Applications for Financial Assistance from the Conservation and Heritage Fund for St James' Church, Audley, (Ref: 14/15006/HBG) and Madeley War Memorial, (Ref: 14/15007/HBG)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Working Party indicates its views on proposals going to the Planning Committee that:-

- 1. A grant of £5,000 be approved for the repair of the South Aisle roof of St James' Church, Audley, subject to the appropriate standard conditions
- 2. A grant of £180 be approved for the repair of the Madeley War Memorial and reinstatement of the bayonet on that memorial, subject to the appropriate standard conditions

Purpose of report

To inform the Working Party of two applications for financial assistance and to give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on those applications.

The views of the Conservation Advisory Working Party will be reported to the Planning Committee.

1. St James' Church, Audley

This building is a Grade II* Listed Building. The project is to fix leaks in the south aisle roof. The slates will be removed, new sarking membrane installed and tiles refitted. The guttering has been found not to be sufficient during periods of heavy rain so the size of the guttering will be increased and an additional downpipe installed.

The total cost of the work is £44,450 including VAT, contingencies and mitigation for bats (the latter of which is not grant eligible work). Eligible costs total £41,210 inc VAT. The works are eligible for grant up to 20% of the total costs which comes to £8,242 however the maximum grant that can be awarded under the rules of the Fund is £5,000. This is the recommended grant.

2. Madeley War Memorial

This project by Madeley Parish Council is to reinstate the soldier's bayonet on the memorial which was stolen some years ago and to repair damage to the soldier's hand. The memorial is a Grade II Listed building. The Borough Council supported a previous scheme in 2014 to stabilise the memorial awarding £2,160 to the Parish towards the costs. This work has been undertaken.

The lowest quotation for the work is \pounds 900 including VAT. The work is eligible for grant up to 20% of the total cost which comes to \pounds 180.

Financial Implications

There is sufficient funding to meet both grant applications with £27,583 in the Fund allowing for commitments.