

The Breamish Valley War Memorial Steering Group

Record of the Meeting held in Breamish Hall on 11th June 2018

Chairperson: Robbie Burn.

Minute Taker: Doreen Burn.

Attendees: Richard Poppleton, John Carr Ellison, Wendy Pattison.

Apologies: Graham Williamson, Sid Smailes

1. Welcome

Robbie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting had previously been circulated and were agreed and signed by Robbie Burn.

3. Matters Arising

A.P. Robbie Burn will speak to Falon Nameplates regarding timescales for the plaque. **Cleared.** *Falon nameplates require a month's notice.*

A.P. John Carr Ellison will consult his Land Agent regarding ownership of the Community Garden and a possible letter of agreement if required. **Cleared.** *John Carr-Ellison owns the Community Garden but there are no issues regarding the siting of the War Memorial.*

A.P. Robbie Burn will take photos of the gateposts and circulate by e-mail. **Cleared.** *Photos circulated.*

A.P. Robbie Burn will arrange for a graphic designer to draw a couple of proposals for the memorial. **Cleared.** *Robbie did two proposals however it was determined that one gatepost was sufficient. The gatepost has now been selected.*

A.P. Robbie to take photos of wording on existing local plaques. **Cleared.** *Robbie has looked at other plaques but thinks the wording agreed at the first meeting "In memory of the fallen in the two World Wars from the Breamish Valley" will suffice.*

A.P. Robbie to approach Falon Nameplates for design possibilities and prices. **Cleared.** *The cost will be a maximum of £5,000*

A.P. John Carr Ellison will double check with his Land Agent to see if planning permission for the war memorial is required. **Cleared.** *It is not required.*

A.P. Robbie Burn will check whether Statutory Listing is necessary. **Cleared.** *It is not necessary.*

A.P. Robbie Burn will approach the Parish Council regarding future stewardship and maintenance of the plaque. **Cleared.** *The Parish Council will take on stewardship of the War Memorial.*

A.P. John Carr Ellison will ask his insurers what the issues are regarding insurance and who should insure the war memorial. **Ongoing.** *John advised that his Estate Insurance does not cover the War Memorial. Robbie will check the Parish Council insurance, as they will be responsible for the War Memorial.*

A.P. Robbie Burn to e-mail Richard Poppleton who will present the request for funding to the AIn and Breamish local History Society. **Cleared.** *AIn and Breamish local History Society have donated £100.*

A.P. Richard Poppleton will talk to the secretary of the AIn and Breamish Local History Society regarding help with organising an open day. **Cleared.** *New committee will meet early July.*

A.P. John Carr Ellison will contact Sandy Hunter to find out where further information can be obtained regarding serving women killed in the World Wars. **Ongoing.**

4. Funding

Funding is now complete:

Wendy Pattison - £2,870

John Carr Ellison - £500

Parish Council - £500

Cheviot Views - £1000

Powburn Show - £500

AIn & Breamish H.S. - £100

Hedgeley W.I. - £30

Total = £5,500

All funds are to be paid into the Cheviot View bank account and made payable to Hedgeley Parish Plan. All monies need to be in the bank account before work starts. Robbie thanked Wendy for her very generous donation.

5. Names for Memorial

A list of proposed names and a map of the proposed area were distributed, copies attached.

The map highlights which locality each man came from. As some of the men came from West Lilburn it was questioned whether this was in "the Breamish Valley". The consensus was that it is borderline but the names should be included.

There is one name missing from the distributed list: Edward Naylen, Roseden, Royal Garrison Artillery, Wooler, Memorial. His gravestone has been found in Ilderton churchyard. This has been added to the attached copy.

6. Four Additional Names

Janet Rice of the North East War Memorial Project has brought four additional names to our attention:

Bertram Reinford Barron (Bertie)

Frederick Alec Leonard Jerram

Richard Ridding

Tom Pybus.

These men were all lost in the First World War. The first three were gardeners at West Lilburn, all of whom were from outside Northumberland but all enlisted at Alnwick with the Northumberland Fusiliers. They are all mentioned on memorials. It was agreed that they should be included on the memorial however we must be prepared to include others from outside the area if further names are found. The important point is that the men are remembered and that there is a digital record of their stories.

A.P. It was suggested that an effort be made to trace relatives by contacting press, Facebook and Association of the Northumberland Fusiliers.

A.P. Robbie to do further research for Tom Pybus.

A.P. Robbie has more work to do on the Regiment names with Graham.

7. Design

Due to the width of the gatepost, we are limited to the wording we can display. It was proposed to have a simple design of the Cheviot Hills on the top, followed by a short inscription. A discussion was held as to whether to list the men under village names however some settlements would only have one name. The alternative would be to list names alphabetically followed by the village. Some felt it better to keep the men together from the area they came from i.e. Wooperton or Beanley to show the impact of their loss on that village/hamlet.

A.P. Robbie to approach Falon Nameplates to provide two electronic mock ups, one showing names under villages and one alphabetically. They can then be circulated and a meeting held to decide which option to choose.

The First World War dates will be 1914-1919 and the font on the memorial will be Times New Roman. The nameplate will come in four pieces as it is very heavy, but you will be unable to see the join once erected. There will be space to add additional names in future but we will have to hold the names for two to three years to see if any other names come forward. A spot in the Community Garden will have to be located at a future time.

A.P. It was also suggested that as Edward Naylen does not have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) headstone that enquiries should be made to get a CWGC plaque for Ilderton Churchyard

8. Timescales

It has previously been agreed that the War Memorial should be ready for the beginning of September.

Falon nameplates require one month to produce the nameplate. The stonemason needs to dress the stone and recess the nameplate into the stone. Each of the nameplates has four rods to glue the plate into the stone. The stonemason however requests that the panels be designed so that they can be screwed onto the post. This will allow him some leeway when mounting the four individual panels.

Once Robbie has contacted Falon Nameplates and a decision has been made regarding wording this should take us to mid-July.

A.P. Robbie to contact stonemason to see how much time he needs.

As the War Memorial will be sited in the Community Garden it will need to be protected from grass cutters, strimmers etc. The Everedge Company do a five-piece diameter, Oxy-Shield, Landscape ring, which can be lined with weed control and filled with gravel from the Breamish. It costs £46.50.

Robbie stated that he, together with other members of the community, would like to dig the hole for the War Memorial. It needs to be a minimum of 3ft deep as it will be encased in concrete to prevent it falling over.

9. Open Evening

There are many photos that can be printed up together with the men's stories. They can be displayed in the Breamish Hall. A Cheese and Wine evening could be held with a donation box for members of the public to contribute towards the War Memorial. The AIn and Breamish History Society have display boards, currently held at Whittingham, which we could use.

It was agreed the Open event should be held at the beginning of September, the Dedication of the War Memorial should be the end of September/early October and Remembrance Day is on Sunday 11/11/18.

A.P. We need to let the papers and relatives know of the open event and dedication ceremony as soon as dates are finalised.

A.P. Robbie to speak to Jane Scott (Vicar) re dedication ceremony.

Wendy and Richard praised Robbie for all the work he had done. It was agreed that when the press are contacted we need to refer them to the Breamish Valley website where Graham has done a marvellous job in telling the stories of the men involved.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting has been left open as it is dependent on Falon Nameplates.

Signed as a true record of the meeting..... (Chairman)

Dated.....