

Notes of the Armed Forces Working Group held at the Council Offices on 24th September 2014

In attendance:

Councillors: GA Boulter, Miss MV Chamberlain, R Eaton, Mrs L Eaton (Chair), Mrs S Morris

Officers: M Hall

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor B Dave

2. Notes of the previous meeting of 7th April 2014

Agreed

MH agreed to invite the Chair of the WG into the offices once the work had been done to the letters that would be signed by Cllr L Eaton and sent out to schools and other organisations in the borough to try and identify what Armed Forces personnel were living here.

Subject to the same caveats regarding security and safety of residents' personal property as set out in the notes, MH agreed to place an article in the next edition of Letterbox asking residents to send in their WW1 pictures so they could be published on the Council's website.

3. Proposed Terms of Reference and Name of the Working Group

The Group agreed that now the initial Covenant had been signed it was probably more appropriate for the group to be known as the Armed Forces Working Group.

The proposed terms of reference were agreed for recommendation to Council

- a. To develop and monitor the commitments in the Armed Forces Community Covenant as they apply to Oadby & Wigston Borough Council.
- b. To consolidate and coordinate the Council's views and approach to any issues relating to celebration, commemoration or remembrance in respect of the Armed Forces
- c. To consider any other ad hoc issues that require direction in relation to military and any related ceremonial events.

4. Consideration of the Armed Forces Web pages on the Council's website

A draft of the possible web pages below had previously been circulated to members and this formed the basis of the subsequent discussion

a. Homepage

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures

b. Service Units in Leicestershire

Agreed this should include all of those in the county and not just the borough

Some minor amendments agreed

Agreed to add in borough armed services cadets

c. Links to Benevolent Organisations

Agreed to add as many as can be identified in addition to the main nine already included. Some suggestions were: Burma Star, Artic Convoys, Merchant Navy, Land Army, Home Front Transport, Atomic Testing, Army financial and pension support based in Nottingham.

d. Armed Forces Community Covenant

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures

e. Remembrance

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures

Try and get an invite for the Mayor to the launch of the annual county/city Poppy Appeal

f. Armed Forces Day

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures

g. Celebrations

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures

h. WW1

Minor amendments agreed and to add in pictures