

Cherwell District Council

Executive Meeting

1 February 2016

Banbury Museum Trust Development

Report of Director of Operational Delivery

This report is public

Purpose of report

The Chairman and the Director of the Banbury Museum Trust will present to members an update on progress made since the formation of the Trust and outline the emerging plans for development both of the site and the programme

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the report.
- 1.2 To support the development plans of the Banbury Museum Trust.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 Banbury Museum moved 15 years ago to its current, purpose-built location, in Banbury Town Centre and connected to Castle Quay shopping centre. In that time it has built a reputation for excellent education work and interesting temporary exhibitions. The footfall averages at around 250,000 visitors a year.
- 2.2 On November 1 2013, the management of the Museum transferred from Cherwell District Council to the newly formed Banbury Museum Trust. Over the last two years, the Trust Board has been planning and identifying new ways of working and presenting the Museum to the public. This report serves a backdrop to the presentation the Trust will make at the meeting

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 In line with the stated development plans for the Canalside area and the Spiceball area, the Trust intends to keep pace with the changing face of the canalside in Banbury and will have plans to share with Members

- 3.2 Marketing and communication are significant elements of any destination / visitor attraction and since its move to charitable status the Trust has made a significant investment of resource and fundraising activity to secure improved marketing. The presentation will outline the impact these changes have made
- 3.3 Fundraising and increasing the ambition of the temporary exhibition programme have been a focus for the Trust and the presentation will expand on the success achieved to date and the Trust's plans for the future.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 Banbury Museum is entering into the next exciting phase to provide residents with a first class Museum service that builds upon the strong foundations and sound financial management established by Cherwell District Council and capitalises on the wider range of possibilities now available as a charitable trust with a strong and committed independent board. Supporting the development plans of the Trust aligns with the corporate growth objectives of The Council

5.0 Consultation

The development plans for Banbury Museum have been undertaken in consultation with partners and funded by Arts Council England. Member input and response to the presentation is welcomed.

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: Not agree the development plan. That will be a matter for the Executive to determine. To date, officer and Lead Member support has been given. There is also a need to be mindful of the fact that the development plan is not the Council's but the Council as landlord does have an influence.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

- 7.1 As the report is about a presentation, there are no financial implications arising. Should there be financial implications arising from the content of the presentation, relevant advice will be provided at the meeting.

Comments checked by:

Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement, 01295 221634;

paul.sutton@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Legal Implications

- 7.2 As the report is about a presentation, there are no legal implications arising. Should there be legal implications arising from the content of the presentation, relevant advice will be provided at the meeting.

Comments checked by:

Kevin Lane, Head of Law & Governance, 01295 221661,
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8.0 Decision Information

Key Decision

Financial Threshold Met: No

Community Impact Threshold Met: No

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

District of Opportunity

- The development of Banbury Town Centre as a destination
- The development of the cultural offer for residents and visitors

Lead Councillor

Councillor Tony Illot, Lead Member for Public Protection

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
None	None
Background Papers	
None	
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