



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject	British Friends of Normandy - request for stone from Botanic Gardens
Date:	13 June 2013
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

1.	Relevant Background Information
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	<p>A request has been received from the British Friends of Normandy to obtain one of the Castlewellan stones stored in the Botanic Gardens. The stone will be taken to the British Garden at the Memorial in Caen, Normandy for use as a plinth for a bronze bust of the late General Sir Ian Harris.</p> <p>The garden was designed by Mr Reg Maxwell, a former Area Manager in the Parks Department, at the request of the British Friends of Normandy. Dr. Ian Adamson, as Lord Mayor, was at the official foundation stone laying ceremony for the garden in Caen in 1996.</p> <p>The garden reflects a number of features associated with Ireland such as the Celtic Cross Pergola which was made in Belfast; the conifer Olive's Green was raised near Portadown and is used for the Colonnade Walk; the roof of the temple was made in Lisburn and the foundation stone of Castlewellan granite was taken from the same now defunct quarry as the present stones stored in Botanic Gardens.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
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	Should the Council accede to the request to release one stone for the Caen Garden, British Friends of Normandy will collect and transport the stone at no cost to Belfast City Council.
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3.	Resource Implications
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	Finance None
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	Human Resources No issues Assets None
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4.	Equality and good relations implications
	No impact.

5.	Recommendations
	Committee is asked to approve the release of one of the Castlewellan stones currently stored in Botanic Gardens to the British Friends of Normandy.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None