

Public statement

Addition of Kitty Trevelyan's name to Meavy war memorial



War Memorials Trust

Date: 20th July 2017

War Memorials Trust is aware of coverage regarding the addition of Kitty Trevelyan's name to Meavy war memorial. This statement has been produced to provide more detail on the Trust's position.

War Memorials Trust does not object to the principle of adding Kitty Trevelyan's name to Meavy war memorial, nor has it asked for her name to be removed. However, we do believe that any addition or correction of a name on a war memorial should be undertaken legally, with due consideration to the style of the existing names on the war memorial (to ensure all are remembered equally) and in consultation with the local community.

In May 2017 the Trust received comments from members of the public about the way in which Kitty Trevelyan's name had been added to Meavy war memorial. In response the Trust commented on Listed Building Consent application 0244/17 which had been retrospectively submitted to Dartmoor National Park Authority. At the time the Trust noted the following about the application based on the information available to the charity:

- The local community had not been widely consulted on the proposals to add Kitty Trevelyan's name to the war memorial. This had upset members of the local community as Kitty Trevelyan's family had asked for her to be recorded as Armorel K Trevelyan on her Commonwealth War Grave
- Kitty Trevelyan had not been given the right to be recorded in the same way as the others on the war memorial - her regiment had not been included
- Kitty Trevelyan's name had been placed directly underneath the date the war memorial was erected which made it appear that was when she lost her life

In response to the above issues the Trust suggested consultation with the local community to decide how Kitty Trevelyan's name should be commemorated and consideration of alternative ways of adding the name. For example, a new stone being added to the base of the war memorial to ensure Kitty Trevelyan's name can be commemorated respectfully in the same way as the other names on the war memorial.

The addition/amendment of names on war memorials is a regular issue dealt with by the charity. Helpsheets and advice from our Conservation Officers is available to the public free of charge. The Trust's guidance is based on best conservation practice and shared experience of undertaking such projects. The Trust recognises, through its involvement in such works on some of the estimated 100,000 war memorials across the UK, that these are very emotive situations and that there is often no right or wrong answer. The charity offers its help in such situations with addition of names potentially eligible for funding through grant schemes administered by the charity.

The Trust is engaging with relevant organisations involved in this case as part of discussions to seek an appropriate solution.

Further details about this war memorial can be seen, and added to, at:
www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/223639

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