APPENDIX I

Full Council October 2026 – Maintenance of War Memorial and Adjacent Land

On more than one occasion, some Cllrs and residents have asked if the Town Council could take on responsibility for looking after the main War Memorial in the town as well as the land adjacent so that the whole area can look at its best.

Therefore, an informal approach was made to officers at RDC, and their response was to send us their current understanding of the land that could be offered [in yellow below] and some initial draft terms for a potential license.



Draft potential terms

BoSTC to assume responsibility for the day-to-day management, maintenance and upkeep of the Bexhill War Memorial and the land *[we will agree the extent of the land and append a plan*] (the "Property").

BoSTC to maintain the Property to an appropriate standard befitting the significance of the War Memorial, at its own cost.

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BoSTC to be responsible for the inspection, repair, maintenance and replacement of the fencing, railings and associated infrastructure surrounding the Property, at its own cost.

BoSTC to be responsible for grounds maintenance at the Property, including landscaping, planting, grass cutting, cleaning and litter removal, at its own cost.

RDC to have the right to use the Property for RDC-led events upon reasonable notice to BoSTC.

No alterations to the Property to be undertaken without RDC consent.

BoSTC to be responsible for complying with all relevant laws and regulations, such as in relation to health and safety and maintenance works, associated with its responsibilities, at its own cost.

BoSTC to maintain appropriate insurance in respect of its responsibilities, at its own cost.

Next Steps

Some initial considerations has also been given to staffing and costs to the Town Council. It is anticipated that basic maintenance, upkeep and cleaning would be for the Rangers to do, with the RFO suggesting an initial annual budget of around £3,000 for extra costs. This is just an initial estimate, which may change as we learn more.

The team would also liaise with Bexhill in Bloom.

There may then be a separate piece of project work looking at more full-scale overhaul/renovation – and the Town Council would look for CIL or other funding for this. More significant work could also involve liaison with relevant bodies such as the War Memorials Trust and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

At this meeting, Cllrs are being asked if they would like to take forward the work to investigate this further, including potentially coming to a legal arrangement with RDC.