

Report to: Joint Museums Committee, 26th October 2023

Report of: Museums Manager

Subject: TICKENHILL COLLECTION TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

1. Recommendation

1.1 That the Joint Museums Committee approve the annual report for the Tickenhill Collection 2022-23, for submission to the Charity Commission.

2. Background

2.1 Museums Worcestershire supports the working of the Tickenhill Collection Trust, registered charity 527509, as part of its management of the Worcestershire County Museum. The collection was the foundation of the museum and holds around a third of the County Council's Museum collection.

2.2 The sole trustee of this charity is Worcestershire County Council. In November 2021, to enable Worcestershire County Council to better meet the Charity Commission's reporting requirements for the Tickenhill Collection Trust, the Joint Committee adopted the procedure of an annual review of the trust's activities.

3. Preferred Option

3.1 The appended annual report gives committee members an oversight of the Trust's activities in 2022-23, which are in line with its charitable purpose.

3.2 Both income and expenditure for the Trust in 22-23 were nil, with work undertaken by volunteers and supported by staff funded by Worcestershire County Council.

3.3 The Tickenhill Collection continues to be managed and cared for as part of the wider Worcestershire County Museum collection. As previously noted by this committee, the upcoming lease-end dates at the County Museum and the Collections Store will impact on the Tickenhill Collection and the Council's trustee responsibility has been considered within that decision planning. There is an opportunity for the Tickenhill Collection to take a lead at the Collections Store, and this will be integrated into the negotiation of a new store lease.

4. Alternative Options Considered

4.1 The Joint Museums Committee could recommend to Worcestershire County Council that the Tickenhill Collection Trust be closed and the assets transferred. The charity's governing document does not include a dissolution clause, and so this option would require additional legal advice and further review.

It would also remove the opportunity for the advantages of charitable status to be applied to the museum store.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial and Budgetary Implications

There are no financial implications to the preferred option. The alternative option would require additional resourcing.

5.2 Legal and Governance Implications

Following the 2021 review of the Tickenhill Collection charity, the Council adopted appropriate procedures, of which this annual report is one, to meet its legal and governance responsibilities for the charity.

5.3 Risk Implications

There are no risk implications to the preferred option.

5.4 Corporate/Policy Implications

There are no corporate or policy implications for either council to the preferred option.

5.5 Equality Implications

There are no equality implications to the preferred option.

5.6 Human Resources Implications

There are no human resource implications to the preferred option. As the Tickenhill Collection is managed alongside the County Collection, human resources are managed together.

5.7 Health and Safety Implications

There are no H&S implications to the preferred option. As the Tickenhill Collection is managed alongside the County Collection, health and safety are managed together, with advice from Worcestershire County Council's H&S advisor.

5.8 Social, Environmental and Economic Implications

The Tickenhill Collection includes items that tell the story of Worcestershire, particularly its rural workers. As with all the museum collections, these stories have social, economic and environmental value. However, there are no specific implications to the preferred option.

Ward(s):

All wards

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Supporting Papers:

Appendix: Tickenhill Collection Annual Report 2022-23