

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ARMED FORCES WORKING GROUP HELD AT THE
COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON THURSDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2016
COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM**

<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>		
Chair - Councillor G A Boulter		
COUNCILLORS (4):		
J W Boyce	D M Carter R E Fahey	K J Loydall
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE (2):		
M W L Hall	S Nash	

Min Ref.	Narrative	Officer Resp.
1.	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>An apology for absences was received from Councillors E R Barr, Miss A R Bond, Miss M V Chamberlain, R F Eaton, Mrs L Eaton (Chair) and Mrs S B Morris</p> <p>It was agreed that as the Chair had given her apologies that Councillor G A Boulter would chair the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>NOTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2015</u></p> <p>The notes of previous meeting of 15 September 2015 were agreed.</p>	
3.	<p><u>HOUSING OPTIONS</u></p> <p>The Housing Services Manager presented a paper entitled "Housing Options for Current and Former Armed Forces Personnel". The report covered the background and context, choice based lettings and the housing waiting list, local connections, banding and homelessness</p> <p>Members were informed that the numbers concerned and therefore demand was very low in the borough with one of two applications a year. Members were also reassured that each case was therefore dealt with individually and as sensitively as possible and that the Council worked closely with the various veteran associations to find the best solution available in the circumstances.</p>	
4.	<p><u>GOVERNMENT REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT ARMED FORCES COVENANT</u></p> <p>This paper had not been published/received at the time of the meeting so was not able to be considered. It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.</p>	
5.	<p><u>WW1 COMMEMORATION UPDATES</u></p> <p>Oadby</p>	

	<p>Councillor D M Carter gave an update on the WW1 Living History Day that took place on Saturday 2 July 2016 at Brocks Hill.</p> <p>The event combined remembrance and education and was organised by the Oadby Stakeholders. The programme for the day included exhibitions, displays of memorabilia, talks, workshops, entertainment and hands on activities.</p> <p>The event was considered by all to be a success and was well supported with over 2,000 diverse attendees with positive feedback and media coverage.</p> <p>The event was delivered within budget.</p> <p>Wigston</p> <p>Councillor G A Boulter gave an update on the Wigston VC Memorial Event that took place on 14 July 2016. This event related to Sergeant William E Boulter 1892 – 1955.</p> <p>This event was part of the national scheme whereby every person who was awarded a Victoria Cross in the First World War is being commemorated by the laying of an engraved commemorate plaque in the form of a stone in their local community. This plaque was formally laid in Bell Street Wigston.</p> <p>The commemoration took the form of a public event and was attended by over 100 people including local residents, family members and military representatives. The memorial included the formal unveiling of the plaque, a service, a minutes silence with the Council providing hospitality afterwards.</p> <p>South Wigston</p> <p>Discussions are presently taking place for a commemoration event in July 2017.</p>	
6.	<p><u>REMEMBRANCE DAY 2016</u></p> <p>Members were updated as to the events that the Council is organising for 11 November 2016 (Remembrance Day) and 13 November 2016 (Remembrance Sunday).</p>	

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.45 PM



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CHAIR
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THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 2017
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