Interpretation Board — Supplier Quote Comparison

Pensax & Stockton War Memorial for Peace — prepared for Parish Council meeting, 8 November 2026

Purpose

Four quotes have been received for the replacement interpretation board at the war memorial. This note draws them together on a like-for-like basis so the council can decide on value for money and, specifically, whether to use a supplier who also produces the artwork – a stated requirement – rather than one who expects the parish to supply print-ready files.

Comparison at a glance

Supplier	Product quoted	Total (inc. VAT)	Artwork/design included?	Notes
Earth Anchors Ltd	2x Forest-Saver A1 panel, separate stands	£1,692 (£2,190 w/ design)	No – £415+VAT extra per proof	Different format: two single-post panels, not one board
Noticeboards Online	DMC Lectern A0L, 2500mm post	£2,154 (excl. install)	Unclear – no price confirmed	Install from £795+VAT extra
Greenbarnes Ltd	2-bay 9A4 timber noticeboard + posts + header	£2,195.98 (excl. install)	No – client supplies print-ready artwork	Install not quoted; ~8wk lead time
Fitzpatrick Woolmer	Bowman™ Option A, recycled plastic, A1	£2,892.00 (all-in)	Yes – standard line item	Proforma payment required before production

All totals as quoted; VAT and delivery included where stated by the supplier. Figures marked "excl. install" do not include fitting the board on site.

Points the council should weigh before deciding

- Earth Anchors is not a like-for-like comparison. Their quote is for two separate single-post A1 panels side by side – a different physical format from the single board the other three suppliers quoted. Once their optional £415+VAT design fee is added, the saving over the other bids is marginal.
- Noticeboards Online and Greenbarnes both look cheaper than Fitzpatrick Woolmer on the headline total, but neither price includes installation (Noticeboards Online: from £795+VAT; Greenbarnes: not quoted) – and Greenbarnes requires the parish to supply finished, print-ready artwork.

- Fitzpatrick Woolmer is the only quote where the design and artwork service is a standard line item rather than an optional extra – directly matching the council's stated preference. Their total is the highest, at £2,892.00, which is £392 (16%) over the £2,500 budget figure discussed with them, and the quote requires proforma (upfront) payment.

Supplier detail

1. Earth Anchors Ltd



Representative example from Earth Anchors' gallery (composite aluminium church information panel) – not the exact quoted item; illustrates their panel style.

- Product quoted: 2x Forest-Saver A1 information panels (composite aluminium, print-ready artwork required), each on its own 2-leg ground-set stand – estimate ref Q2798, 30 Oct 2026.
- Price: 2x £649 + £112 delivery = £1,410 ex VAT (£1,692 inc VAT, [Certain]). Design/artwork optional at £415+VAT per proof.
- Payment: on account (parish council terms). Delivery: 4 weeks from receipt of print-ready artwork.
- Company: Surrey-based manufacturer, trading 50+ years; supplies councils, the National Trust, Woodland Trust and others; 4.9/5 average across 300+ reviews.

Website: www.earth-anchors.com

2. Noticeboards Online (Noticeboard Company Cumbria Ltd)

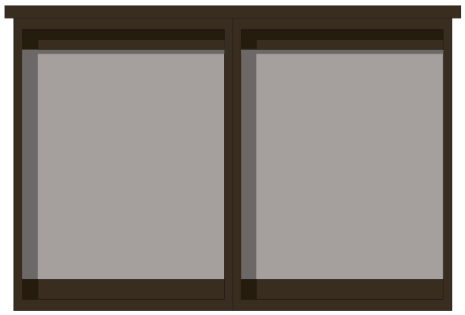


DMC Lectern Interpretation Panel – product photo from the supplier's own quote/website; matches the item quoted.

- Product quoted: DMC Lectern Interpretation Panel, A0L (1189 x 841mm), with 2500mm post – quote dated 29 Oct 2026, valid to 28 Nov 2026.
- Price: £1,795 ex VAT, £2,154.00 inc VAT [Certain]. Excludes installation – fully insured fitting quoted separately from £795+VAT (soft ground) or £895+VAT (hard ground); old board removal from £150+VAT.
- Design: not costed in this quote. Their process note says a design brief and visuals are provided for bespoke orders, but no fee or scope is confirmed in writing – worth a direct question before relying on it. [Guessing]
- Company: small family business, Kendal, Cumbria; 15-year guarantee on boards; four recent customer reviews are positive on finish and service.

Website: www.noticeboard.company

3. Greenbarnes Ltd



Representative Greenbarnes 2-bay unglazed man-made-timber noticeboard from their current range – same product family as the item quoted (exact PD9A4U photo not published online).

- Product quoted: PD9A4U, 2-bay 9xA4 unglazed man-made timber noticeboard with posts, header and vinyl lettering (“PENSAX & STOCKTON WAR MEMORIAL”) – quotation 33883/1, 28 Oct 2026.

- Price: £1,829.98 ex VAT, £2,195.98 inc VAT [Certain]. Installation not included (not quoted). Optional panel encapsulation £700.24+VAT per bay, not included above.
- Design: not included – graphic panel priced “from ready-to-use artwork to be provided by client.” The parish would need to produce or separately commission the artwork.
- Company: 25+ years supplying local authorities, councils, churches and schools; 5-year guarantee on most boards; Manchester-based manufacturer. Lead time ~8 weeks from order and approved artwork.

Website: www.greenbarnes.co.uk

4. Fitzpatrick Woolmer Design & Publishing Ltd



Bowman™ Option A, recycled plastic – product photo from the supplier's website; matches the item quoted.

- Product quoted: Bowman™ Option A permanent information display, single-sided, recycled plastic with cedar-effect finish, sized for an A1 (841 x 594mm) graphic panel – estimate CAA28911/1, 28 Oct 2026.
- Price breakdown: panel design £936, 2x inkjet proof £70, 3mm aluminium graphic panel with anti-graffiti coating £199, Bowman Option A unit £890, delivery £315 – sub-total £2,410, VAT £482, total £2,892.00 [Certain]. Proforma (upfront) payment required.
- Design: included as a standard line item – the parish supplies text, images and logos only; Fitzpatrick Woolmer produce the finished design and two proofs.
- Material: 100% recycled UK plastic, no maintenance, stainless steel posts set 600mm below ground, 1-year manufacturer's warranty. Four portfolio examples supplied (Dean Road & Manor Road Cemetery, Kippax War Memorial, South Park Swimming Club Memorial, Saxmundham Memorial Field) – all comparable heritage/memorial interpretation boards.
- Company: Rochester, Kent; trading 25–30 years; holds a Royal Warrant as Manufacturer of Signs and Wayfinding; recent heritage clients include Rochester Cathedral and Hastings Country Park.

Website: www.fwdp.co.uk

Recommendation

If the council's priority is price alone, Noticeboards Online (£2,154) is the lowest confirmed total, though installation is extra and the design terms need clarifying before that figure can be trusted. If the priority is a single supplier handling design and production – which the council has said it wants – Fitzpatrick Woolmer is the only quote that delivers that as standard, at a known, all-in price of £2,892, with directly relevant heritage/memorial board

experience and a Royal Warrant behind it. [Likely] The trade-off is 16% over the £2,500 figure discussed, paid upfront. Worth deciding which of those two factors – lowest price or no second supplier for artwork – the council weights more heavily, since no quote satisfies both.

Artwork examples by supplier

Design style and finished-panel quality from each company's own published or supplied work, for comparison alongside price.

Earth Anchors Ltd

From Earth Anchors' own gallery – composite aluminium panels for churches and community groups. No example in the exact Forest-Saver A1 format; these show their general design/print style.



St Augustine's information panel



St Paul's, Tadley – double church board



Friends of Wandsworth Common header

Website: www.earth-anchors.com

Noticeboards Online

Product photography from the supplier's own site/quote. Both show the panel hardware with sample content rather than a bespoke Pensax design.



DMC Lectern – the item quoted

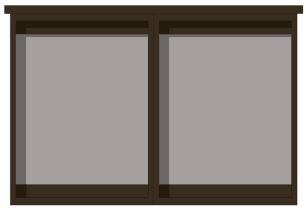


StormGuard woodland interpretation panel

Website: www.noticeboard.company

Greenbarnes Ltd

Current catalogue photos of Greenbarnes' man-made-timber range (exact PD9A4U photo not published). These show board/case styling only – Greenbarnes does not produce the graphic content itself.



2-bay unglazed MmT (PDNU)



2-bay 6xA4 MmT (PD6A4)

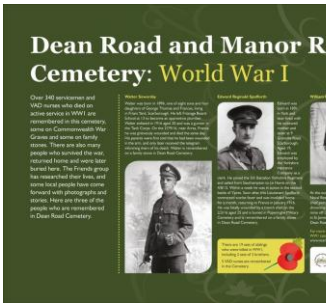


3-bay 4xA4 MmT (PTN)

Website: www.greenbarnes.co.uk

Fitzpatrick Woolmer Design & Publishing Ltd

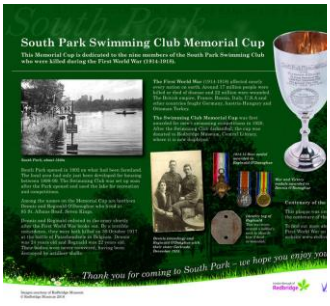
Four finished interpretation/memorial boards supplied directly by Fitzpatrick Woolmer as examples of their design work – the most directly comparable samples of all four suppliers, since this is bespoke content they wrote and laid out, not just product photography.



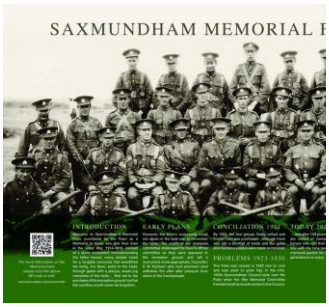
Dean Road & Manor Road Cemetery, WWI board



Kippax War Memorial board



South Park Swimming Club Memorial Cup



Saxmundham Memorial Field board

Website: www.fwdp.co.uk