GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL MEMORIALISATION POLICY

A recent memorial monolith having been erected on private land without permission, has resulted in the Parish Council consulting memorialisation policies of other Parishes and creating one for Goldhanger.

However, the Parish Council has only the Playing Field and Marigold Wood within its control and memorialisation is managed and regulated for the mutual benefit of all.

Objectives

The Parish council has until adoption of this policy allowed memorialisation at the discretion of the Councillors after debate at a meeting. This has resulted in a variety of benches, plaques and trees having been installed or planted, after the approval of sizing & wording of any plaque.

The Council is seeking to ensure it is adopting a clear, measurable and sympathetic approach to the management of its spaces, which will take account of the sometimes contrasting needs of a variety of users and to prevent the area taking on the ambience of a dedicated 'memorial garden' which may compromise the enjoyment of the space for general recreational activities

Location

Parish Council property is limited to the playing field and Marigold wood, so there is little scope for planting 'new' trees or installation of new benches. The seawall (with the exception of the head of the creek, adjacent to the park) is private property belonging to the relevant farms.
Generally, permanent plaques and benches etc are considered to be most appropriately placed in churchyards, cemeteries and other places of official memorialisation

Process & Applications

Goldhanger Parish Council is sympathetic to grieving relatives wishing to remember their loved one in places that are special, or hold precious memories but due to limited available space, **memorialisation will only be considered for long term residents of the village or those who have made a meaningful contribution to the Parish life.**
Once an application has been made to the Parish Clerk giving full information of what is proposed, it will be considered by full Council who may ask for further information in order to agree specifications or details. . No more than one plaque per bench is considered appropriate.
Their decision is final.

Conditions

If approved, benches and installation, or trees and planting would be at the applicants cost.
Benches and trees once installed/planted become the property of the Parish Council. The Council accepts no liability for damage to any memorial benches, trees or shrubs and reserves the right to remove any memorial benches, trees or shrubs that have been installed without permission or become damaged.