



Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011

- CS11 (Protecting and Enhancing the Special Environment and Heritage of Havant Borough)  
CS16 (High Quality Design)

Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations) July 2014

- DM20 (Historic Assets)

Listed Building Grade: Grade II  
Conservation Area: St Faiths

## **5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations**

### **Conservation Officer:**

The proposed location for the plaque has been carefully considered and is the only realistic position. It is appropriate to record all those who have laid down their lives with suitable reverence.

The design, form and method of recording the names has been the subject of consultation with a wide range of interests and the proposal is the resulting outcome. The design is intended to mirror that of the WWII plaques. Although this is stated in the application, I have asked the applicant to embellish the information provided. The contractor's specification for the work should suffice for this purpose.

Historic England was informally consulted at pre-application stage. The response was generally favourable the only real issue being in relation to the detailed positioning. The objective is to sit the plaque centrally within the stone quoins. The contractor has been made aware of this and to organise the position of the fixings accordingly.

The proposal has my strong support.

### **War Memorials Trust:**

Summary of the response:

- The addition of further plaques does and will compromise the 'elegant design' of the monument.
- The opportunity to ensure the research is as robust as possible should be taken.
- The drawings are inadequate in terms of quality.
- It is difficult to conclude how the new plaque will be accommodated
- A method statement should be provided as to how the plaque will not cause harm to the existing fabric of monument.
- Careful consideration should be given to the fixings used.
- Existing memorials cannot always sympathetically accommodate the addition of new elements.
- Has any serious consideration been given to an alternative site – The Gazebo Garden.
- How will the additional names (if any) be accommodated?
- In its current form, the WMT does not support the application.

## **Historic England:**

- No objection to the addition of a plaque to commemorate lives lost in recent conflicts.
- Provided that any new plaque is either fixed in the positions as indicated and matches the style and materials of the WW plaques, then no objection is raised.
- Attention to detail in terms of fixings is required
- Provided that the style of inscriptions matches that of the WW plaques, final layout, size and content of wording can be determined at local level.

## **6 Community Involvement**

This application was publicised in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice for Publicity of Planning Applications approved at minute 207/6/92 (as amended), as a result of which the following publicity was undertaken:

Number of neighbour notification letters sent: 3

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: 20/11/2015

Number of representations received: 4

**A total of four objections have been received against the application. A summary of the points raised is provided below:**

- i. The information on the plaque should include the conflict and date of death for each name on the plaque.
- ii. The Council should delay the final wording of the plaque pending a review which seeks the input from local history groups.
- iii. Full consultation should be carried out with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the War Memorials Trust along with local families and Havant Royal British Legion.
- iv. It is assumed that the names on the plaque relate to Havant and not other parts of the Borough which have their own memorials?
- v. There is a question over where any additional names would go?
- vi. Consideration should be given to a plaque in the Gazebo Garden behind East Street.
- vii. All next of kin should be consulted and it is not clear if this has taken place
- viii. The plaque should include the middle names

### **Officer comment:**

The publicity carried out on this application has met with the requirements of the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement. This does not require as part of the application, for families associated with the names on the proposed plaque, or non-statutory bodies to be consulted. However, the LPA has consulted with the War Memorials Trust which is a non-statutory consultee at the advice of the Council's Conservation Officer.

The purpose of this listed building application is to consider whether the addition of a further plaque is acceptable in terms of the architectural and historic significance of the memorial and whether the proposal complies with advice laid out in the NPPF and local planning policies. The debate as to what information should be included on the plaque and whether this has been adequately researched is not a matter for the local planning

authority to determine and is not being considered as part of this planning application – it is instead a matter for the Council to resolve separately in its role as custodian of the monument. The reason for this is that it is considered that the content of the text in itself would not have a material impact on the monument.

## **7 Planning Considerations**

- 7.1 When making a decision on a listed building consent application, a local planning authority must have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Preservation in this context means not harming the interest in the building, as opposed to keeping it utterly unchanged. This obligation, found in sections 16 and 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, applies to all decisions concerning listed buildings.
- 7.2 Having regard to this legislative background, and relevant policies of the development plan, it is considered that the main issue arising from this application is:
- (i) Effect on the listed monument's preservation and its features of architectural or historic interest**
- 7.3 Policy DM20 (Historic Assets) advises that planning permission will be granted for development that conserves and enhances the historic assets of Havant Borough. Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is also one of the core principles of the NPPF. The Council's Conservation Officer has advised that the proposed location for the plaque has been carefully considered and is the only realistic position and that it is appropriate to record all those who have laid down their lives with suitable reverence.
- 7.4 On this basis it is considered that, in principle, the addition of a further commemorative plaque on the eastern buttress will support the historic interest of the war memorial and it will not compromise the design of the monument as it will effectively balance the display of the existing plaque on the north western buttress.
- 7.5 In more detail, the plaque would be bronze to match the existing plaques and match the WW2 plaques in terms of font style, colour and size. It is considered that its proposed location can be satisfactorily discerned from the plans submitted when read in conjunction with the submitted Design, Heritage and Access Statement. The fixings would be standardised and replaced on the existing plaque to regularise their appearance and prevent any further discolouration from rust stains. No works are required to the stone.
- 7.6 Notwithstanding the concerns expressed by the War Memorials Trust, it is considered therefore that the additional plaque would not have an adverse impact on the fabric of the war memorial and would conserve the historical and architectural integrity of the listed monument. The proposal therefore complies with local planning policies and the NPPF.

## **8 Conclusion**

- 8.1 Having had special regard to the desirability of preserving the war memorial and its features of special architectural or historic interest the proposal to add additional plaque to the eastern buttress is considered to be acceptable for the reasons discussed above and is therefore recommended for listed building consent.
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## 9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to **GRANT LISTED BUILDING CONSENT** for application APP/15/01241 subject to the following conditions:

- 1 The works to which this Listed Building Consent relate must be begun within a period of 3 years beginning with the date on which this consent is granted.  
**Reason:** To comply with Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 2 The font size and style to be used on the additional plaque shall match that used on other World War II commemorative plaques on the War Memorial.  
**Reason:** In the interests of the architectural and historic interest of the listed building and having due regard to Policy CS16 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011, Policy DM20 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations) 2014 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.
- 3 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

Design, Heritage and Access Statement  
Site Plan DN: WM001  
Front elevation - DN: WM002  
Plan View - DN: WM003  
Existing and proposed pillar - DN: WM004  
Wording on Plaque - DNL WM005 Rev A received on 2/12/15

**Reason:** - To ensure provision of a satisfactory development.

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix A – Site Plan
- Appendix B – Memorial front elevation
- Appendix C – Plaque memorial name details (indicative)

### **Additional Information:**

<http://tinyurl.com/gn3sy5p>