

COUNCIL ARE ASKED TO RECEIVE THIS REPORT TO CONSIDER FURTHER ACTIONS

BACKGROUND: PROGRESS REPORTS TO COUNCIL

May 2020	war-memorial-update-may-2020 (lincolnshire.gov.uk)
June 2020	war-memorial-trust-press-release (lincolnshire.gov.uk)
Jan 2022	war-memorial-update-january-2022 (lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Historical and Current spend on the War Memorial

- The Minutes record that the Council has always maintained the Memorial whenever it has been necessary although it must be remembered that, while the various Acts of 1923, 1948, 1957 and 1972 vested responsibility for War Memorials in Local Authorities, who were empowered to incur reasonable expenditure for the 'maintenance, repair and protection' within their control, it did not compel them to do so.
- £14,000, or thereabouts, has been spent on the War Memorial 2009-2014 (including grants from the WMT)
- In 2019 WMT informs Council that no funding for restoration will be forthcoming until a report on the condition was received.
- Professional advisor fees were sourced from WMT (£1,500) and SKDC (£2,000) for a diagnosis/prognosis on the War Memorial with £1,313.00 being paid by the Parish Council. Total spend to date is £4,813.00

UPDATE ON WMT ONLINE CONDITION REPORT (To support the grant application)

11 February 2022

Covid restrictions in 2020/2021, changes in specialist personnel involved in the project and difficulties in securing tenders all contributed to delays to the investigations being carried out.

There has been further deterioration to the flaking stonework in the previously repaired areas but the memorial is generally in reasonable condition. Site visit was carried out in April 2021 where it was recommended that a shelter protection coat for the protection of the Top Cross was carried out and that this would be required every five years. In September 2021 drawings and Listed Building Consent application was submitted in anticipation of any works being carried out which was approved in October 2021 for a period of three years (expiring October 2024) and tendering process was initiated by the Architects.

TENDER PROCESS REVIEW

Council received (01 February 2022) guidance and recommendations for the Architect's preferred contractor in the tendering process based on their knowledge of the quality of workmanship, previous collaboration on conservation projects and pricing and timescales for the specialist work required. Clerk is currently liaising with the Architects and have raised some specific questions around

- price/quality analysis
- fees for continued conservation accredited professional advice to be included in grant applications and any financing for next phase of the project.
- Invitation to another identified/known contractor

GRANT PROCESS AND FUNDING

Now that we have some indication of costs for the works (subject to having these verified due to delays and potential uplift for inflation) and ensuring we have:-

- Full details of warranty of work and commitment to rectifying any problems
- Maintenance schedule of works for the future (e.g., coating cross) and forecast of costs for the budget going forward
- Costs for the continued professional advisory/site management of the project.

The total project costs are an assumption but based on the current tenders the funding required will be in the region of £25k-£35k.

The grant application has started with the WMT - They can provide up to 50% of any application (potentially based on the lowest price obtained irrespective of preferred contractor) but this is not guaranteed and scrutiny of the type of grants awarded may be restricted (typically up to £5k).

Closing dates for funding rounds: 28 Feb and 30 June 2022.

Example of other funding streams that can be looked at:

- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Heritage Funding (e.g., SKDC)
- Appeal for donations from the local community by donations/fundraising
- Small residual reserves in the budget from the PC (£2,687.00)
- Local community group CFoR who have expressed an interest in the project [Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance | Colsterworth & Surrounding Villages \(cfor.org.uk\)](http://Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance | Colsterworth & Surrounding Villages (cfor.org.uk))

The Colsterworth Memorial is different to other Memorials in the area which are different in design, size and location (often located in Churchyards). Whilst this is a Memorial of heritage value and would meet the principles for conservation it is a high value project for which significant funding is required but not guaranteed.

IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL

07 June 2019: Extract from Risk Assessment

Financial Risks Moderate 3 x Possible 3	Statutory Risks Moderate 3 x Possible x 3	Other Risks Minor 2 x 3 Possible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited funds available from Council budget and reserves • Ring-fenced reserves for WM have been allocated to a definitive diagnostic investigation (Agreed at April 2019 PC meeting) • Reliance on grant applications which may not be successful • Compliance with CAD Financial Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PC has a “Power”¹under the War Memorials (Local Authorities’ Powers) Act 1923 as extended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133 to (under certain circumstances) maintain, repair, protect and adapt the WM² • The WM is a grade II listed building (status given in 1987); PC assumed Custodian status as no owner/occupier has been identified • Grade II planning permission required from SKDC – land belongs to LCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputational risks for the PC when formulating the options appraisal including “no action” • Protection of architectural and historical heritage

01 Feb 2022: Risk escalated to 5 in respect of the ongoing deterioration of the WM and delays in the restoration project due to Covid and waiting for third tender document.

Public Contract Regulations

The relevant legislation is The Public Contracts Regulations 2006

The legislation is only applicable when projects with public funding are more than

- a certain amount, and / or
- a certain percentage of public funds.

Public funds include grants from organisations which are government funded and from local authorities. Where more than 50% of the costs of a project are publicly funded, it must be considered a 'direct public expenditure' and therefore public procurement regulations will apply.

Grants from the WMT are public funds

CAD Standing Financial Instructions

Covers Public Contracts of Works risk

[cad-financial-regulations-next-review-feb-2023 \(lincolnshire.gov.uk\)](http://cad-financial-regulations-next-review-feb-2023 (lincolnshire.gov.uk))

CAD Financial Reserves Policy

[cad-financial-reserves-policy-review-may-2022 \(lincolnshire.gov.uk\)](http://cad-financial-reserves-policy-review-may-2022 (lincolnshire.gov.uk))

Point 3.3.4. The Council must build and maintain sufficient working balances to cover the key risks it faces Even at times when extreme pressure is put on the council’s finances the council must keep a minimum balance of General Reserves sufficient to pay 100% of 1 year of total annual Administration Expenses, including staff salaries, at all times.

This would be a minimum of £20,000

Cllr Caroline Hainsworth
Sue Grant, Parish Clerk
16 February 2022

¹ Power is the ability to do something, and a duty is what is expected of you by legal or moral obligation

² A local authority may incur reasonable expenditure in the maintenance, repair and protection of any war memorial within their district [F1whether vested in them or not.]

Notes of Interest for Councillors from WMT Grant Application process

Conservation Principles sets out a method for thinking systematically and consistently about the heritage values that can be ascribed to a place.

People value historic places in many different ways; *Conservation Principles* shows how they can be grouped into four categories:

- **Evidential value:** the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity.
- **Historical value:** the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present - it tends to be illustrative or associative.
- **Aesthetic value:** the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.
- **Communal value:** the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.