

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

21 June 2021

Cemetery Information Board

Background: In 2019 I had an informal conversation with Victor Abbot re town information boards, Covid-19 curtailed any progress on this. Earlier this year Tim Poat (resident) launched a somewhat similar idea for town information boards. A number of individuals and groups (PL21, Bloomers, Community Arts) have become motivated and progress is being made. I have taken part in discussions as a member of Ivybridge Community Arts, and have been thinking about heritage/history focussed board(s). The boards will be a similar size and format. Tim Poat is investigating costs.

Ivybridge Cemetery: Meanwhile and simultaneously I have become a volunteer with the 'hands-on eyes-on' project run by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), and have been working alongside Dr Andy Holborn (a more experienced volunteer) looking after graves which come under CWGC care in Ivybridge and the wider area. There are #10 such graves in Ivybridge cemetery (though only two have the classic Portland Stone headstones. More details of our cemetery may be found on this link:

<https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/37387/Ivybridge%20Cemetery/>

Proposal: To design, commission and erect an information board in Ivybridge Cemetery. This will be approx. 100x60cm and will include a simple plan and details of the ten men buried in the cemetery, with x2 pictures. It would also include a scannable QR code to take those interested to further information in a digital format. We will approach the CWGC to have their logos included.

At this stage, we need to have permission erect a board in the Council's cemetery in order to move ahead.

Funding: We do not yet have a cost (see above) but do not expect costs to be great. The CWGC, our County and District councillors and the Royal British Legion will each be approached for funding. Crowd Funding is also a possibility.

Upkeep: Andy and I would look after the information board for as long as we are associated with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Cllr Tony Rea