



Grounds & Environmental Committee

Date: 6 December 2021

Title: Henry Finch Memorial Fountain

Purpose of the Report:

To consider the funding of a condition report to allow informed decisions regarding the future of the Henry Finch Memorial Fountain.

Contact Officer:

Ian Haynes, Head of Grounds and Environmental Services

Corporate Objective/s	Five Year Plan Objective no.48 To consider possibilities for the restoration of the Henry Finch Memorial Fountain in Linslade Recreation Ground	
Implications:		
Financial	Yes	£1,875.00 for the cost to visit site and supply condition report, feasibility and recommendations. Costs to be taken from the revenue budget.
Human Resources	No	None
Operational/Service delivery	No	None
Procedural/Legal	No	None
Risk/Health and Safety	No	None
Environmental Aims	No	None

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

Should members be minded, the proposals are:

- 1.1 To consider the funding of a condition report (£1,875.00) which will include detailed feasibility and possible recommendations.
- 1.2 Included within the above costings would be for the appointed experts to meet up with Officers and two named Councillors to discuss further the expectations of possible adaptations.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Town Council applied to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in September 2016 for funding to undertake a survey and remedial repairs to the said fountain. In July 2018, HLF informed the Town Council that they would need to know the current condition of the fountain and whether it is at risk in any way.
- 2.2 Our project will be up against other bids with essential heritage at risks, such as grade 1 listed buildings in need of repair, endangered habitats and species or essential archives and collections in need of conservation.
- 2.3 We have been informed that the Town Council would be unlikely to win HLF support in a competitive funding environment for any works to the Henry Finch Memorial Fountain in Linslade Recreation Ground.
- 2.4 The current condition of the fountain is unknown. Whilst Officers can make comments about the fountain's visual appearance, we do not have the expertise within the Town Council to make recommendations about the future of the structure. Therefore, it is considered reasonable to seek experts' professional opinions in conserving and restoring historic landscape features.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Should Members be minded to fund a condition report of the Henry Finch Memorial Fountain, specialists in the repair, restoration, reproduction and reinstatement of historic landscape furnishings (particularly those of the Victorian and Edwardian periods), will be appointed to work with Officers and Members

End.