

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee : 10 March 2009

Subject: Dalnottar Blitz Memorial

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise the sub-committee of the final estimated cost of works at Dalnottar Blitz Memorial.

2.0 Background

- 2.1** At a Special Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 03 February 2009 Members heard officers outline proposals to install Creetown Granite slabs to the Dalnottar War Memorial upon which would be inscribed the names of civilians who lost their lives during the Clydebanks Blitz. Officers advised that the anticipated cost of the provision of lettering on Creetown Granite to match the existing stonework was estimated at £8,000.
- 2.2** On a motion by Councillor McColl and seconded by Provost Agnew, the committee agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director of HEED to progress the memorial wall project on the basis that the cost of Dalnottar Cemetery Monument would be approximately £7,000 to £8,000. It was agreed that this work should be completed by 13 March 2009 in time for the Blitz Memorial Service.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1** Following the Special Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub Committee of Tues 03 February 2009 a meeting of the Memorial Wall Working Group was also held on Tues 03 February 2009.
- 3.2** At the Memorial Wall Working Group, an update was provided to those attending to advise that extreme difficulties were being experienced in sourcing Creetown Granite and the suggestion of utilising an alternative medium such as bronze was agreed.
- 3.3** The indicative cost for such bronze castings was advised as being between £10,000 and £20,000; this being higher than the amount delegated to the Director of HEED by the Corporate Cultural Sub Committee.
- 3.4** It was agreed that there was however a clear commitment by the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee to ensure that the Blitz Memorial was completed in time for a memorial service on 13/14 March 2009.

3.5 Necessary works were therefore progressed under delegated powers in the knowledge that costs in addition to the £8,000 approved could be covered by monies previously identified for the Memorial Wall project at Clydebank Town Hall.

3.6 Members of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee are now being asked to agree the additional spend for the Blitz Memorial as outlined in Section 5 of this report.

4.0 Personnel Issues

4.1 None

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 Costs for the upgrading of Dalnottar War Memorial to include the names of those who lost their lives have been identified as follows:-

Bronze Casting (inc delivery & installation)	£19,000
Upgrade of Path and preparatory groundworks	£ 3,100
Construction and Installation of Frame	£ 1,500
Misc. Costs (inc design consultancy)	<u>£ 3,500</u>
	<u>£26,600</u>

5.2 At a Special Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 03 February 2009 members agreed to expenditure of £8,000 for Dalnottar Blitz Memorial works using Creetown Granite. Since changing the design and materials due to unavailability of the granite, the total cost of works is estimated at £26,600. Members are now being asked to agree the additional spend in the region of £18,600 from the existing 2008/09 culture budget.

6.0 Risk Analysis

6.1 Should Members of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee decide not to approve the further spend for works at Dalnottar Blitz Memorial, funding previously allocated for the Memorial at Clydebank Town Hall will be utilised.

6.2 Should such funding be utilised for Dalnottar Memorial then it will not be possible to proceed with proposed work to Clydebank Town Hall Memorial.

7.0 Conclusion

7.1 Plans for the introduction of names of those who lost their lives during Clydebank Blitz onto the Memorial at Old Dalnottar Cemetery are reaching a conclusion.

7.2 Much work has been done to redesign the installation due to the unavailability of Creetown Granite and the work is now being completed in bronze.

7.2 Work is programmed to be completed by 14 March 2009 in time for the Blitz Memorial Service.

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 Members of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee are requested to:

- a) note the change to the design medium from Granite to Bronze and the reason for this; and
- b) agree the additional spend of £18,600 from the existing 2008/09 culture budget for the completion of the Dalnottar Blitz Memorial.

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Date: 3 March 2009

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Appendix: None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: Ward 6 - Clydebank Waterfront