

Policy & Resources Committee

Title:	Thame Youth Memorial
Date:	7 November 2023
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To approve the renovation of the Thame Youth Memorial Gardens by Thame Youth Memorial Trust.

Background

2. The Council and the Thame Youth Memorial Trust (TYMT) entered into a five-year Partnering Agreement signed in May 2022 to oversee the installation, funding, and management of the area.
3. The Partnering Agreement reflects the future maintenance requirement and the roles responsibilities of both parties. The Youth Memorial Gardens have been established for over ten years and within the partnering agreement any renovations require the approval of the Council. TYMT have requested approval for the following refurbishment to improve the area from the lessons learned over the last ten years.

Project

4. The current flooring at Youth Memorial has been challenging to maintain, due to the leaves falling from the overhanging trees from the Elms and weather conditions can make the area slippery, various anti slip treatments have been tried, with limited success. It should be noted that the trees have been cut back and appropriate signage is put in place during the winter months as a precaution.
5. The renovation project will include replacement of the current floor tiles with high-grade anti slip porcelain tiles, like those used around the edge of swimming pools. The engraved commemorative tiles and the logo on the teardrop stone will be renovated to aid durability of the memorial markings by using a deeper profile engraving tool and to replace the water feature pump which has come to its useful life.

Resource Appraisal

6. TYMT have and continue to raise funds for the estimated £12,000 project costs by successful grant applications and organising events to cover the renovation costs.
7. The 2023 Thame Town Council Grants Panel Award Panel approved the TYMT a grant of £1,500, and with other fund-raising activities, successfully achieving 75% of the

estimated project costs. There are other planned opportunities such as the Santa Run and pursuing grant funding to aid bridging the gap by the start date of May 2024.

Risk Assessment

8. The TYMT will safeguard that the contractors who work on site will have the appropriate insurance, method statements and risk assessment to undertake the renovation, providing a copy to the Council for their records. The financial risk will be covered by TYMT through further fund raising and if required from their own reserves.

Legal Powers:

- Parish Councils and Burials Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s 1 (b)
- General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011.

Recommendation:

- i) To authorise Thame Youth Memorial Trust to undertake the improvement works to Thame Youth Memorial.*