

War Memorial

Cllr. L Thornton requested quotes from a further 7 companies as the War Memorial Trust requires 3 quotes for a funding application (we already had one from the War Memorial Restoration Co.). Only one company provided a quote with 5 others declining and one company failing to respond despite chasing. It was not possible, therefore, to apply for funding from the War Memorial Trust by 29th February 2024 as we only had two quotes and it is unlikely that we will be able to do so in future. It is also felt unlikely, as advised by the War Memorial Trust, that we would receive any substantial funding, although eligible, as funding is limited and the Porlock War memorial is not as high priority as others they wish to support.

The working group are keen to progress the renovation process urgently, especially the inscription panel, as a number of significant commemorations are coming up, including the 80th anniversary of the end of WW2 in 2025. The working group have exciting plans for a series of news stories about the renovation, the history of the memorial, plus others in the village to create a 'trail' as a visitor attraction.

Old School Centre

The small melamine bookcase by the entrance to the Visitor Centre/Library has been removed in accordance with the FRA. Something to hold the leaflets from the Visitor Centre is now required. Books are still being left under the bench occasionally and members of the public are respectfully asked not to leave books, etc. outside due to the fire risk they present.

National Grid has been contacted regarding the electrical supplies to the building.

The dislodged tile on the roof of the library and one on the roof of the Parish Room have been fixed. A quote to make the corrective repairs to the lead tray around the chimney and the chimney pot itself, requiring scaffolding, has been requested.

A projector screen required for use by PPC to display documents at council meetings using the projector PPC owns has been ordered. (Expenditure is expected to be less than £200)

Coombers have been contacted to attend the OSC to upgrade the alarm notification system and to fit an additional fire break glass as identified by the FRA (Expenditure less than £200). The Clerk will also liaise with them about the alarm codes and contacts.

As part of the on-going security audit, a contractor has been contacted to quote to change the main lock n the OSC.

A review of IT is being undertaken by the Clerk.

Hawcombe Cemetery

Continuing issues with vehicles/vans parked in and blocking the entrance to the cemetery are being addressed by the Clerk who has contacted the contractors working at the property next to the entrance. A workable compromise is being sort to resolve the problem in the short term. Ways of ensuring the entrance is kept clear in future are being considered.

Doverly Manor

The Charity status of Doverly Manor has been re-instated by the Charity Commission. The Maintenance Schedule needs to be updated and implemented by DMMC. A Fire Risk Assessment is being organised. A tree to be planted at DM is being purchased by PPC in liaison with DMMC.

Ongoing:

- A contractor is booked to refit the drainage grill at entrance to High Bank car park. (Expenditure under £200).
- The flagpole needs a bracket for refixing so it can be reinstalled – Cllr. D Thornton and the PPC Caretaker to undertake. Cllr. L Thornton to contact a local craftsperson regarding the repair of the bird table.

- A review of the positioning/purpose of the post by the gate to the picnic area/orchard garden is being undertaken as part of the OSC risk assessment.
- Lockable cupboard lock in the office is being replaced – contractor contacted. (Expenditure under £200)

Still outstanding:

- OSC
Light bulbs on the ceiling in the library need replacing. Storage for a lightweight moveable tower/platform for future use by PPC and others such as the Visitor Centre is being investigated so that PPC could purchase.
Library kitchen hot water system to be inspected and assessed.
- Doverhay Toilets
Disabled toilet, toilet roll holder damaged and requires replacement.
Honesty box surround of the non-disabled toilet has been damaged, rectification work required.
The contractor's quote to repair the leak has been chased, an alternative is required.
- Seating
Three bench seats in cemetery require rectification/replacement. Hazard tape has been used to highlight to the public. Carpenter contacted, awaiting quotes.
6 benches (1 on the High Street, 2 at the OSC and 3 at St Dubricius Churchyard) need sanding down and oiling. This work will be timetabled and undertaken by the PPC Caretaker.
- Public and staff toilets
Covered bins for sanitary items and similar needed. However, PPC would need a contract to dispose of the clinical waste.
- Damage caused by tree roots to path behind St. Dubricius Church
ENPA have provided advice regarding the damage caused to the path behind the Church due to tree roots primarily from the oak in St. Dubricius First School. Suggestions including retarmacking some patches, filling cracks with liquid tarmac and/or using temporary coverings to make the footpath safer to walk on are all being considered.
- St. Dubricius Church railings finial
A finial which has been accidentally broken off needs to be rewelded (Expenditure not expected to exceed £200)