

Proposed St Helier World War One Memorial - Parade Gardens

**For consideration by the Parish Assembly
on 15 June 2015 at 7.00pm**

PARISH OF ST HELIER

P.01/2015



PROPOSITION

The Parishioners are asked to take into consideration and if deemed advisable to approve a recommendation of the Roads Committee and Procureurs du Bien Public that some of the proceeds of the sale of land at Westmount Gardens for the Jersey Electricity substation is spent on the design and installation of a St Helier WW1 Memorial in Parade Gardens.

Report

St Helier is the only Parish not to have a memorial to those Parishioners who lost their lives in World War One. In 2014 the Roads Committee agreed that this omission should be addressed by the commissioning of a design for a suitable memorial located as close as possible to the Cenotaph.



The decommissioning and removal of the Jersey Electricity substation, at the southern end of Parade Gardens, means that the wooden pergola structure erected to hide the ugly substation can be removed to open the vista north/south as shown in the photograph below taken circa 1940. This provides an ideal location for a suggested ‘at grade’ memorial which can be safely accessed and viewed by the public whilst opening up the view of the Don Monument and Parade Gardens when looking north from the Cenotaph. The Parish has appointed ‘Private and Public Limited’, an experienced public realm consultant, to manage the project and in the first instance obtain expressions of interest. If commissioned in 2015 the Parish believe that the project can be realised for the centenary of the cessation of fighting in 2018.

The Commissioning Process

At this stage no formal written brief exists. It is an important requirement of the project that a clear brief is established from the outset. This will help to define the project parameters and establish a blue print for the project, timeline and deliverable outcomes.

To date informal discussions have focused upon the scale and massing of the final design. The Constable has expressed a view that the design could either be embedded within the ground or at low level providing views of the memorial to the General Don statue whilst also creating a visual link to the Cenotaph.

What is clear is that subject to the Assembly agreeing to the location for the memorial the Roads Committee will need to agree upon an outline brief before the project can move forward within an agreed time-frame.

Private & Public will facilitate that important work at the earliest opportunity and produce a fully defined brief.

Typically the commissioning brief will detail the following elements;

- Vision Statement
- Aims and objectives
- Sites plans
- Contextual information – technical, legal, practical considerations
- Selection methodology and criteria
- Roles and responsibilities
- Community education / training / skills programme
- Financial strategy
- Management
- Timetable
- Selection process of artist / designer / contractors
- Contracts, copyright and ownership
- Accessibility and equal opportunities
- Maintenance plans and responsibilities
- Information and publicity
- Review period and possible decommissioning strategy



Approach

Careful consideration needs to be given to the underlying principles of the commission. Although this will need to be agreed by the Roads Committee it is important that the following are established from the outset;

- The project is delivered by local people so as to keep expenditure within the local economy
- That in doing so it is recognised that this approach creates employment opportunities within the local market
- That training and mentoring schemes are offered to students at Highlands College in the hope that traditional skills are passed over to future generations
- That we allow local artists / designers to tell the story of their culture and find innovative ways to commemorate the sacrifice made by their forefathers

Costs

The sale of land at Westmount Gardens to Jersey Electricity in 2014 realised £250,000 and it is proposed that proceeds of the sale are used to design, install and deliver the proposed memorial. Anticipated costs are: Commissioning Brief - £2,500; Design, construction and engineering fees - £25,000; Material and construction costs - £150,000; Site clearance, sub-contractors, installation, project management, contingency etc. - £67,500, but the exact costs will not be known until a design for the memorial has been selected and approved by the Parish Assembly.

Timeline

Although there is ample time to oversee the commission it is important to establish from the outset key milestones. At this stage Private & Public would estimate that the project could be delivered over a 3 year period from initial concept to completion.

- 2015 Q2 – Parish Assembly agree funding envelope and location of memorial
- 2015 Q3 – Agree commissioning brief
- 2015 Q3 – Publicity and request expressions of interest from artists / designers
- 2015 Q3 – Selection of final design and public consultation
- 2015 Q4 – Design review and tendering for professional services and establishment of a project design team
- 2016 Q1/2 – Detailed design and construction drawings produced with QS cost analysis
- 2016 Q3/4 – Site clearance and preparation of ground works
- 2017 – Off site fabrication off memorial / artwork
- 2018 – Final Installation ahead of centenary.

