Agenda Item 8

Remembrance Sunday Overview:

This year's Remembrance Sunday Service was attended by around 200, which included the Mayor, Jonathan Hinder MP, representatives of the AFSG, Police and Fire Services, St Thomas School, Barrowford Primary School, Army Cadets, Scouts and Cubs, Pendle Borough Councillors and Parish Councillors former members of the Armed Forces and members of the public.

The service was conducted by the Reverand Nick Murrey from St Thomas's there was an intermittent fault with the cordless microphones and the shortage of brass bands and the number of individual services carried out within Pendle mean that only the larger towns can attract a band, with Barnoldswick Band doing three services on Remembrance Sunday and an aging membership more services are going to have to rely on piped music Barrowford tried this route this year but in hindsight a pre service meeting would iron out one or two of the wrinkles.

The Rev. Murrey has expressed an interest in revamping the service sheet for next year as he feels that the hymns are a bit dated. Due to changes of Vicar at St. Thomas in recent years the service has been conducted by different vicars for the last four years with the Methodist Church not taking a leading role. Over many years the service was performed as a joint collaboration of both St. Thomas and Higherford Methodist ministers and perhaps the Parish Council should look at the possibility of reintroducing this aspect of the service?

These problems will need to be resolved in advance of next years' service.

The people of Barrowford seem to think that the memorial in the sunken garden is the War Memorial, when in reality the whole park being the First World War Memorial, one of only two within Lancashire. The stone memorial being added many years latter to mark the Second World War and only had the bronze plaque with the dates of both wars on the front.

As part of the Barrowford 2000 Millenium Groups projects the names of the Fallen were researched in the late 1990's and the First World War and Second World War names were added to the memorial, as further censuses were released and other records and genealogy site went on line a further plaque was added to commemorate those missed in the 1990's.

The addition of names has made this a focal point for Remembrance but perhaps we should also consider the wishes of the people of Barrowford who after World War One chose a park for the benefit of the living as a reminder of those who gave their life in the service of King and Country. This pragmatic approach to providing a park as opposed to a mausoleum used one day a year has created one of the jewels in Barrowford's Crown and this should be made clear to local people who might appreciate the improvements that have been done and are continuing to be done to the War Memorial Park since the transfer from Pendle in 2020.