

Copythorne Parish Council Meeting – April 12th 2022

Item No 9 – Update on the ideas for a permanent Platinum Jubilee Memorial from the Parish Council

Recap

Following the debate at the March Council meeting on ideas for a permanent Platinum Jubilee Memorial, it was agreed that to better gauge what might be possible, I would obtain estimates of cost for a memorial Clock and a memorial Totem Pole.

Update

Totem Pole

I've asked a local wood carver (out of interest he did the carving on the WI bench outside the Parish Hall), whether he might be able, if asked to carve a Memorial Totem Pole and if so an estimate of what it might cost to do it. I'm please to say if asked he would be delighted to give it a go and suggested that we use a £1000 pounds as a working estimate of cost.

During the conversation the size of the tree needed and indeed where it might come from was raised. As a result, I wrote to Forestry England (FE) at the Queens House in Lyndhurst, to see if they might be able to provide us with a suitable tree. At the time of writing FE had not got back to me. I've also spoken to Soffe's Timberyard about the cost of a tree and they suggested that I use an estimate of £150 for a 300mm diameter, 4 metre high tree.

The other issue identified was would we need planning permission to erect a Totem Pole. Our Clerk wrote to Steve Avery at the National Park (Director of Policy and Planning) and Steve confirmed that as the proposed site was within the conservation area, it was likely that permission would be required.

Just to add that if we go for a Totem Pole it wouldn't be finished by June.

Clock

The cost of a suitable clock to be mounted on the wall of the Parish Hall is mostly dependant on its size. Basically, the bigger the face diameter the more expensive the clock. As an illustration I've gone for a 760mm face diameter (30 inches) either Convex or Skeleton clock which is estimated basic cost of £600 plus vat The total cost is then dependant on the extras you have. We could for example have on a Convex clock the Queens cypher and the dates 1952 to 2022 at a cost of £25 per letter. I got these prices from the Outdoor Clock Co, Botley Road, Curdridge, Hampshire.

Summary

- A Totem Pole would cost us somewhere in the region of £1150 plus vat
- Whereas a Clock would be about £750 plus vat

Next Steps

By my latest count we still 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

Now we also have a better idea of the costs associated with a memorial Totem Pole and a memorial Clock. Obviously, the cost of a statue or a sculpture would probably be considerably more.

Recommendations

1. As previously suggested maybe to ensure that as many ideas as possible are considered, that we give it another month?
2. Or now we have a better idea of costs, we go with what we've got and hold a ballot on what to go forward with now.

Cllr. Graham Chillcott
March 29th 2022