



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Civic Working Party-World War 1

Date: Monday, 17 March 2014

Time: 10:00

Venue: Supper Room

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

1 MINUTES

3 - 5

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2014.

2 MATTERS ARISING

To discuss any matters arising from the above minutes.

3 COUNCIL EVENTS FOR 2014 (LAURA GOODMAN TO REPORT)

- (a) Civic Service 3rd August 2014
- (b) Candlelit Vigil 4th August 2014
- (c) Festival of Remembrance 8th November 2014
- (d) Remembrance Day 9th November 2014

4 THE GREAT WAR - A TIME LINE

6 - 7

To consider the attached Time Line.

5 BOROUGH EVENTS

- (a) Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust to report
- (b) Norfolk Museums to report
- (c) Great Yarmouth Archeological Society to report

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other business as may be determined by the Chairman of the meeting as being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

Civic Working Party- World War 1

Minutes

Monday, 06 January 2014 at 10:00

Also in attendance at the above meeting were:

Ian Hampshire (Army Cadets), Dr Paul Davies (GYMPT), Paul Williams (Royal British Legion), Irene Williams (Royal British Legion), Colin Tooke, Kate Argyle (English Heritage) and Colin Stott (Norfolk Museums Service Learning)

Robin Hodds (Cabinet Member), Laura Goodman (Civic Events Officer), Alan Carr (Tourism and Communications) and Karline Smith (Senior Member Services Officer).

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2013 were confirmed.

2 World War 1 Commemoration

The Civic Events Officer reported that Norfolk County Council had still not made any plans.

The Festival of Remembrance would still be going ahead.

The Civic Service would be held at the same time as the Annual Civic Service.

The Civic Events Officer reported that she was still in the process of trying to arrange for a tank and had been talking to Terry Burn who has a contact at Muckleburgh.

The Royal British Legion Ball would still be going ahead at Potters in Hopton on 2nd August 2014 and tickets would be priced £45 each. Flyers would be produced for this event in the near future.

The Lions had booked St Georges park for their event on 14 June 2014.

Paul Davies spoke of the static display to be in the Minster, which he reported that he hoped to involve local school children in. Kate Argyle reported that Great Yarmouth High School had agreed to be involved and she would be talking to Lynn Grove and Ormiston.

Colin Stott reported that a bid had been submitted and they were awaiting the

outcome of this.

In Margaret Gooch's absence the Civic Events Officer reported that Margaret had ascertained that it would be unlikely that Great Yarmouth would be able to have a visit from a Submarine as they only have nuclear powered submarines available and this would involve the borough having an evacuation plan for a nuclear incident. So it seemed that the fly past of a historical aircraft seemed much more likely.

Councillor B Coleman stated that following on from the conversation at the previous meeting he felt that at this stage it was not practical to press ahead with the school students visits to France due to everything else that was currently taking place. He reported that there was already government funding for two school children to visit the sites each year and felt that running something else would be difficult and that the group should have a co-ordinating role.

The Civic Events Officer suggested that a time line of events be prepared and placed in the local press which may bring other events forward which the group could co-ordinate.

There was no update on the War Memorial being installed at Wroughton School.

There was no update from the Town Centre Partnership Manager on the empty shops.

Colin spoke of the third bid which had been submitted by Seachange Arts which they were awaiting the outcome of.

It was reported that the BBC were coming to the Maritime Festival weekend and would be using the Havenbridge car park.

National British Legion had contacted B & Q about their idea for the public to purchase Poppy Seeds and plant these on a designated area that the Council wouldn't then cut down. Schools would be asked to let the students plant seeds as well. The Leader agreed to talk to GYB Services about an appropriate area of land to do this.

It was reported that the Great Yarmouth British Legion Branch was affiliated with five cadet forces and the Gorleston Cadets have 16 young people that would like to join. The Priory had agreed to teach the young people how to carry out the research work for some of the names on the Town's World War 1 memorial. Kate Argyle reported that Great Yarmouth High School had already sent Students in December to Great Yarmouth Library to prepare for this. The Role of Honour is available at the Library for all the people in the borough who were part of the war.

Opposite Bradwell Church a war memorial would be installed.

Councillor B Coleman reported that the best way to plant Poppy's was to church up the land and therefore suggested that farmers be asked to use their set aside land to take part. It was agreed that the Leader would speak to Henry Cator about this as he had agricultural contacts.

Kate Argyle informed the group that part of her role was to train teachers how to carry out research work and that she would be happy to go into the Cadet Groups to do this as well.

Ian Hampshire reported that his cadet group would like to research "shell shock".

The Civic Events Officer asked Colin Tooke to prepare a list of key dates and events that occurred in Great Yarmouth.

Colin Tooke reported that there were four main objects that he would like to have on display in the Borough and these were:

- *A German Machine Gun given to Great Yarmouth in 1919.

- *A German Torpedo

- *A Large Concrete Slab marking a shell drop

- *A life belt from a German U boat sunk off the coast.

The Civic Events Officer suggested that all the bells be rung across the borough.

3 Any other business

The British Legion representative stated that they would be happy to get hold of the poppies for St Georges.

Councillor B Coleman asked if there could be a budget for events and the Leader stated that he would look into this.

Ian Hampshire stated that Westminster had stated that some councils were looking at Waste Land and are building mock trenches. The leader stated that he would look into this.

Kate Argyle stated that most schools would like to be involved in the Civic World War 1 Ceremony or a school choir concert could be arranged.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 17 March 2014 at 10.00am

The meeting ended at: 10:55

THE GREAT WAR – A TIME LINE

National Events.

Local Events.

1913

15 April Royal Naval Air Station established on the South Denes.
Headquarters set up at 25 Regent Street.

Several visits by Submarines from Harwich.

1914

Volunteer Training Corps and ladies War Workers Assn. established.

28 June Archduke Franz Ferdinand assassinated.

4 August Britain declares war on Germany.

August A submarine base established at Bryant's Quay.
HMS *Alecto* the depot ship moored at the quay.

August The Naval Base, HMS *Kingfisher*, is established on the Gorleston side
of the river near Baker Street.
The administrative office is at the Cliff Hotel.

August The Coastguard Station, on Marine Parade, is taken over as
accommodation for men at the Air Station.

3 November First coastal bombardment by German war ships.
No damage or casualties.

November The Crossley Auxiliary Red Cross hospital established in a building on
the South Denes.

1915

AA gun placed on Gorleston Cliffs another at Caister.

19 January First Zeppelin air raid on this country. Yarmouth bombed. Damage to
property in St Peter's Plain and on Fishwharf, two people killed.

6 February The Mayor issues instructions to every household, what to do in case
of invasion.

20 March Seafield Red Cross Auxiliary hospital opened in Kings Road.

May Auxiliary Patrol Base is established at Bollard Quay. The aircraft kept
in a hanger on Boundary Road.

- 4 July American troops (600) visit town to play Baseball on Wellesley. Given a reception by Mayor.
- 5 August Zeppelin L70 shot down by Major Cadbury. This is the last air raid of the war.
- 11 Nov Germany surrenders. The mayor announces the Armistice at 12.30 from the town hall balcony. A parade through the town follows.

1919

- 17 January Melton Lodge Red Cross Auxiliary hospital closed.
- 19 April Clock fixed to Parish Church tower to celebrate victory.
- 20 June Admiral Beatty is given the Freedom of the Borough.
- 18-19 July Peace Celebrations. Dinners, fireworks and processions in the town.
- 31 July German submarine *Deutschland* on view at Hall Quay.
- 9 September Auxiliary Patrol Base at Bollard Quay closed.
- 3 December A tank is placed on Hall Quay. Given to the town by the Government Trophies of War committee. (Removed 1929)

1921

- 4 December Memorial window unveiled in parish church.

1922

- 7 January War memorial in St Georges Park unveiled by Prince Henry.