

## **Winterton War Memorial removal from the junction of Earlsgate to the Churchyard**

*Extracts from the Winterton Parish Council 1966-1969 minutes book held by  
Winterton Town Council, transcribed by Estelle Mumby (April 2015).*

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 1966** – (item 3)

*“WAR MEMORIAL - Prior to a letter being read from the County Authorities, Councillor Grundy declared his interest, signed the Declared Interest Book and left the room. In the letter the Clerk of the County Council asked for the Council's views regarding the proposed removal with respect to (a) what site we could provide and (b) would we be prepared to make a contribution towards the expenses of such removal.*

*Some discussion took place and following the statement that we had raised with Mr Lane the question of legalities with respect to calling a Public Meeting, it was RESOLVED that this information should again be sought and a reply deferred until after the next Meeting.”*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 1966** – (item 22)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – No further communication had been received from the County, neither had our questions been answered with regard to the legal aspect. The Clerk stated that he would be reminding Mr Lane in the very near future and it was felt that some publicity should be given to this proposed removal, in order to ascertain the reactions of the Public.”*

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 1966** – Burials and Closed Churchyard Committee

*“It was RESOLVED to recommend that the War Memorial should be moved to the East Lawn at the Burial Ground and this lawn should be laid out with paths and flower beds to accommodate it. Further it was RESOLVED that the money allocated for the Burial Ground extension should be allocated for this purpose, the balance being put to the Burial Fund.”*

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 1966** – (item 31)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – It was stated that a letter had been received from the Lindsey County Council in which Mr Lane stated that when legal formalities had been completed, Brigg R.D.C. would be in a position to order the removal of the War Memorial from its present site.*

*A Resolution from the Burials and Closed Churchyard Committee was read; this stated that the War Memorial should be removed to the East lawn of the Burial Ground, footpaths and flower beds laid out and the cost should be covered by the money put aside for the purchase of additional land adjoining the Burial Ground; the balance of this money would then be put to the general Burial fund.*

*In view of the fact that there appeared to be some disagreement as to whether Councillor Grundy had a declared interest by virtue of being the contractor for the maintenance of the War Memorial and if it was moved he could be affected financially, it was RESOLVED that this Resolution should not be considered until the Clerk had consulted Mr Crosby of Brigg R.D.C. or Mr Arnold Baker Q.C. with respect to this particular section of Parish Law.”*

*“BURIAL GROUND REPORT - The Burial Ground Committee had met on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July and the following Resolutions were put forward for the full Council's information.*

*2 - That the War Memorial should be moved to the East Lawn of the Burial Ground and the*

area properly laid out.

3 – That the money allocated for the Burial Ground extension should be used to carry out this work and the balance used for the Burial Fund in the next financial year.

It was *RESOLVED* that all the above Resolutions, with the exception of the two applicable to the War Memorial were in order. Items 2 and 3 should be discussed later.”

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 1966** – (item 44)

“*WAR MEMORIAL* – The advice of Mr Crosby had been sought regarding the question of the Declared Interest. A reply had been received which stated quite clearly that Declared Interest did exist and Councillor Grundy accepted the fact.

A letter was read from the Trinity Methodist Church stating that at their Quarterly Leaders' Meeting it was unanimously decided that in their opinion the most suitable place for the re-siting of the War Memorial was in the Church Grounds.

A considerable discussion took place regarding the fact that we should in due course be told that the War Memorial was going to be removed or that we should have to remove it and that the Council should decide the future site so that necessary action could be taken. Several sites came under discussion: (1) the South end of the Playing Field, (2) the Churchyard, (3) the Market Place, (4) the Burial Ground as put forward by the Burials Committee.

It was *RESOLVED* that the Clerk should insert a Notice in the local Press clearly stating the position and that in the opinion of the Council the most desirable site for this Memorial was in the Church grounds; comments from the Public would be considered. This decision was taken on the basis that in 30 years time the people who will be available to honour the dead of the two World Wars will not have had any personal knowledge of these tragic periods, hence unless it was in a sacred place there was the risk that it could be neglected or even discarded.

Councillor Rev A Burton requested that his abstinence from discussion and voting should be duly recorded and of course Councillor H J Grundy also refrained from taking part in the discussion.”

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 1966** – (item 79)

“*WAR MEMORIAL* – Attention was drawn to the fact that the letter from the Clerk of the County Council dated 10<sup>th</sup> May, 1966 in which he asked the Parish Council to say where the War Memorial should be sited if the County Council decides to ask for its removal. This had been left on the table for several Meetings following discussion and as instructed at the last Meeting the Clerk had inserted the following Notice in three local Papers:

#### WINTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Owing to road improvements due to take place on the Roxby/Top Road, Winterton, the above Council have been requested to provide another site for the War Memorial which must be off the Highway. After due consideration the Parish Council suggests that this Memorial should be placed in the Churchyard. It will then be on sacred ground and preserved in the days ahead when generations who have lived during one or both World Wars will have passed on. Any comments in writing should be sent to the Clerk, Mr H. N. Sayer, Norfolk House, not later than the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1966.

*Up to the time of the Meeting, written communications had been received from the following, who were in favour of the Council's suggestion:-*

- 1. British Legion.*
- 2. Mr Herbert Campbell, who lives at Keadby and whose youngest brother's name is inscribed on the Memorial.*
- 3. The Leaders of the Trinity Methodist Church, Winterton.*

*Against – one letter from Mr J. P. Mason, who felt that it would be better in the centre of the Market Place or even set back from its present site if the land could be purchased.*

*A verbal communication had been received from Mrs. Guilliatt who did not offer any objections, but felt it would look very nice on the Market Hill; also a verbal message from Mr. W. Tate who, whilst he did not raise any objection to the Memorial being in the Churchyard, asked that two points should be borne in mind; (1) that he would not like any remains to be disturbed in the course of excavation, and (2) his relatives were buried at the East end and he would not like people generally trampling over the area.*

*After a very full discussion it was RESOLVED that the County Council should be notified that should they order the removal of this War Memorial we could offer a site in the Churchyard. This resolution was carried with 3 abstentions – the vicar, Councillors A. Walker and H.J. Grundy – the latter of course who had refrained from taking part in the discussion owing to an interest and who had signed the Declared Interest Book.”*

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 1966** – (item 95)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – The Burials and Closed Churchyard Committee had RESOLVED:-*

- 1. That the Council should not make any direct contribution to the cost of removing the War Memorial from its present Site to the Churchyard.*
- 2. That £100 should be earmarked from the Burial Ground Reserve Fund for use in the Closed Churchyard during the 1967/68 or 1968/69 Financial Year, to cover footpaths and any alterations which may be necessary following the installation of the War Memorial.*

*The full Council RESOLVED that these two recommendations should be accepted.*

*A reply had been sent to the various organisations and others who had written in offering comments.”*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 1967** – (item 128)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – It was stated that the County Council were in communication with the Vicar with respect to a site in the Churchyard. It was RESOLVED that the Burials Committee should consider moving some of the bushes from the existing site of the War Memorial to the Burial Ground.”*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 1967** – (item 137)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – Tenders had been invited by Press and by shop window notices for the maintenance of the War Memorial from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September -*

*Councillor H.J. Grundy declared his Interest, signed the Book and refrained from commenting.*

*Only 1 tender had been received i.e. for £5 from Councillor H.J. Grundy.*

*It was RESOLVED that we should accept Councillor Grundy's offer."*

**Financial report for year – ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1967**

*"WAR MEMORIAL – Anticipated £8.0.0d. Actual £14.2.0d.*

*Increase due to advertising in connection with the proposed removal by the County Council.*

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 1967 – (item 195)**

*"WAR MEMORIAL – It appears that due to financial problems, the War Memorial will not be removed during the current financial year and the whole road widening scheme has been moved into the 1968/69 financial year.*

*As the contract for the maintenance of the War Memorial ends on 30<sup>th</sup> September, a letter had been sent to Mr H.J. Grundy asking whether he was prepared to carry on for a further 6 months at a fee of £5.0.0d. A reply in the affirmative was received and the Meeting RESOLVED to the renewal of his contract until 31<sup>st</sup> March, 1968.*

*Councillor Grundy did not take part in the discussion and signed the Declared Interest Book."*

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 1967 – (item 216)**

*"WAR MEMORIAL – A letter confirming the renewal of the 6 months contract had been sent to Mr. H.J. Grundy.*

*A communication had been received from the Post Office (Telephone Department) asking for permission to place a duct and cable immediately behind the Memorial. The problems of doing just this had been pointed out to them by the Clerk and they were making a full investigation before asking us to complete the approval form."*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 1967 – (item 228)**

*"WAR MEMORIAL – A letter had been received from the Post Office saying that the Memorial was being moved within 2 months and the trench would be dug out by the Lindsey County Council, hence no question of payment for damage would arise.*

*The point was made that the shrubs had been given by people a number of years ago and they should in fact be preserved in some suitable spot if at all possible, it was, therefore, RESOLVED that the Church should be approached regarding the possibility of planting in that area."*

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 1968 – (item 291)**

*"WAR MEMORIAL – It was anticipated that the Memorial would be moved from its present position in May of this year. It was, therefore, RESOLVED to ask Councillor Grundy to agree to an extension of his contract for a period of 3 months at £2.10.0d. Lump sum for that period. Councillor Grundy agreed."*

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 1968 – (item 356)**

*"HIGHWAYS – The road improvements to the junction of Earls Gate and the Top Road commenced on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September, and the Council were assured that the War Memorial would not be removed until after Remembrance Sunday."*

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 1968** – (item 384)

*“REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – The British Legion again invited the Parish Council to attend the Remembrance Service which was held on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm in All Saints' Church. This was well attended and following the Service the British Legion, supported by the Royal Observer Corps, the Parish Council, the Chairman of Glanford Brigg R.D.C., the Guides and Brownies, the Vicar and other organisations and members of the public, marched to the War Memorial at the junction of Earls Gate and the Top Road for the laying of the wreaths.*

*The procession then reformed and marched back to the Market Place where the Chairman of the Winterton Branch of the British Legion – Major A.H. James – thanked the people for attending and stated that in the near future the War Memorial would be removed and placed in the Churchyard, hence this had in fact been the last Parade to the Top Road site.”*

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 1968** – (item 394)

*“WAR MEMORIAL – This had been erected in the Churchyard at the East end of the Church, and on 12<sup>th</sup> December a short Service was held at the Memorial to commemorate the unveiling on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1920. On this occasion it was a dry bright day.*

*It was RESOLVED that a letter of thanks should be sent to the contractors via the County Council for their efficient work in removing this Memorial.*

*It was also RESOLVED that the Council's thanks should be extended to Councillor Grundy for the way he had maintained the War Memorial surround when in its previous position, and that these should be recorded. Councillor Grundy handed the Clerk 30s.0d. which he had obtained from the sale of some of the holly etc.”*

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 1969** – Annual Parish Meeting

*“In giving a resume of the years working, the Clerk said the War Memorial had now been moved into the churchyard, and at least one member of the Public expressed the view that it looked very well in its new position.”*