Legion and the provision of an area of hardstanding.

7. The revised project was formally agreed by Keyworth Parish Council at its meeting on the 25th June 2012 and a statement regarding the Gates has been published on its website.
8. A petition of 277 signatures was presented to the Chairman at the meeting of County Council on the 5th July 2012 opposing "...the use of Tax-Payers money, being allocated in the form of a grant from the Nottinghamshire County Council to the Parish Council of Keyworth, to enable them to build another War Memorial in the Village of Keyworth, which we the undersigned consider to be totally unnecessary".
9. The response, once agreed by this Committee, will be reported to Full Council in line with the petition scheme.

Other Options Considered

10. The Committee could choose not to respond to the petition, but this would not be in accordance with the requirements of the petition scheme.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. Following more detailed consultation, the project proposal to which the petition refers has already been revised and the Local Improvement Scheme funding has been re-directed to another scheme within the Parish.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. To note the work undertaken to develop the Local Improvement Scheme project and the revised project to restore and enhance the existing Memorial Gates.
2. A response to be sent to the petition organiser notifying them that there is no project to build another war memorial in Keyworth.

Sally Gill
Group Manager Planning

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes,
Conservation Team Manager (0115 969 6508)**

Constitutional Comments

To be orally reported to the meeting.

Financial Comments

To be orally reported to the meeting.

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Keyworth, Councillor John Cottee