



Subject:	Ribbon of Poppies Campaign 2018
Date:	4th September, 2018
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director, City and Neighbourhood Services, ext 3260
Contact Officer(s):	Rose Crozier, Director of Neighbourhood Services, ext 3460 Elaine Black, Policy and Business Development Officer, ext 3783

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To seek the Committee's views regarding a request from the Ancre Somme Association, Lurgan and Brownlow Royal British Legion and to determine what support, if any, it may wish to afford the Ribbon of Poppies campaign.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the letter and the key issues in the report to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• agree whether or not to support the campaign and• If so, agree in what form support be given.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	In March, the Council received a letter from the Ancre Somme Association, Lurgan and Brownlow Royal British Legion about the Ribbon of Poppies 2018 campaign.
3.2	The Ribbon of Poppies campaign aims to promote the growing of Flanders poppies in designated areas around the UK for the 100 th anniversary of the end of the Great War ‘in memory of those brave men who fell during World War One’.
3.3	The letter, a copy of which is attached, includes a request to join this campaign using 3 steps: to pledge support, to purchase poppy seeds and to sow the seeds. The funds from the purchase of the seeds will go towards funds for a sculpture in Lurgan commemorating William NcFadzean’s birthplace.
3.4	At the meeting of People and Communities in April, Members asked that the matter be deferred to enable officers to bring back a further report.
	<p data-bbox="272 981 432 1014"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 1081 1225 1115">3.5 The following key issues are for review in relation to each step of pledge.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1182 852 1216">Step 1: Pledge support for the campaign:</p> <p data-bbox="272 1283 1469 1417">3.6 This campaign relates to a theme in the existing approach to the Decade of Centenaries on which Party Group leaders received an update on in March 2018. Marking the end of World War I is one of the agreed themes within this overall programme</p> <p data-bbox="272 1485 1469 1720">3.7 However, Members will be aware that Council is already supporting a number of events and activities to mark this centenary including the current Shrouds of the Somme exhibition, the “No Greater Love” Concert in October, the Inspire Event for young people at City Hall on 9 November, significant grant aid for community programmes as well as the commemoration at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday which coincides with Armistice Day.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1787 1422 1865">3.8 Should Members be minded to pledge support the inference would be that Step 2 and 3 would be undertaken as there is no separate pledge or statement to endorse.</p>

Step 2: Purchase Poppy Seeds:

3.9 This letter is a universal appeal for organisations to support the campaign, purchase and sow seeds to raise funds for a sculpture in Lurgan commemorating McFadzean's birthplace.

3.10 Due to its generic nature this could be considered as an appeal for Council to support directly or indirectly financially. The main ways to do this are as a designated charity, grant aid or through agreed programmes of work/services:

- i. **Programmed activity:** Council has already agreed a budget and programme to commemorate the end of World War 1 as outlined above;
- ii. **Designated charity:** If this appeal sought to be considered as a designated charity application, the criteria Council would use 'gives preference to locally based charities' which would not apply in this case;
- iii. **Council grant aid:** The purchase of seeds is to raise funds for the McFadzean memorial and none of the relevant funding streams e.g. Parks Events Grant, Good Relations and Arts and Heritage Grants etc. permit projects that 'are charity or fundraising events or activities'.

3.11 However, in the meantime, officers are aware that a bronze memorial of Private William McFadzean VC is being unveiled in Lurgan on 13th October 2018, which would negate the need for further fundraising.

3.12 Officers are aware of a funding scheme (up to £10,000.00) currently open which the campaign may fit to which the group may be directed. It is operated by the Heritage Lottery Fund 'First World War: then and now', which is open until 2019 and encourages projects to explore the heritage of the World War I and deliver on outcomes e.g. for people to learn about heritage, capture the memories and experiences of people affected or explore natural heritage and landscapes affected by war etc.

Step 3 Sow Seeds:

3.13 Council has a Growing Communities Strategy (2012-22) and its action plan is currently being revised. Its strategic outcomes include enabling community engagement/ capacity building and environmental sustainability etc. connected through planting and environmental activities. Currently Council plants are sourced where possible to promote sustainability; providence, local sourcing, pollinators and resource implications e.g. throw and grow.

3.14	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There does not appear to be any implications to pledging support up to step 1. It is unknown what cash or non-cash contribution is expected in the correspondence.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.15	<p>If Council agree this campaign fits the existing agreement to support the commemoration of the end of World War I, no additional implications are anticipated. Further checks would be required if committing financial or other resources as in step 2 and 3 outlined.</p>
4.0	<p>Document Attached</p>
	<p>Ribbon of Poppies Campaign 2018 letter from Ancre Somme Association</p>