

Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee - 5 August 2003

Minutes of the meeting of the **Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee** held on **5 August 2003** when there were present:

Cllr R A Amner

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn

Cllr C J Lumley

Cllr C R Morgan

OFFICERS PRESENT

C Thomas

M Martin

Emergency Planning and Health & Safety Manager
Committee Administrator

ALSO PRESENT

C Bowler

C J Products

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

On a Motion moved by Cllr C R Morgan and seconded by Cllr C J Lumley, it was agreed that Cllr R A Amner be appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn declared a personal interest in the subject of this Sub-Committee by virtue of a relation who had suffered during the Holocaust in the Second World War.

Cllr R A Amner also declared a personal interest by virtue of being a friend of Mr Bowler, a local fabricator.

3 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

The Chairman thanked Mr Bowler for his attendance at the meeting in order to provide technical information.

During debate, Members noted that:-

- in order for a design to be available for Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2004, the fabrication would need to commence no later than the beginning of November. Mr Bowler provided Members with some suggested sketches, together with technical details.
- C J Products would be donating the materials, less the galvanising and dry powder process, and time.
- because of the tight timescale, coinciding with the commencement of the new school year, it would not be appropriate to target schools in particular with the competition to find suitable designs for the memorial.

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- the memorial would measure between 1.2 metres and 1.5 metres high and be erected on a plinth measuring approximately 600 m high.
- unless donations were received there would be costs for a suitable plinth, together with the cost of painting, galvanising and providing a dry powder covering for the memorial.

Members agreed that it was essential that the project was seen to include the commemoration of other conflicts beyond that of the Second World War.

The Emergency Planning & Health & Safety Manager read out a quotation from the Holocaust Memorial Day organisation, as follows:

"By supporting Holocaust Memorial Day we show a continuing commitment to oppose racism, antisemitism, homophobia, and discrimination on the grounds of disability, religion or gender.

The Day acts as a reminder to all of us of our responsibility to protect the civil and human rights of all people in our society and as part of the international community. Events since the Holocaust - such as the genocide committed in Rwanda and Bosnia - show that we still have much to learn."

Due to the limited time available, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee agreed that, as Chairman of the Council, he should support this as a Chairman's project, to be publicised in the local press and on BBC Essex. The competition would be publicised as soon as reasonably possible with a closing date of 12 September.

Members of the Sub-Committee requested that details of the press release be forwarded to them for information.

Recommended to the Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- (1) That an art project to commemorate the Holocaust and other conflicts be commissioned, consisting of a four sided metal memorial, to be sited in the vicinity of the Mill Hall, Rayleigh.
- (2) That the winning designs, as chosen by the Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee, be endorsed.
- (3) That the Policy & Finance Committee be requested to agree that appropriate funding be met through virements from existing budgets. (CE)

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4 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Members agreed that the Sub-Committee would meet again on Tuesday 16 September at 10 am to determine the winning designs.

The meeting commenced at 10 am and closed at 11.05 am.

Chairman

Date