

Copythorne Parish Council Meeting – March 8th 2022

Item No 12– Update on the ideas for a permanent Platinum Jubilee Memorial from the Parish Council

Recap

Cllrs. Lady Kara Hawks, Graham Chillcott and John Goodwin were tasked by the Parish Council to come up with some initial ideas for a permanent Copthorne Parish Council memorial to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee. They then presented their ideas to the full Council on the 14th December 2021. The initial ideas, presented were:

- A memorial Bench/Benches
- A memorial Picnic Table/Tables (with disabled access)
- A memorial Tree
- A memorial Garden
- A memorial Statue

At the Council meeting on the 14th December 2021 the idea of a memorial statue was amended to include a memorial sculpture. The Council agreed with the idea of asking the community at large for suggestions.

Update

At the time of writing there have been two or three suggestions received from the local community. Plant a sweet chestnut tree in the grounds of parish hall, put a memorial clock on the wall of the parish hall and put a carved memorial totem pole in the parish hall grounds. Also, Forestry England have suggested that rather than plant a new memorial tree on the open forest, you locate a suitable already established young tree.

By my count we now have eight suggestions:

- A memorial Bench/Benches
- A memorial Picnic Table/Tables (with disabled access)
- A memorial Tree
- A memorial Garden
- A memorial Statue/Sculpture
- A memorial Tree on the Open Forest
- A memorial Clock
- A memorial Totem Pole

At the moment my personal favourites are for a clock on the wall of the parish hall and a carved totem pole (with plaque) in the parish hall grounds. I've made tentative enquiries of the Parish Hall Committee and I don't think there will be any objections to placing a memorial clock on the eastern wall with a plaque below.

Next steps

1. Maybe to ensure that as many ideas as possible are considered, that we give it another month?
2. Or we go with what we've got and hold a ballot on what to go forward with now.

Recommendation

My recommendation is to go with what we've got and hold a ballot at the April 12th 2022 Council meeting to decide which idea to take forward.

Cllr. Graham Chillcott
18th February 2022