



# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB  
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## COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY</b>	Museum in the Park (Stroud District (Cowle) Museum Trust)
<b>DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020 (apologies given for meeting) – report based on meeting papers, minutes and update from Museum Development Manager
<b>BRIEF REPORT</b>	<p>In addition to opening the Walled Garden and the temporary exhibition '<a href="#">Lost in Time</a>' the Museum team opened a further temporary exhibition in October called '<a href="#">Same Sea, Different Boat</a>' - A collaborative project which celebrates our creativity in a time of unexpected crisis.</p> <p>The Museum team have continued to work with other community based organisations to support activities. This has included the Stroud Theatre Festival, Stroud Local History Society book launch, Stroud International Textiles' SELECT Trail (the main exhibition being held in the Learning Pavilion) and Stroud Book Festival (providing video exploring rare books in the collection). The Museum also launched their first online talk series, a four part 'Arts and Crafts in Cotswold Churches'.</p> <p>During Half-Term the Museum devised a number of activities that could be undertaken outdoors within the Park. Despite the weather a good number of people engaged in socially distanced bulb planting, picked up a heritage trail or the newly launched tree trail (which is also available on the Museum website <a href="#">here</a>). The Museum also worked with Stroud Valleys Project to deliver the annual pumpkin competition.</p> <p>The Museum has been working to develop a Covid-Secure way of opening the mansion and access to the permanent displays. The risk assessment identified that the best method was through booked guided tours. Just prior to lockdown they launched these successfully and aim to resume when they are permitted to. The daily tours are led by either volunteers, casual or permanent staff – providing a mix of themes to cater for different audiences.</p> <p>Visitor figures remain low due to restrictions (and as a consequence earned income).</p>



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	<p>As ever, the Museum team have continued to stay on top of changing guidance and adjusting provision as required, which more recently required them to close the Museum from 5<sup>th</sup> November.</p> <p>The Museum team prepared a number of online activities in anticipation of another lockdown, highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ‘Meet the Curator’ returned to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November.</li><li>• Social Media Campaign using the Wilf Merrett postcard collection.</li><li>• Supporting the national Twitter campaign #MuseumsUnlocked</li><li>• Re-promoting Try at Home Craft Activities which are available on the Museum website: <a href="https://museuminthepark.org.uk/try-at-home-craft-activities">https://museuminthepark.org.uk/try-at-home-craft-activities</a>.</li><li>• Promoting the Big Green Draw Climate of Change – with activities that can be undertaken at home: <a href="https://museuminthepark.org.uk/big-draw-climate-of-change">https://museuminthepark.org.uk/big-draw-climate-of-change</a></li><li>• Putting the recently launched Stratford Park Tree Guide on the website: <a href="https://museuminthepark.org.uk/stratford-park">https://museuminthepark.org.uk/stratford-park</a></li></ul> <p>Following successful funding reported previously, the museum has delivered its first remote learning with primary schools. This involves ‘blended’ learning using a loans-box and live streaming and pre-recorded content being delivered in the classroom. This will continue during the current (and any future) lockdowns. The equipment purchased has also been put to good use on other work, such as the film for Stroud Book Festival.</p> <p>The Garfield Weston Foundation have made an award of £6,000 to the Stroud District (Cowle) Museum Trust for the new free-to-join Supporter Scheme. All match-funding has been secured and a revised submission for the remaining amount can now made to Art Council England’s National Lottery Project Grants which they have re-launched following suspension to deal with the Covid-19 emergency.</p>
<b>REPORT SUBMITTED BY</b>	Cllr Nigel Prenter
<b>DATE</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> November 2020