

BURSLEM

STONEMASONS OF DISTINCTION SINCE 1880

24th May 2021

Ms Jackie Cottrell
Parish Clerk
Warbleton Parish Council

warbletonparishcouncil@gmail.com

by email only

Dear Jackie

Bodle Street Green War Memorial Maintenance - 2021



Fig.1 Bodle Street Green War Memorial, front elevation, April 2021.

WORKS & SHOWROOM
Stubby Grove Bells Yew Green Frant East Sussex. TN3 9BG t: 01892 750 120 f: 01892 752169 e: enquiries@burslem.co.uk
www.burslem.co.uk

Company registered in England No: 190385 VAT Reg. No: 20 5124 81 A. Burslem & Son Ltd trading as Burslem

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Thank you for inviting us to provide an estimate to clean and undertake repairs to the Bodle Street Green War Memorial. We have attended at the War Memorial and assessed the general condition. Please find set out below associated cleaning and repair costs together with attendance and recommendation options.

The memorial consists of a Celtic cross on plinth and two-stepped base with paved surround. The plinth bears unpainted hand cut inscriptions. The memorial is constructed from Portland stone with York stone pavers beneath the base.

The memorial is not currently listed by Historic England, and as the church appears also to be unlisted it is not afforded curtilage protection.

Using the Historic England condition survey guidelines our assessment is that the main structure of the War Memorial is, on visual inspection from ground level, in overall good condition. It is leaning slightly to the left as facing. We recommend that this should be monitored but would suggest that is not a cause for concern at this time.

The hand cut inscriptions are all legible, although there is some visual evidence of wear. Again, we would recommend that the condition is monitored so re-cutting of the inscriptions can be carefully considered when required.

The paving to the right-hand side (as facing) of the memorial has become detached from the memorial, probably due to natural ground settlement. We would recommend that the joints are repointed and monitored for future movement.



Fig.2 Detail of paving showing movement from tiered base.

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The overall appearance of the memorial is uneven at present. The panels bearing inscriptions have evidently been cleaned regularly whereas other areas less so. Black spot is a lichen which likes to feed off Portland limestone and is visibly present on many parts of the memorial. An alkali chemical treatment might help to reduce the presence of blackspot. We would recommend that such a treatment is only considered following a professional conventional clean. We would be happy to provide a quotation for this following a conventional clean. As blackspot spores are airborne blackspot is highly likely to return to the stone in future.

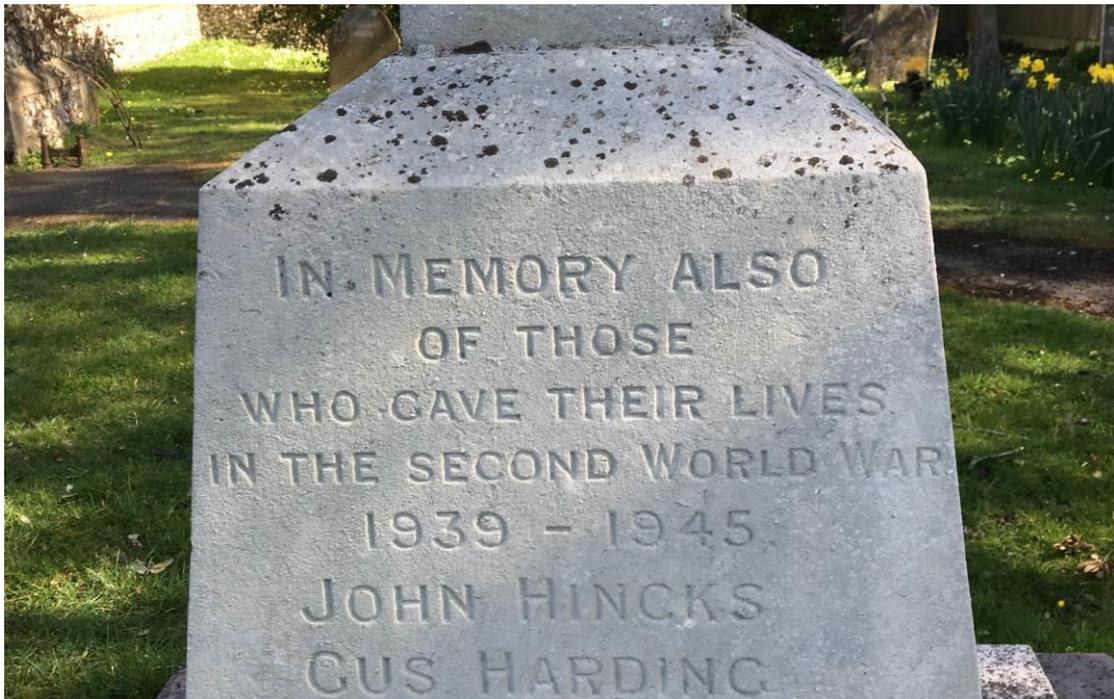


Fig.3 Detail showing the contrast between inscribed panel and sloping face above.

Cleaning Recommendations -

As the memorial is made from a limestone we would carefully and thoroughly water wash the memorial by hand using a bristle brush, and use a steam cleaner with an atomizing nozzle to ensure low surface water pressure. We would not seek to achieve a 'like new' finish, or remove all surface lichens. No chemicals would be used in the cleaning of the memorial.

£475.00 plus VAT.

Our price is inclusive of access tower scaffolding, all plant, water and power.

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Re-pointing Recommendations –

The approach for repointing would be to test the viability of all areas of pointing and rake out and repoint all defective areas using a natural hydraulic lime, coloured with stone dust to match the existing stone work as closely as possible.

£105.00 plus VAT.

We trust the above is sufficient for your current purposes and look forward to receiving your further instructions.

Yours sincerely

Neil Walters
Memorials Adviser
Burslem Memorials Ltd.