

Item 13 Sustainable Wreath Options

Meeting Date 30 November 2023

Councillor A Jones would like the committee to discuss the below:

Following my trip to Poperinge, I have reflected that they used fresh flowers for their wreaths which are not only pretty, but biodegradable! I would like to propose that Hythe Town Council start using real flowers for wreaths rather than plastic ones which are subsequently thrown away.

Current Information

The RBL provide the wreaths, they come as they are HTC add the emblem badge and make a donation for about 10 at a time until they run out.

The Christmas wreaths are about £50 each approx. and we only donate £200 approx in total to RBL charity.

A seconder will be required for this proposal.

Further Information gathered so far :

Royal British Legion

The new plastic-free poppy

2023 sees the biggest change in the poppy's design for a generation.

After more than three years in development, the Royal British Legion has produced a plastic-free poppy, made entirely from paper that is completely recyclable at home. With paper created from renewable fibres from renewable sources including offcuts from coffee cups, the innovative new poppy design features a traditional poppy shape, with a black centre embossed with '[Poppy Appeal](#)', and a leaf with a crease.

It can be fastened with a pin in the stem or worn in a buttonhole.

The Royal British Legion is committed to reducing the amount of single use plastic associated with our Poppy Appeal and Remembrance products and we are continually looking at ways to reduce the environmental impact of our Remembrance activity. In recent years we have implemented changes that will remove over eight million items of single use plastic from our merchandise range, and in 2022 we have introduced a new Remembrance wreath that has the plastic leaf removed and a new weather-proof fibreboard wreath card to replace the plastic-coated card currently in use. Work is also ongoing with our suppliers and relevant experts to produce a new poppy and a wreath that have minimal impact on the environment.

Wreath tribute cards are no longer supplied in plastic wallets as part of our drive to reduce the use of single use plastics. The new wreath cards are made from a fibre board that is fully recyclable. These should be written on with a permanent marker pen which does not fade and holds the ink colour. These cards will remain fully intact for a period of 8 weeks and are made from sustainable sources.'

Enquiries were made at a local florist in Hythe for a fresh flower wreath;

an red anomie wreath on a bio degradable base, so no plastic. Price would be £45 - 12 inch £55 14 , £65 16 inch base.