

From:**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 10:09 AM**To:** Town Clerk <info@wem.gov.uk>**Subject:** Memorial Bench

Dear Penny

Thank you so much for taking the time to speak to me earlier.

My best friend Phil Evans-Nawaz was born and raised in Wem. He was 1 of 4 boys, his brother Kenneth died many years ago, his brother Christopher Evans died a few years ago, Phil died in 2021 and his remaining brother Andrew died in September, his funeral is on Monday.

Phil was like a brother to me and was a popular resident of Wem. He is very much missed.

I've spoken to his parents and we have a little money from his estate that we aren't sure what to do with. There is the option of making a donation of it to Severn Hospice who looked after his brother Andy in his final days. But we also wondered if we could have a memorial bench dedicated to the brothers, for their parents and nieces/daughters who still live in wem to remember them all.

If you could please ask the council if there are any existing benches that we could look at restoring and dedicating to their memory, it would be very much appreciated.

Thank you again

Clerks note.

The Town Council currently has no policy with regarding installation of memorial benches.

In the past requests have been made on a case by case basis. There is currently no space in the recreation ground for any new benches and previously people wishing to install a memorial bench have been encouraged to refurbish an existing bench.

The installation of a new bench can be costly as all benches must be placed on a concrete base so they do not sink.

It is recommended that

- the Clerk and Groundsman carry out an inspection of all benches to identify any that may require refurbishment and contact the person making the request.
- the Town Council consider adopting a memorial bench policy for future requests.