

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to the Executive for Decision 06 November 2017

<b>Portfolio:</b>	Policy and Resources
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>WW1 Commemorative Mural</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Finance and Resources
<b>Strategy/Policy:</b>	Community Engagement Strategy
<b>Corporate Objective:</b>	Strong and Inclusive Communities

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to advise members of the proposal to create a mural to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One.

**Executive summary:**

There have been many events and activities taking place across the country since 2014 to commemorate the centenary of World War One (WW1).

In August 2014, Fareham Borough Council commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the war by holding a number of public activities in the town centre. A commemoration stone was also unveiled.

An opportunity has been identified to create a commemorative mural on the railway arch that bridges the public footpath next to the allotments at the southern end of the Gilles. Pupils from Wallisdean Junior School would be involved in helping to develop the design that would highlight the role that Fareham and its residents played in the war.

The proposed mural would be created during the summer of 2018 to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1 later in the year.

**Recommendation/Recommended Option:**

It is recommended that the Executive agrees:

- (a) to support the creation of a mural, designed with the involvement of pupils from Wallisdean Infant School that commemorates the centenary of the end of WW1; and

(b) that the project be funded to a sum of up to £6,090.

**Reason:**

To provide a long-lasting legacy that recognises Fareham's heritage and the contribution made by the Borough's residents during World War 1.

**Cost of proposals:**

The cost of the proposals will be up to £6,090. It is hoped that an application to the Heritage Lottery for a grant from the "First World War: then and now" fund will be successful so that it can contribute towards some of the costs to be incurred.

**Appendices:**

A: Draft Budget  
B: Site map and photos

**Background papers:**

**Reference papers:**

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## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Executive Briefing Paper

<b>Date:</b>	06 November 2017
<b>Subject:</b>	WW1 Commemorative Mural
<b>Briefing by:</b>	Director of Finance and Resources
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Policy and Resources

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to advise members of the proposal to create a mural to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One.

#### BACKGROUND

2. There have been a number of events and activities taking place across the country since 2014 to commemorate the centenary of World War One (WW1).
3. In August 2014, Fareham Borough Council commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the war by holding a number of public activities in the town centre. A commemoration stone was also unveiled.
4. The Council would like to mark the centenary of the end of the War in 2018.

#### PROPOSALS

5. The Council is working with local artist and photographer, Innes Marlow on the proposal to create a commemorative mural that recognises Fareham's heritage and the contribution made by its residents during WW1. The railway arch that bridges the public footpath next to the allotments at the southern end of the Gilles has been identified as a suitable site for the mural.
6. The arch is an appropriate site for a commemoration. The railway bridge formed part of the Fareham to Gosport railway line and transported both supplies and troops, many of them Borough residents, to the naval yards and bases in Gosport. Many injured troops were also sent to Royal Hospital Haslar by train. It is intended that the final mural design would reflect this. HMS Daedalus was home to the pioneering aircrews of the Royal Naval Air Service in 1917 and the design would also incorporate elements linked to aviation. An explanatory plaque would be mounted at one of the entrances to provide context for the design.

7. There is a mural currently on the arch that was painted in 2011. Whilst an attractive design it is looking tired and worn. Wallisdean Junior School was involved in the original mural and the Headteacher has given their permission for the mural to be painted over. Hampshire County Council has responsibility for the railway arch structure. It has given permission for a new mural to be painted at the site.

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

8. The artist has agreed to carry out relevant research into the Borough's history and develop early designs at no cost. Following this initial work, it is proposed that Wallisdean Junior School pupils be involved in developing and choosing ideas for the mural designs. School visits by the artist and supported by officers in early 2018 would help teach the pupils about their local heritage. Every participant would receive an age appropriate education pack. Their work and feedback would also shape the development of the mural design. Both Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council would have final approval of the mural design.
9. Hampshire Cultural Trust are currently putting together their schedule of events and exhibitions for 2018. They have expressed an interest in incorporating the Mural project into one of their events to mark the anniversary of the end of WW1.
10. Discussions are currently taking place with Hampshire County Council about renaming the railway arch to reflect the content of the commemorative mural.

### **EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

11. An application to the Heritage Lottery for a grant from the "First World War: then and now" fund will be submitted if the Mural proposal is approved. If successful the funding will contribute towards the costs to be incurred.

### **CONCLUSION**

12. The Council would like to mark the centenary of the end of the War in 2018. A mural on the railway arch that bridges the public footpath next to the allotments at the southern end of the Gilles has been identified as a potential site for a mural. The design would be developed in collaboration with a local artist and students of Wallisdean Junior School, with final approval by both Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council.

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Roy Brown. (Ext 4409)