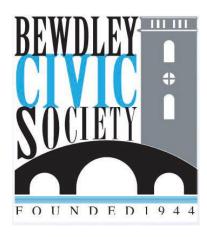


THE BEWDLEY SCHOOL FOUNDATION

Alis volamus propriis







Public Meeting Wednesday 8th March 2023

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The Bewdley School is a Foundation School. This is a type of school in which:

- 1. The governing body is the admissions authority for the school (the local authority manages admissions for year 7 then governors thereafter)
- 2. The governors employ the staff (not the local authority)
- 3. The land and buildings are owned by the governing body if there is no attached Foundation, and by the Foundation if there is.

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The Bewdley School is an 11-18 secondary school, opened on the site of the 13-18 Bewdley High School in 2007.

It opened as a Local Authority Community School, but became a Foundation School in 2008. At that time it's Foundation or Trust was ContinU Trust. For complex reasons related to the dual use leisure agreement, the land transfer was never completed and the land registry still show Worcester County Council as the land owner.

As schools left ContinU to join multi-academy trusts, ContinU was dissolved on 13th July 2021, so no longer exists.



The Bewdley School Foundation was formed as a charitable private limited company (company number 14025726) on 5th April 2022.

It is a partnership between The Bewdley School, Bewdley Festival and Bewdley Civic Society. There are also community members who have been appointed as Directors of the Foundation, in addition to 2 Directors appointed by each of the partners. The rationale behind forming the Foundation, published in our statutory proposal was:

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"The rationale for acquiring the Trust is to create a vehicle for developing the school estate for the mutual benefit of students at the school and members of the Bewdley community. This will include developing facilities for the arts, sports and exercise and improving, enhancing or providing new large spaces or halls within the school in relation to the provision of these facilities."

Problems we need to resolve

For the School, the Community and the Town:

- Inadequate parking and traffic management on Stourport Road.
- Poor and outdated sports facilities for both the school and the town.
- Lack of indoor large spaces in school.
- No 'home' for Bewdley Festival.
- Safeguarding issues with shared use of sports fields for school and community.







The current status of Bewdley Leisure Centre

- During the late 1980's, Wyre Forest District Council (WFDC) agreed with Hereford and Worcester County Council to build a leisure centre on the school sports fields:
 - A 125 year lease with a first break clause at 40 years was agreed in 1990.
 - A dual use agreement giving school priority during school time was also agreed.
 - The land is owned by the County Council and leased by the District Council.
 - When transfer completes, it will be owned by The Bewdley School Foundation.
- The Foundation is currently negotiating to take both leisure and youth centre into the school estate, so that they can be held and improved for community use.



Phase 1

Reinstate Bewdley Youth Centre as The Will Mills Centre, with The William Mills Foundation. Support from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

Grant of £200,000 refurbished the centre and will employ a manager for the next 5 years.





Phase 2

Develop Bewdley Leisure Centre as a public amenity:

- Create a circular carpark with around 200 vehicle capacity and bus drop-off bays
- Create a broad perimeter dog-walk around the sports fields giving riverside access and space to run
- Refurbish the existing leisure centre and if feasible, install a mezzanine floor creating a modern gym and fitness suite
- Build a 6-badminton court sports hall and extend the changing facilities to meet the anticipated increased demand



Phase 3

Build a 500 seat performing arts centre at the





Dog walking

We are very keen to ensure that there is somewhere for dogs to walk and exercise.

It is our plan to create a broad dog walk around the perimeter of the sports field, which is wide enough for dogs to run and for those who are not friends to avoid one another.

We must also keep the sports fields clean of dog waste, for school and community use.

Fflei and Rufus









Positive outcomes

For the School, the Community and the Town:

- Improve the school parking and decrease congestion/disruption on Stourport Road
- Modern sports and leisure facility for the school and the town
- Large meeting space for the school for meetings, lessons and theatre studies
- Home for Bewdley Festival with a community theatre, creating the largest meeting space in the town
- Improve the safety of the site for our children
- Improved landscaping and environmental improvements
- A development the town can be proud of











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