

**Proposed decision to be taken by the
Deputy Leader
on or after 19 December 2014**

Disposal of Firearms by Warwickshire Museum

Recommendation

That the Deputy Leader:

- 1) approves the disposal of the firearms in Warwickshire Museum's collections listed in the appendix to this report,
- 2) gives permission to write to the Secretary of State to request permission to dispose of those firearms listed that fall under Section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968.
- 3) agrees that following the receipt of permission of the Secretary of State the Section 5 firearms be transferred to the Police Service for destruction.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Warwickshire Museum holds a number of historically and locally important firearms, including the guns made by Nicholas Paris in the late 17th to early 18th century.
- 1.2 The Museum also holds 141 firearms which came into the collections under the auspices of three amnesties during the 1960s and 1980s. These firearms fall outside the Museum's collecting remit and are not objects that it would wish to include in displays or other interpretative activities or retain in the museum. In line with Warwickshire Museum's Collections Development policy we wish to start the process of de-accessioning this latter group of guns (as listed in the appendix to this report) from the museum collection and disposing of them in accordance with Home Office legislation where applicable and with the Museums Association Code of Ethics.
- 1.3 Firearms are categorised into three groups. Holders of such items are required to have a gun licence from the Home Office. These categories are set out in the Firearms Act 1968. They are:

Section 1 – Antiques

Section 2 – Sporting Guns

Section 5 – Dangerous Weapons (Albeit de-activated)

- 1.4 For Section 1 and 2 firearms Warwickshire Museum would seek advice from the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds and undertake the disposal in accordance with Home Office Regulations and the Museums Association Code of Ethics and Disposal Toolkit. Although they would make no contribution to the Warwickshire collection, they may have some general historical or other legitimate interest to other collectors.
- 1.5 The disposal of Section 5 firearms is more complicated. These are deemed “prohibited” weapons. Before the County Council can dispose of them it must write to the Secretary of State and obtain his permission to do so. Having obtained permission from the Secretary of State the County Council has two options. These are:
- A. Sell the firearms. However, these firearms (which include, for example, sawn-off shotguns) have little or no value for legitimate collectors and sale would be uneconomic in view of the legal, security and administrative difficulties as well as having unacceptable reputational implications. Professional dealers are unlikely to be interested in disposing of these firearms on our behalf.
- B. Transfer the firearms to the Police for destruction.
- 1.6 It is understood at the time of writing that there would be no cost to the authority of destruction by the Police (Option B).

2.0 Conclusion

- 2.1 Warwickshire Museum is seeking to dispose of the amnesty firearms because they have very little, if any, provenance and the fact that they come from amnesties means they were potentially illegally held originally. These firearms have no historical significance, or any significance for Warwickshire and the Section 5 firearms are dangerous weapons (albeit currently de-activated) thus, these firearms fall outside of its collecting remit and are not objects that it would wish to include in displays or other interpretative activities (real or virtual), or retain in the Museum. The removal of the amnesty firearms from Warwickshire Museum’s collections will leave us with a small and well-defined group of historical firearms, which have a cohesive story to tell and which can be confidently used for telling some engaging stories from the county.

3.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 3.1 Following approval, the disposal of Section 5 firearms requires the holder to write to the Secretary of State to seek permission to proceed and the response can take up to three months.
- 3.2 Once permission has been received and after seeking advice, we would transfer the Section 5 firearms to the Police Service for disposal (through destruction).

Background papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Michelle Alexander	michellealexander@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: 01926 418127
Head of Service	Phil Evans	01926 412422
Strategic Director	Monica Fogarty	01926 412514
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Alan Cockburn	

Appendix A

Catalogue no	Accession no	Simple name	Details	Serial no	Calibre	Status	Location	Gun licence no
H2704	159/1966	Rifle	c1904 Winchester Model: Rim Fire 'automatic' rifle	37639	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	99
H2705	159/1966	Rifle	c.1900: J Hobson of Leamington Spa: Rook and Rabbit Rifle	G.7388	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	85
H2516	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Pistol	c1870: 'Woodward's 1863 Double-barrelled rim fire pocket pistol	No 1063 (marked Woodward's No 1063 Regd. 1863	Unknown	Unknown	HSS Shelf 4, Tray 15	53
H2517	1961/153/D	Pistol	c1870: American Arms Co, Boston, Mass: Double-barrelled rim fire pocket pistol	589	0.22 and .032	Unknown	HSS Shelf 4/Tray 15	52
H2518	1961/153/C	Pistol	c.1870 Sharps' four- barrelled rim fire pocket pistol	6492	0.22	Unknown	HSS Shelf 4/Tray 15	51
H2594	159/1966	Rifle	c. 1890: Lee-Enfield bolt action rifle	4615	0.22 (converted from 0.303)	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	73
H2595	159/1966	Rifle	c.1871-1910 Breech loading: Rim fire Martini action miniature or cadet rifle	015805	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	79
H2596	159/1966	Rifle	c.1871-1910 Breech loading rifle with Martini Action	14882	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 5	74

H2597	159/1966	Rifle	c. 1892 Marlin Firearms Co. Newhaven CT. USA: Breech loading rifle, Winchester action	246884	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 5	80
H2599	159/1966	Rifle	c.1911 Winchester 'Lightening' pump action miniature rifle	562402A	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 5	84
H2600	159/1966	Rifle	Unkwn date: Fabrique Nationale d'armes de guerre, Herstal, Belgique: Pump Action miniature rifle: Browning action	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	83
H2615	159/1966	Gun	Unkwn date: V.R. Enfield 1898 M.E. 303 ACII Martini-Henry 0.303 centrefire carbine	547C	0.303	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2618	159/1966	Rifle	c1903: Winchester 'Automatic': Semi-automatic, rim fire miniature rifle	91966	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	81
H2624	159/1966	Shotgun	Unkwn date: The Grange Gun Co., Hewell, Redditch: Single barrelled bolt-action shotgun	460 (on bolt)	0.410	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2625	159/1966	Rifle	Unkwn date: Hopkins and Allen Manfg. Co. Norwich, Connecticut USA: Single shot sporting rifle	1689	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	76
H2626	159/1966	Rifle	C1900-1925: Liege, Belgium: Sporting or	4555	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	On licence renewal list:

			rook and rabbit rifle, single shot falling block operated by pump action of forestock					26.11.2012
H2627	159/1966	Rifle	Unknwn date: Birmingham: single shot rim fire bolt action rifle	14944	0.22	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	69
H2630	159/1966	Shotgun	Unknwn date: T. Wild, Birmingham: Double barrelled 12 bore shot gun (Hammer action) Birmingham proofed	8200	12 gauge	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2631	159/1966	Shot gun	Unknwn date: Edwin Ladmore, Hereford: Double barrelled 12 bore side by side shotgun. Hammer mechanism, breech loader	N/K	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2633	159/1966	Shotgun	Unknwn date: Midland Gun Company: 12 bore double barrelled side by side shot gun: Hammer mechanism	23431	14 and 13 gauge	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2634	159/1966	Shotgun	Unknwn date: Latham, London: 12 bore double barrelled, side by side shotgun.	N/K	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2635	159/1966	Shot gun	Unknwn date: A. Lancaster, London: 12 bore double barrelled shotgun. One of a pair	4073 1 (one of a pair)	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012

H2636	159/1966	Shot gun	Unkwn date: William Powell and Son, Birmingham: 12 bore double barrelled side by side shot gun	5904 2 (one of a pair)	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2639	159/1966	Shotgun/Rifle Referred as Dreilings	Unkwn date: G. Benz and Sohn, Kiel, Germany: Double barrelled shotgun/rifle 16 bore with a third rifled barrel known as a Dreilings	4382	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2640	159/1966	Shot gun	Unkwn date: Bennet (?), Oswestry 12 bore single barrel shot gun, Hammer mechanism, break action barrels	94991	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2641	159/1966	Shot gun	Unkwn date: G. Bate, Birmingham: 12 bore double barrelled side by side shot gun. Hammer mechanism, break action barrels	Unknown	Unknown	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2642	159/1966	Shot gun	Unkwn date: Liege, Belgium: 12 bore hammerless double barrelled side by side shotgun	30162	12B	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2678	159/1966/19	Pistol	c1917: Smith and Weeson, Springfield Mass, USA: double action service revolver	149719	0.45	Unknown	HSS/Shelf 5/Tray 19	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2554	159/1966/10	Pistol	c.1900 Fabrique Nationale, Herstal,	3963	0.32	Unknown	HSS Shelf 4/Tray 14	33

			Liege France: semi-automatic pistol, Browning patent design					
H2556	159/1966/8	Pistol	c. 1899: Webley, Birmingham: double action service revolver	93147	0.455	Unknown	HSS Shelf 5 Tray 21	31
H2559	159/1966/4	Pistol	Unknwn date: Liege, Belgium: Double barrelled target or saloon pistol	6779	0.410	Unknown	HSS Shelf 4, Tray 14	27
H2602	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Rifle	c.1885: Winchester, Newhaven Connecticut, USA: Under lever action rifle	9433	0.45	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	86
H2684	162/1964/24	Pistol	c.1902: Webley-Fosbery 'automatic' self-cocking revolver: break action self-ejecting mechanism	2732	0.455	Unknown	HSS Shelf 5, Tray 18	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2587	162/1964	Rifle	Unknwn date: BSA, Birmingham: Bolt Action Sporting Rifle, centre fire, magazine cut off, butt trap	10130	0.303	not loaded	HSS Rack 5	64
H2616	162/1964	Gun	Unknwn date: Birmingham, Martini-Henry, centrefire military carbine single shot breech loading gun.	Unknown	0.303	Not loaded	HSS Rack 4	58
H2534	On licence renewal list:	Pistol	c.1894: Webley, Birmingham: Webley patent service revolver	1765	0.450	Unknown	HSS Shelf 5, Tray 17	22

	26.11.2012		with holster. Inscribed "To R. Warshare 3 rd Lancers H.C. From G.G.F. Fagin in remembrance of Dotum Singh Toonda 11 March 1894"					
H2537	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Pistol	C1880-1900: Webley, Birmingham: double action police revolver with holster: centre fire: short barrel: 5 shot	101593	0.45	Unknown	Gun: HSS Shelf 4: Tray 13 Holster: HSS Shelf 6: Tray 23	19
H2553	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Pistol	C1875: S. Colt, USA: Colt centre fire revolver with holster double action. 6 shot cylinder with loading gate on right hand	4327	0.38	Unknown	HSS Shelf 6/Tray 25	21
H2558	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Pistol	C1879-1908: Smith and Weeson, Springfield Mass, USA. Double action revolver, swing out, side loading six shot cylinder	83981	0.38	Unknown	HSS Shelf 5, Tray 19	13
H2560	162/1964/8	Pistol	Unkwn date: S. Colt, USA: Colt revolver double action centrefire with carved wooden butt, six shot cylinder with loading gate on right hand side.	20464	0.45	Unknown	HSS Shelf 6: Tray 24	9

H2561	162/1964/2	Pistol	C1914-1918: Webley, Birmingham: Webley Mark VI double action service revolver: centre fire: Inscribed H.MACNABB LOVAT SCOUTS on butt	243249	0.455		HSS Shelf 5, Tray 18	2
H2562	162/1964/9	Pistol	Unknwn date: S Colt, USA: centrefire revolver: 6 shot cylinder: Spring loaded ejector: Double action	16311	0.45		HSS Shelf 5, Tray 19	10
H2563	162/1964/13	Pistol	Unknwn date: S. Colt, USA: single action centrefire pocket revolver, 5 shot chamber, sheathed trigger with no guard.	19526	0.38		HSS Shelf 6, Tray 24	14
H2565	162/1964/3	Pistol	C1904: Webley and Scott, Birmingham: semi-automatic pistol (Navy model)	988	0.455		HSS Shelf 4, Tray 14	3
H2569	162/1964/6	Pistol	C1926: S Colt, Hartford, Connecticut USA: double action police revolver, centre fire, 6 shot, side loading.	645313	0.38		HSS Shelf 5, Tray 17	7
H2588	162/1964	Rifle	C1850-1900: Albini-Braendlin, France: Breech loading military rifle, centrefire, single shot, tip-up breech block, leaf sight.	G838	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	95

H2591	162/1964	Rifle	c.1917: Lee-Enfield, London: SMLE (Short Magazine Lee-Enfield) rifle, 1917 rifle, complete with web sling. 10 shot magazine capacity, bolt action.	U1138	0.303	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	60
H2592	162/1964	Rifle	C1914-1945: BSA, Birmingham: SMLE (Short Magazine Lee-Enfield): Centrefire: 10 round magazine capacity: peep scope and sight: bolt action	A050425	0.303	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	61
H2593	162/1964	Rifle	c.1883: Holland and Holland, London: Big game rifle: breech loading, centre fire, single shot. Inscribed 'Winners of all the field trials 1883'	8420	0.50	Not loaded	HSS Rack 5	96
H2601	162/1964	Rifle	c.1867: Remington Arms Co. Ilion, New York USA: Breech loading rifle, single shot, rolling block action	Unknown	0.44	Not loaded	HSS Rack 3	98
H2605	162/1964	Rifle	Unknwn date: Holland and Holland, London: Sporting rifle or Rook and Rabbit Rifle, break action octagonal barrel	13123	0.295	Not loaded (Safety catch does not work)	HSS Rack 1	90

			with self-ejector, peep scope, foresight for 15 yards					
H2607	162/1964	Rifle	Unknwn date: Blisset and Son, Liverpool: Sporting rifle or Rook and Rabbit rifle: break action breech	8371	0.45	Not loaded	HSS Rack 5	100
H2632	162/1964	Shot gun	Unknwn date: T. Conway, Manchester: 12 double barrellled, side by side, shotgun operated by under lever	131	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012	Not loaded	HSS Rack 6	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2675		Gun	C1897: S. Colt, Hartford Connecticut USA, semi-automatic rimless pistol with Browning action, centre fire, cartridge clip in grip	4189	0.38		HSS Shelf 6, Tray 25	On licence renewal list: 26.11.2012
H2692		Pistol	c.1914 to 1918: Mauser, Oberndorf am Neckar, Germany: self loading automatic pistol, centrefire. 10 shot magazine, adjustable near sight	52845	9mm		HSS Shelf 4, Tray 12	42
H2693		Pistol	From 1851, S. Colt, New York USA, 'Navy' single action percussion revolver with steel barrel and mechanism, hinged compound rammer.	186697	.36		HSS Shelf 3, Tray 8	44

H2694		Pistol	From 1932, Enfield, London. Enfield No 2 Mark 1 double action military revolver with steel barrel and mechanism, Bakelite grips. Centrefire	B3227	.38		HSS, Shelf , Tray 21	41
H2695		Pistol	C1917, G. Luger, Germany: DMW 08 Luger semi-automatic pistol, steel barrel and mechanism, wood grips	4711e	9mm		HSS: Shelf 4: Tray 12	43
H2696		Pistol	c.1939: Enfield, Middlesex, Enfield no 2 Mk1 double action military revolver.	Unknown	Unknown		HSS: Shelf 5: Tray 21	40
H2703		Pistol	c.1875-1900: E.Woods, Waterloo Road, London: Single shot, rimfire target pistol	Unknown	.22		HSS: Shelf 4: Tray 16	39

Total of Section 5 firearms transferred via the 1961, 1965-1966 amnesties and 1988 Museums Consortium: 59