

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 19 July 2021

Title: Church Green – Memorial Bench Request

Contact Officer: Project Officer - Nicky Cayley

Background

A resident (Thomas Ashby) would like to purchase a memorial bench in memory of his late grandfather and would like the bench to be placed on Church Green.

Church Green is owned by Blenheim Estates and managed by West Oxfordshire District Council; both have previously agreed that the Town Council can install up to ten public benches. There are still spaces available for this purpose and Mr Ashby was offered a choice of two positions (see attached plan for preferred location opposite Oriel House).

Current Situation

The Town Council does not currently have a bench in stock so this will need to be ordered. The bench will be an Eastgate bench which is the same as those already installed on Church Green. The Cemeteries and Compliance Officer will also order a plaque to be fixed on the bench – Mr Ashby has submitted some words for this.

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. There is no environmental impact arising from the installation of a bench.

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. There is no risk to the Council from this proposal.

Financial implications

Mr Ashby will pay for the bench, plaque, base and installation.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider whether to agree to the siting and installation of the memorial bench as detailed in this report.



Picture of Eastgate Bench