

Agenda Item: 8

Report to: Amenities Committee

Date: Wednesday 9th September 2020

Subject: Remembrance Service 2020

Summary: To consider the structure of the Remembrance Day event for COVID-19 safety.

The Committee is recommended to:-

To consider the risk assessment in relation to the safety of the parade route and attendance of the Remembrance Day event 2020.

1. Background

Historically, the parish council manages the safety of the parade route, invitations to the dignitaries, the required road closures and spectator involvement of the Remembrance Day event. The church arranges the service, the management of the service area at Liberty Square, the arrangement of the members of the parade, the wreath laying and the gathering afterwards at the Community Centre.

2. COVID 19

This year presents a series of challenges to the parish council. In order to meet the government regulations which restrict the number of attendees to a maximum of 30, the parish council will be required to make substantial changes to its plans to manage the event safely. Early indications show that it is going to be extremely difficult to deliver a COVID secure remembrance service.

3. Risk Assessment

Officers have prepared an initial risk assessment for the operation of the parade, road closure and spectator management of the event. The potential changes required appear to severely restrict the ability for residents to attend to pay their respects. The changes also impact on the value of the event to the community and illustrate the high risk of group gatherings.

4. Costs

In order to proceed with the risk assessment, the following costs would need to be considered:

- Sanitiser stations

1 at service area and 1 at wreath laying

£250.00

- PPE for 19 persons

Masks £15.00

- Markers on ground

Stickers £50.00

- Hire of barriers for service and parade route (estimation)

Awaiting quotation at time of writing report.

5. Holding the event

The council is asked to consider the risks involved with a view to taking a decision on how this event will take place in 2020.

6. Other Parishes

Snodland Town Council hold a similar event to Kings Hill. This year they have cancelled the parade, scaled down the ceremony which is a small gathering limited to the cemetery. They have asked residents to make a poppy and display outside their house in place of attending the event.

Decision Required:

To consider the risk assessment in relation to the safety of the parade route and attendance of the Remembrance Day event 2020.

Contact Officer: Georgina Jackson, Deputy Clerk

Date: 1st September 2020