



The Queen's Hall
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Assets, Community and Environment Meeting

18 February 2021

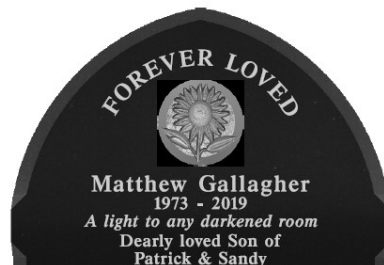
ACE032a: Memorial Bench for Matthew Gallagher

1. Introduction

Towards the end of 2020 a resident approached Cuckfield Parish Council suggesting the purchase and installation of a memorial bench at Holy Trinity Church in memory of Matthew Gallagher who died on 29 December 2019. The ACE Committee resolved on 26 November 2020 to proceed with the purchase of a bench and approved a budget of £500.00.

2. Approach

P & S Gallagher were approached and they are happy with this initiative and have suggested a rustic chunky bench with an engraving in the wood would be a lovely addition to the cemetery which would be there for a very long time. The family have already placed a headstone in the cemetery with a beautiful sunflower carving as they were Matthew's favourite flower and his coffin was covered in them.



3. Findings

There are a number of companies that supply benches and plaques. I reviewed the following websites:

[Teak Garden Benches UK For All Seasons From Wealden Benches Personalised Teak Benches From Memorial Benches UK](https://www.alexander-rose.co.uk/)
<https://www.alexander-rose.co.uk/>

Wealden Benches and Memorial Benches UK are the same company and are Sussex-based. They responded quickly and efficiently. Alexander Rose responded later but appear just as efficient if not more expensive.

4. Costs

a) Wealden/Memorial Benches

2 seater extra heavy Great Maytham bench 120cm (3.9ft) - £350.00
Wood engraved inscription 107 characters on one rail - £59.95 per rail
Wood engraved sunflower - No charge
Brass plaque 5x2 - No charge
UK Delivery: £ 34.95
Total: **£444.90**



b) Alexander Rose Roble Premium Hardwood – 10 Year Warranty

104 Roble Broadfield Bench 122cm (4ft) - £280.80
Sunflower Engraving - £100.00
Direct Engraving 107 characters - £127.20
Brass Plate - £37.20
Delivery: Free of charge
Total: **£545.20** - I can discount this to **£500.00**



c) Alexander Rose Acacia Hardwood with painted finish – 3 Year Warranty

345S Sherwood St George Bench 152.5cm (5ft) - £208.80
Sunflower Engraving - £100.00
Direct Engraving 107 characters - £127.20
Brass Plate - £37.20
Delivery: Free of charge
Total: **£473.20**



5. Inscriptions in Arial font

Engraved directly on wood:

In fondest memory of Matthew Gallagher 12 March 1973 - 29 December 2019
and Sunflower

Engraved on brass plaque:

Donated by Cuckfield Parish Council

6. Location of Bench

An area opposite the west church entrance was suggested. This area would also make a useful seating area for anyone waiting to enter the church.



If the bench is located within the closed churchyard it is assumed permission from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) would be required. However, if the bench is placed within the cemetery area it is assumed PCC permission would not be required.

7. Recommendations

Committee members are requested to approve the supplier, style of bench, wording of the inscription and the sunflower engraved directly on the wood and a brass plaque to include the wording 'Donated by Cuckfield Parish Council'. Committee members are also requested to approve where the bench should be located.

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Date: 5 February 2021