

Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee - 14 November 2003

Minutes of the meeting of the **Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee** held on **14 November 2003** when there were present:-

Cllr R A Amner (Chairman)

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn
Cllr C J Lumley
Cllr C R Morgan

OFFICERS PRESENT

C Thomas	Emergency Planning & Health & Safety Manager
H Collins	Civic & Public Relations Officer
M Martin	Committee Administrator

ALSO PRESENT

M O'Neill	Mark O'Neill Architects
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10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2003 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive, which updated Members on the progress made to commission a Holocaust Memorial.

Members noted that:-

- the Sub-Committee's endorsement of the project was required in order to make appropriate recommendations to the Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
- projected costs could be significantly lower, once offers of sponsorship had been taken into account.
- heightened public awareness of the Holocaust and other conflicts had been evident over recent years, and demonstrated particularly by the large numbers attending the District's recent Remembrance Day service.
- the nation should respect the Holocaust Memorial Day.
- the memorial should invite viewers to reflect on as well as remember the atrocities and not be seen as either "faith or event specific".

Members were disappointed that a recent article in the Evening Echo had not emphasised the fact that the proposed memorial would honour those who had lost their lives through various conflicts, including the Second World War. They hoped that a further article be published including a colour picture.

Members noted that the Town/Parish Councils had been invited to make a financial contribution in support of this project. Of the responses received to date; Hullbridge had pledged £50; Rawreth were considering making a small contribution; Ashingdon, Hawkwell, and Stambridge Parish Councils had declined to make a contribution and Great Wakering, Rayleigh and Rochford Town/Parish Councils had reported they would be considering the matter further.

Mr O'Neill outlined the project in more detail and Members viewed further design pictures. The Sub-Committee were unanimous in their support of this project and of its siting at the Mill Hall, Rayleigh. Members requested that the existing flowerbed should display roses.

Mr O'Neill further reported that:-

- two written communications had been received; one from a local company stating that they would be prepared to supply and fit granite work for the Memorial at not cost to the Council and another from a company offering to donate the oak required for the Memorial.
- a verbal confirmation that the Jewish British Board of Deputies would be willing to offer their support.
- pledges of support from other companies who would be willing to contribute in the even of a shortfall in amount required.
- a short visual computer presentation providing photographic images, music and text could be displayed within the Mill Hall to complement the Memorial. This was subsequently demonstrated to Members of the Sub-Committee and would be made available to show to Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 25 November 2003.
- the existing plaque would be incorporated within the design.
- he would provide further information concerning costs, sponsorship or other pledges of support.

Members were in agreement that the date of the erection of the memorial should be displayed, together with the details of the Chairman of the Council, who had conceived the project.

Recommended to the Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- (1) That the project for a Holocaust Memorial be supported.
- (2) That any residual cost of the proposed design be determined taking account of the 'in principle' and actual sponsorship indicated in the report and that further sponsorship be sought from interested parties.

- (3) That the identified site at The Mill, Rayleigh, be confirmed, subject to the project being pursued.

The meeting commenced at 11 am closed at 11.46 pm.

Chairman

Date