

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET
27th OCTOBER 2009

Bewdley Museum Annual Report 2009

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	Stronger Communities
CORPORATE PLAN AIM:	A Better Quality of Life
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Marcus Hart
DIRECTOR:	Director of Community and Partnership Services, Linda Collis
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APPENDICES:	Appendix 1 Bewdley Museum Annual Report 2009

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider and endorse the Bewdley Museum Annual Report 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE:

- 2.1 **To endorse the Bewdley Museum Annual Report March 2009.**
- 2.2 **To note the various projects that took place during 2008/2009 in relation to the Heritage Lottery funded redevelopment of the site, including a new Tea Shop, new craft workshops, exhibitions, toilets, brass foundry, education room, signage, interpretation, design, security and access issues.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The District Council is the trustee of Bewdley Museum and receives the Annual Report of the organisations work as part of good practice processes.
- 3.2 As part of the Museum's Constitution the Museum Management Committee is required to ensure that proper liaison is affected with Wyre Forest District Council, Bewdley Town Council, the Museums, Libraries and Archives (MLA) Council, West Midlands and all other relevant organisations.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Despite the Museum closing part of the site one month early in September admissions have continued to rise. The free admission provided a total of 93,491 visitors during the season compared to 92,519 in the previous year.
- 4.2 The Friends of the Museum continue to offer invaluable support in many ways including administration of the donations, active fund raising, stewarding galleries, brass rubbings and summer workshop activities assistance with the research, air raid shelter wardens and local publicity. Opening of the Air Raid Shelter has been a great success.
- 4.3 £480,000 was secured from the HLF in December 2007, the overall project budget being £648,348 including £96,000 match funding from Wyre Forest District Council and a further £15,000 secured from various organisations, additional grants and external funding totalled £12,301.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal or policy implications arising from this report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising for the Council from this report.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The 2009 Bewdley Museum Annual Report demonstrates the success of the site in attracting funding, increasing visitor numbers and developing exciting facilities for the future sustainability of the Museum. The museum development has contributed significantly to the vibrancy of the town and it is envisaged that the continued development of activity will have a positive impact on the town's success.

9. CONSULTEES

Corporate Management Team
Councillor Marcus Hart, Cabinet Member for Community and Partnership Services.