

## Remembrance Working Group

Notes from Dean Lee and Cllrs Cook, Favell and Sharman following a meeting of the Remembrance Working Group on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

### Remembrance Sunday

#### Parade

GF noted the British Legion advice that parades should no longer go ahead.

#### Wreaths

GF reported that 10 organisations definitely wishes to lay wreaths, possibly plus one other. Three of these organisations are making their own arrangements.

GF reported that Tracy Dixon had asked that the wreaths are delivered to BTC and collected on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. VC, however, would like to collect the wreaths on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November so that they can be placed on pews adjacent to wreath-layers as there will be space due to social distancing. GF mentioned that these people may not wish to attend the church service. VC believes that this is not an issue.

Protocol is that the Mayor lays the first wreath.

#### Logistics

The church could hold approximately 120 people. The congregation will leave church via the south door. LD felt that the laying of wreaths was a continuation of the church service, rather than a civil act, so would come under the restrictions governing church services. He believes that the congregation will fit in the churchyard.

GF questioned whether, since the laying of the wreaths was considered to be part of the church service, there was any need for the Town Council to be involved in the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday in the future.

### Armistice/Remembrance Day

It was agreed to recommend to ER&TD that, as this could not be an organised event due to the Rule of Six, there could be a two-minute silence led from the apron of the Abbey:

Bugler to play the Last Post

BBB will be asked to fire maroons to mark the beginning and the end of the silence

Bugler to play Reveille

In order to keep to the Rule of Six, GF suggested that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor should attend to represent the residents of Battle. LD felt that he should attend as he holds a special role within the town as Dean of Battle. GF raised disappointment that the other church leaders, who had registered their interest in contributing to the day, would not be able to attend as this would result in a group of more than six people. *POST-MEETING NOTES - the Deputy Mayor will not attend this event in order that the Methodist and Baptist Minsters may also be invited to attend. The flag bearer also needs to be included within the group of six.*

Permission will need to be sought from EH to stand on the apron of the Abbey.

BTC will need to check that the students from BAS will not be commemorating the Act of Remembrance on the Abbey apron.

### Other suggestions

It was agreed to recommend that residents, schools and businesses should be encouraged to draw a picture of a poppy to display in their window from the evening of Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov to the evening of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. GF will request that the M&TD Officer may post a request on the BTC website and social media and also to write an article for the B&B Observer. This will also remind people not to gather at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

The group agreed to recommend that Councillors consider recording a war poem each to go on BTC Facebook in the run up to Remembrance Sunday.