

## Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 July 2014</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Commemoration of First World War</b>
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	<b>To consider proposal for photographic “Living Monument” exhibition at the Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager</b>

### Background

1. To commemorate the First World War a local artist is undertaking a “Living Monument” photographic exhibition. This entails taking portraits of men living in Thame and the surrounding area who are of the same conscription age of those men during the First World War.
2. The concept is to convey a visual aid to communicate to a younger and modern day generation the ordinariness and sacrifice endured by communities across the country during the 1914-1918. That those men from the town were not trained soldiers but civilians, fathers, sons and brothers who were suddenly called upon to risk their lives for the nation.

### Project details

3. The proposal is to construct a temporary exhibit within the Memorial Gardens consisting of 4 units that act as a light box, estimated width 6/8 metres and height of 2.2 metres. Illuminating the portraits as to act as a beacon of remembrance and gratitude to the men who fought so bravely and lost and risked their lives. Each portrait within the light box exhibit will be matched to a soldier of the same age who lost their life from the town during 1914-1918. Appendix 1 to this report is an image of the proposed temporary installation.
4. The structure will be free standing and will not interfere with the current area. If agreed it can be in place for two weeks or longer up to 8 weeks.
5. Subject to permission being granted from the Town Council to use the Memorial Garden location an application will be made by the Artist to the Heritage Lottery Fund to fund the £3,500 project. The Artist hopes that subject to obtaining the full funding the installation could be in place before November but this may be an ambitious time frame.

### Resource Appraisal

6. No funding is being requested. The Artist will apply for Heritage Lottery grant funding for the £3,500 project subject to permissions being granted by the Council to use the Memorial Gardens as the location for the “Living Monument” installation.

### Risk Assessment

7. Appropriate insurance would be obtained by the Artist and installation company. A disclaimer would be required stating the area would be left as found by the installation company. Complaints from the public would go through the Council complaints process.

**Legal Powers: Local Government Act 1972, s145**

**Recommendation that :**

- i) Permission is granted for a photographic “Living Monument” exhibition within the Memorial Gardens***