

HISTON and IMPINGTON PERMANENT PEACE MEMORIAL

REPORT as presented on behalf of the Memorial Committee by the Chairman Mr. W. F. Robinson, at a Meeting of the Joint Parish Councils of Histon and Impington, held in the Histon Council Schools on Monday December 6th, 1920 - Mr. A. Rhodes (Chairman of the Histon Parish Council) presiding.

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A Public Meeting convened by the joint Parish Councils of Histon and Impington was held in the Histon Council School on Monday 11th August, 1919 at 7.30 p.m. to consider the establishing of a Permanent Peace Memorial for the two Parishes.

Mr. W. F. Robinson presided over a large attendance of Parishioners including many ex-service men.

On the proposition of Mr. Robert Jeeps seconded by Mr. Smith H. Rowley, it was unanimously resolved that a Permanent Memorial be established.

Suggestions were then put forward as to the form which the Memorial should take viz, (1) Mr. A. Rhodes advocated the lighting of the two villages by Gas Lamps with a Central Lamp to have the names of the Fallen suitably inscribed thereon, (2) Mr. J. M. Taylor suggested the endowment of a bed in addenbrookes Hospital in perpetuity together with a Memorial Stone placed in the village, (3) Mr. H. J. Jones put forward a scheme for the establishing of a Recreation Ground, and (4) Mr. S. S. Rowley, on behalf of the ex-service men of the two parishes then suggested that the Memorial should take the form of a Recreation Ground with suitable Stone placed therein with the Names of the Fallen inscribed together with such sums as accrued from the use of the ground etc, to form a trust fund for the benefit of War Widows, Disabled and Dependents of the Fallen -the upkeep to be met by a Rate or Public Subscription. All suggestions were then put to the Meeting and the latter (the cost of which should be met by Public Subscriptions) was carried unanimously.

A Committee was then formed to make the necessary enquiries as to cost etc., and to report at a further meeting. This

Committee consisted of the following:- Messrs. F. Baccus, A. J. Bevis, J. S. Chivers, W. A. Diver, G. M. Macfarlane-Grieve, E. Craft, W. A. Harding, A. Ivatt, P. J. King, A. Rhodes, W. F. Robinson, S. S. Rowley, Smith H. Rowley, J. M. Taylor, W. J. Unwin, W. C. Unwin with Mr. H. J. Jones as Hon. Sec.,

Later a Public Meeting was held at the Institute on Monday 19th January, 1920 at 7.30 p.m. Mr. W. F. Robinson, in the Chair, and Mr. A. Ivatt (Chairman of the Committee) gave a report of their inquiries and stated that a suitable site for the Recreation Ground had been offered by Gavin M. Macfarlane-Grieve Esqre., this being a portion of Impington Park near the Station, and also that the Site together with the cost of equipping same would cost approximately £2,500.

After much discussion it was agreed to have the two Villages canvassed in order to ascertain what amount of money could be raised.

At a further Public Meeting held at the Institute on Wednesday 18th February, 1920 at 7.30 p.m. (Mr. W. F. Robinson, presiding) a report of the canvass of the two villages was given by the Hon. Secretary Mr. H. J. Jones, which showed that only the sum of £409. 0. 6. had been promised. This was extremely disappointing and consequently the scheme was dropped nem. con. Mr. S. S. Rowley then proposed and Mr. W. A. Harding seconded that a suitable Stone be placed in the village recording the Names of the Fallen and that a Fund be formed to help the dependent children of deceased Soldiers and Sailors of the two villages, with the surplus. This was carried and the same Committee (with the exception of Messrs. Ivatt and Jones, who declined to stand) was elected to carry this into effect with power to add to their number. Mr. J. M. Taylor was chosen to convene a meeting of the new Committee and afterwards carried out the duties of Hon. Secretary together with Mr. W. F. Robinson as Chairman and Mr. J. Stanley Chivers as Hon. Treasurer. Dr. F. G. Davies was also co-opted on this Committee. This Committee then set to work to make necessary arrangements to canvass the two parishes again for subscriptions, the sum

asked for being £250 for the Memorial Stone and £300 for the Endowment Fund.

At a further Public Meeting held on Monday 15th March, 1920 in the Institute under the chairmanship of Mr. W. F. Robinson, further progress was reported which was approved.

On Tuesday evening 23rd March, 1920 a meeting was held in the Institute when Mr. W. F. Robinson presided over a gathering consisting chiefly of subscribers. The Committee's report as to the canvass for subscriptions and various recommendations were adopted. A general discussion then ensued after which Mr. S. S. Rowley proposed and Mr. Fred Wilderspin seconded that a Stone Monument be erected, the cost of which was not to exceed £250 - this was unanimously agreed to. It was also agreed that the work of erecting the said Monument should be entrusted to Mr. Fred Baccus the local Monumental Mason.

As the labours of the General Committee had ended it was agreed that a Monument Committee should be formed and to consist of the following gentlemen:- Messrs. W. F. Robinson (Chairman) J. Stanley Chivers (Hon. Treasurer) P. J. King, A. Rhodes, S. S. Rowley, W. C. Unwin, J. M. Taylor (Hon. Secretary) with power to add to their number if necessary. This Committee being instructed to carry out the work of erection, unveiling etc., Mr. John Chivers was afterwards co-opted on this Committee. The recommendation of the general Committee that the Site for the Monument be the Triangular Green in the centre of the road opposite Mr. A. F. Rogers house, where the two parishes meet, was unanimously agreed to.

With regard to the Endowment Fund, the recommendation of the Committee that Trustees be set up to transact the business of the Fund, was agreed to; the Trustees consisting of the Chairman of the School Managers, Chairmen of both the Histon and Impington Parish Councils and the President of the Histon and Impington Branch of the Comrades of The Great War (all being ex-officio) the Trustees being instructed that the money handed to them should be equally divided according to the number of dependent children of the deceased Soldiers and Sailors of the two Parishes, provided such children did not exceed the age of 16

years at the time of the allocation of the Fund; also that each child's share be invested and shall be claimable by them on their attaining the age of 16 years. The Trustees shall have power to use the Grant or any part thereof for the education of such child or children before they arrive at the age of 16 years if application be made by the Parents of any such child or children for this purpose. Also in the event of the death of a dependant child at any time after the grant has been allocated, such grant shall revert to the Parents. Except as set out in the foregoing it was agreed that the Trustees should have full power of administration and their decision on any matters arising therefrom shall be considered final. It was further agreed at this meeting that Lists of all subscribers be drawn up and displayed on the Parish Notice Boards - which was afterwards done.

A number of Meetings of the Monument Committee were held from time to time at the house of the Hon. Secretary "Oakdene", Impington, Cambs, when the various details such as the necessary permission for the erection of the Monument were applied for from the local authorities and arrangements for the Unveiling Ceremony were dealt with.

The particulars of the Monument are as follows:- The Monument is of an Octagonal Design throughout and is 18 feet high. The Monument base is 7 feet 6 inches across the Flats, above this Base is the Principle Base with eight sunk panels with carved Laurel Sprays in full relief, at the top is an Ionia Pattern Cross the Wheel forming a Laurel Wreath. The whole is made of the Finest Portland Stone and set up on a Concrete Foundation 9 feet square by 18 inches deep. This is faced up with Granolithic. Just over the Principle Base are the words "Lest we forget", and on the Front Panel the words "This Memorial was erected by the Inhabitants of Histon and Impington in remembrance of the Men of these Parishes who died for their Country and the Freedom of Nations" - "The Great War 1914-1919", and below the Panel "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends," St. John 15 verse 13. Engraved in the Back Panel are the words "When the power of the

City shall seem great to you, consider then that it was purchased by valiant men, and by men who knew their duty". The two Panels on either side of the Front have the names of the Men engraved thereon in the following order:-

Horace W. Adams,	Bertram Lee
Stanley C. Andrews	Arthur K. Leete
James Biggs	Alwyne R. Macfarlane-Grieve
Alfred Brett	John Mansfield
A. Berechiah Carter	Bertie Mansfield
Stanley W. Charles	Hugh Martin
Harry H. Dawson	Percy J. Mowlam
Percy W. Dear	Stanley M. Muncey
Cecil B. Diver	Harry Pettit
Percy W. Doggett	James E. Pettit
C. Claude Forward	Bertie E. Rogers
Cecil C. Foster	Frank B. Simkin
Stanley J. Foster	Sidney E. Tibbett
John Frost	A. John Toates
Henry G. Gatward	Charles Turney
George Gawthrop	Percy E. Webb
Sidney Gothard	Albert G. Wilderspin
Henry Grimwood	William J. Wilderspin
Charles S. Hardwick	Charles Winders
Harry Knightley	Sidney Young
Arthur E. Knightley	

The Unveiling Ceremony took place on Sunday afternoon 14th November, 1920 in the presence of nearly 2,000 persons including between two and three hundred ex-Service men belonging to the two Parishes who had been formed up under the command of Captain S. S. Rowley. The proceedings of the ceremony were presided over by Smith H. Rowley Esqre., J.P., John Chivers Esqre. J.P., performed the Unveiling of the Monument and the Dedicatory Service was undertaken by The Revd. W. C. Cooke (Rural Dean and Vicar of Histon and Impington. The Revd. R. Smith (Baptist) H. Ribbons Esqre., (Wesleyan) and Lieutenant Elson (Salvation Army) also took part in the Service. Previous to the Unveiling Ceremony a Joint Sunday School Service was held in the Baptist Chapel.

The final meeting of the Monument Committee was held at "Oakdene", Impington, on Friday evening 19th November, 1920 when a report of the Unveiling Proceedings were received and adopted. A financial statement was also produced which showed that the total sum received amounted to £ 406 : 16 : 9 which had been disbursed as follows:- Mr. F. Baccus, Stone Monument £250, Mr. F. Baccus, Carting and making up Site £4. 16. 6. Messrs. S. G. Marshall, Printing £ 1 : 12 : 6 and the Balance of £144 : 13 : 11

being placed in the Bank in the names of the Trustees of the Endowment Memorial Fund. This statement was unanimously adopted. It was also agreed that this Committee having accomplished its work, should disband and that the Monument should be handed over to the Joint Parish Councils and they recommended that a Joint Parish Council Meeting should be held for such purpose at which their Chairman should give a full report for the purpose of records.

In all five Public Meetings and fourteen meetings of the various Committees were held.