

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: 6th July 2020

Title: Memorial Bench Request Tower Hill F.C.

Contact Officer: Operations and Estates Officer – John Hickman

Background

Tower Hill F.C. would like to erect a lasting memorial at West Witney Sports Ground in the form of a bench for a player who recently passed away unexpectedly & his family. All of whom have been fantastic supporters of Tower Hill F.C. over the years.

The Operations and Estates Officer has been in contact with the club about this matter, the Operations and Estates Officer has spoken to the club regarding using a WTC bench, concrete base and the fact the bench would need to be donated to WTC after installation in order for it to be on WTC's inventory and therefore covered by WTC's PLI insurance.

Currently the only seating at West Witney Sports Ground is on the patio of the Sports and Social Club.

A suitable location will need to be agreed if council agree to Tower Hill F.C.'s memorial bench.

Current Situation

The Club do not wish to use a WTC bench and would like to be able to source the bench themselves suggesting perhaps an English oak bench that will age with time, with a plaque & wording approved by the family & would happily share any ideas we have with WTC.

Although the club are willing to install the bench base themselves the Operations and Estates Officer would prefer that the base & bench is installed by WTC and the associated cost charged to Tower Hill F.C.

Ongoing maintenance for the bench would be WTC's responsibility.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability. The bench would need to be in WTC possession

in order for it be covered by WTC PLI should an accident occur regarding the bench in the future.

Recommendations

Member are invited to note the report and that the memorial bench application is agreed on the proviso that the Operations and Estates Officer should select a location with the club and also agree the style of bench to be installed, WTC to install the base and bench with the associated cost being charged to Tower Hill F.C. and the bench donated to WTC after installation.