

TITLE OF REPORT: Annual Update on Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums and Beamish Museum

REPORT OF: Darren Collins, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources

SUMMARY

This report provides a summary update on the work of Beamish Museum and Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums.

Purpose of the Report

1. To highlight how the financial contributions that the Council makes to Beamish Museum and Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM) are used and the benefits to Gateshead. The report also provides an update on the new governance arrangements at TWAM.

Background

2. The Council provides financial contributions towards Beamish Museum and TWAM on an annual basis. Beamish is provided with a cash contribution of £5,000 whereas two separate amounts support the management of Shipley Art Gallery by TWAM on behalf of the Council. The Council holds a maintenance budget of £29,700 for Shipley Art Gallery which is used as required. It also provides TWAM with annual contribution to operate the gallery which was £227,770 in 2016/17 and is £202,770 in 2017/18.

Benefits

3. Beamish Museum has confirmed that 50 schools from Gateshead visited in 2017 as part of 45,513 school children from across the region and beyond. Gateshead's contribution of £5,000 therefore could be equated to £100 per school and allows a significant proportion of Gateshead schoolchildren to visit Beamish. In 2016, 51 schools from Gateshead visited.
4. TWAM has indicated that from April 2017 to February 2018 there have been 27,405 visits to Shipley Art Gallery with 5,890 visits as part of school trips. Talks and events have taken place throughout this period which has included a Gateshead Art Society Exhibition, Mystery at the Shipley, Gallery built in Wartime and the History of Shipley. Learning activities have included Jewish Family Craft sessions, Big Crafty Family Event and LGBT Project North East education day.

TWAM Governance

5. Following the Governance Review of TWAM by Womble Bond Dickinson (WBD) in 2014 it was agreed to establish a Strategic Board to lead TWAM's governance and a new trading company to manage TWAM's commercial activity – TWAM Enterprises Ltd.
6. Rt Hon Baroness Joyce Quin was appointed as Chair of the Strategic Board and took up her role in September 2017. The Board includes four other independent members and 6 elected members from the four Tyneside local authorities. The Board has met three times and already proved a strong asset to TWAM providing both support and challenge. The Board approved the Business Plan for TWAM for 2018-22 which has enabled the confirmation of Arts Council England funding for the period 2018-22.
7. Members of the Board have been actively involved with TWAM, attending events and activities, attending the TWAM Staff Conference and participating in a shared induction programme with members of the TWAM Development Trust and the TWAM Audit Committee.
8. The TWAM Development Trust is an independent charity which exists to fundraise for TWAM and allows TWAM to access significant philanthropic income. Following the completion of his term of office by the founding Chair, Ivor Stolliday, an advertisement was placed for a new Chair and Peter Judge was appointed as the new Chair in December 2017. Peter Judge is a former Head of Legal for ONE North East and a former Attorney General of the Falkland Islands.
9. TWAM Enterprises Ltd has been registered as a company at Companies House and it is planned that the company will 'go live' at 1 May 2018. Cllr Angela Douglas is the Strategic Board's nomination as a Director for TWAM Enterprises. Following open advertisement Geoff Hodgson has been appointed as Chair of TWAM Enterprises Ltd by the shareholders (the four Tyneside local authorities and Newcastle University). Geoff Hodgson has a strong background in the hospitality industry and is a very experienced Non-Executive Director.

Recommendation:

10. Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to comment on how the financial contributions have been utilised by Beamish Museum and TWAM. .

Contact: Lindsay Murray.

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Appendix 1

Shipley Art Gallery

Performance	Talks and Events	Learning
<p><i>In-person Visits:</i> 27,405</p> <p><i>Visits by School Children with their School:</i> 5,890</p>		
Exhibitions		
<p>Companion Pieces (18 February 2017 – 21 April 2018)</p>		
<p>A Gallery Built in Wartime (November 2017 – 31 March 2018)</p>		
Acquisitions		
<p>The Shipley has been gifted a sculptural ceramic work by Nao Matsunaga, titled 'Sometime Fountain' (2016). The work has been acquired through the Contemporary Art Society's Craft Acquisitions Scheme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of Big Craft family events. • Gallery built in Wartime • Community Garden planning • Elaine Cusack poetry & writing project • Blaydon Races pamphlet • History of the Shipley talks • Gateshead Art Society exhibition and demonstration event • Low Fell Choir • Christmas Hygge events • Sensory Tour • Craft, Coffee and cake tours • Mystery at the Shipley • Alternate music Saturdays • Create This, women's art group • Brundibar Arts festival • Jewish Community talk, Past and present • Express yourself Writing event • U3A behind the Scenes tours • Slow museums • Muddy Fingers • Syrian family group • Richard Bliss perfect shirt project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish Family Craft activities • Big Crafty Family event February half term • Family Trail launched for centenary 100 objects • Community groups, existing craft groups plus new Saltwell Park Model Boat Club • Creative Age: Dementia work with Equal Arts • LGBT Project North East education day • Centenary Ceramic Gateshead Schools Project • Centenary in school assemblies developed as part of the HLF funded centenary programme • New schools craft workshops have been developed including Mosaic, Felt making, Proggy, Sewing and Clay. • Digital E-textiles learning programme • Teacher CPD programme