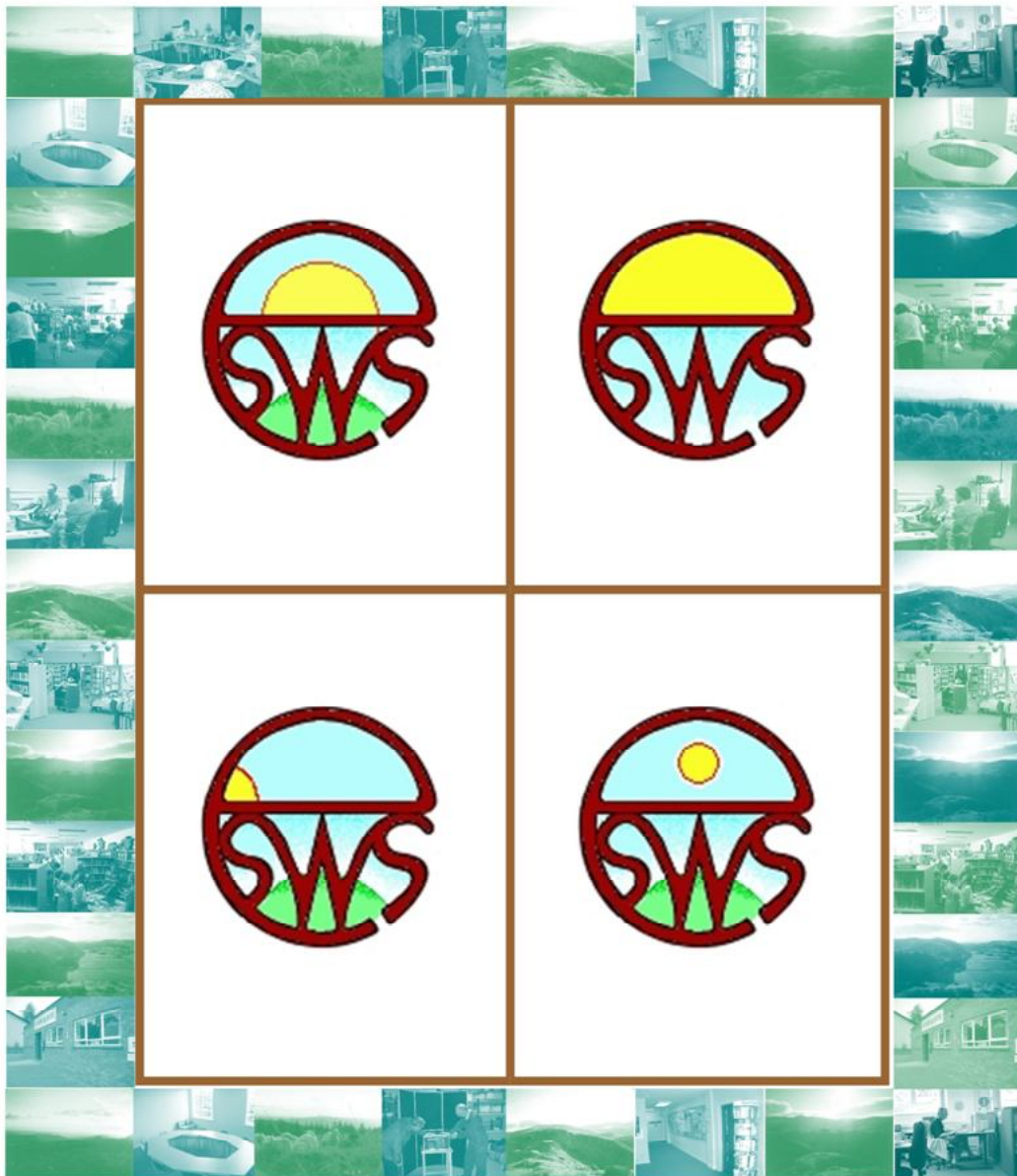




ENTERPRISE
south west shropshire



Enterprise South West Shropshire
Annual Report 2008-2009

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Chairman's Comment

2008 was a year of Change for the Company. Our Chief Executive resigned and this led to a re-evaluation of the roles of the existing staff and we heard that Shropshire was to move to a Unitary Authority in 2009.

Both of these situations gave rise to new challenges that perhaps diverted the company from its real aims as time was spent on local re-organisation. I am pleased to report that the company and its staff coped admirably with both of these changes and we now have a leaner more focused structure that can lead South West Shropshire into the new authorities tenure and offer Shropshire Council a local delivery structure for any plans it may have.

I must thank all of the Staff of the Company not least the outgoing Chief Executive, Dr Iain Skewis who worked tirelessly on our behalf and often at most unsocial hours at the drop of hat as well as Mike Ashwell and the Enterprise House team for whom no task is ever too small or too big.

We also must record our thanks to SSDC and SCC and their officers for all the support that they have given and continue to give be it financial or advisory.

The year ahead will be another challenging one as we seek to find new tenants for the Units at Enterprise House following the departure of Embrey's. We will deliver on the Artificial Pitch at Sparc now that positive overtures have been received from the Football Foundation and continue to maximise our Income from the IT Centre and look for new revenue opportunities in the area at large.

The Board

In this year 4 directors resigned and one new director was recruited. This indicates an urgent need to recruit new, engaged and interested members.

For most of this year the Board has operated in a two-track manner. The new Executive meeting bi-monthly and the main Board meeting every 4 months. The Board is aware that its numbers have diminished and will attempt to resolve this issue in the autumn.

Mike Ashwell's role has changed to Company Manager; effectively engaging more with the Board. Gail Pickford is now the Company Secretary in addition to her role as the Company Administrator and Sarah Ellison's role as the Company's financial controller has been fully recognised. The roles of the Village Outreach team remain unchanged.

The Board are now more keenly aware of their role as Directors and in particular their necessary loyalty to the Company. The issue of the Regeneration Company and Company loyalty became so intense that one of our Board tendered his resignation.

The Building

Workshops

This year learned that Embreys would terminate their lease of the 6 workshop units, the office and loading area (as of 30 June 2009). This leaves the whole workshop area needing a new tenant. This is in limbo while we wait to learn whether the buildings will be returned to their former condition and whether ESWS or the new Unitary Authority will deal direct with any future tenants. Whatever happens it seems that there may be a delay between the departure of one and the arrival of another. This has serious implications for the Company's income stream.

Offices

With money allocated to ESWS by local councillors a new office was built on the South side of the main building. The Village Outreach team have moved in and their existing office in the lobby will be taken over by Shropshire County as the base for the new Customer First point in Bishops Castle.

The other offices are fully let to, Dial-a-Ride, Hunter International Associates, Housing Association, Registrar of Births Marriages and Deaths, Ian Edwards Electrical, Lightfoot / BC land Trust.



Statutory Services

The Library, Mobile Library, Registrar, Housing Association and Customer First point mean that Enterprise House has become the main location for the access of a wide range of services that would otherwise be either disparate or unavailable in the area.

IT Centre and Village Outreach Project

(covered in the next section)

Enterprise South West Shropshire

General

The Company Continues to be a significant player in the area providing a wide range of services and support to the community and the economy. The two main delivery mechanisms, IT Centre and Village Outreach continue in their work. Our direct delivery of funded projects via AWM and GOWM have completed but we still bear the responsibility to report and account for these and are currently disputing an order to repay £4k due to a minor infringement of their payment/claim rules.

IT Centre

The Centre has kept to the same opening hours and the same delivery of services as in the past but with some changes of focus and staff time.

We have an increasing influence within the Business Community as it has now become accepted that ESWS manages the local Business Network with quarterly meetings, the searchable web site and our lobby notice boards. Some £12k has been voted to both ESWS/Biz to support and recruit new members during 2009/10 and we represent the business community on the Shropshire Board of Affiliated Chambers.

The Centre staff continues to produce low cost/volume publications for our customers with such notable items as the Mainstone WI Cookbook and the very popular local walking guides for the Tourism Group.

Spotlight as the local events listing has expanded into a 12th issue and we now highlight events on the screen in our lobby.

Village Outreach Project

This project is now in it's 11th year and still provides a wide range of event enhancing equipment to the wider area. The equipment is kept in pristine and safe working condition by our storekeeper keeping the cost of repair and replacement down to the minimum.

This year saw the team take on the management of a mobile skate ramp and more soft-play equipment in a partnership project with SSDC and Big Lottery Funds. The skate ramp is delivered and assembled free of charge to local Villages where they do not have these facilities and the soft play is similarly distributed to local play groups. The management fees come to the Village outreach team.

We have also acquired 2 more pop-up shelters to facilitate medium size events or to act as 'weather insurance' shelters. These are similar to the very popular Market Stalls that we manage on behalf of the Town Council.



Village Outreach Staff- Duncan Burns,
John Lucas & John Downing



IT Resource Centre Staff- Sarah Ellison,
Gail Pickford & Elizabeth Ronan



IT Resource Centre Manager- Mike Ashwell

Partnership Working

ESWS prides itself in the different partnerships that it participates. Locally we work with many different groups to help them achieve goals that might be otherwise impossible or difficult. Examples include: Crowgate Business Plan, websites for Town Councils of Bishops Castle & Craven Arms, Tourism Group, Business Network, Marches Community Enterprise, BC Land Trust. Farmers Market Stalls (Town Council), Training (Tourism Group and Local Parish Plans), Training for Adults with Disabilities (CastleHaven / Gateway), Business Plan Consultation with Cleobury Country, Stonehouse Hospital (funding presentation), assistance to Bishops Castle Broadband Collective, Training for SSDC officers and members.

Appendix A - Outputs

The Company projected the following outputs for this year. The actual numbers are shown alongside and the 2009/10 projections.

2008-9	Projected 08-09	Actual 08-09	Projected 09-10
Users of ESWS Services	14,000	16,800	18,000
Business users supported in IT Centre	3,500	4,200	4,500
Total visits to the building	unknown	45,100	47,000
Users on Training Schemes	120	125	120
Letting offices filled	100%	100%	100%
Meeting Room & Training Room events	160	232	230
Village Outreach hires	175	165	175
V. O. Beneficiaries	32,000	34,000	35,000
Referrals to other agencies	200	250	250
Company earnings as % of revenue budget	85%	80.5%	85%
Business support via 1 to 1 consultancy	45	200	200
Business network events secretariat	4	4	4
Business network website created & maintained	1	1	1
Business network noticeboard	2	2	2
Community groups support via IT centre services	50	48	50
Community groups networking	20	19	20
Bishops Castle Tourism website managed & maintained	1	1	1
Local information Boards Maintained	3	3	3
External training support (for other agencies)(days)	22	27	25
Events promoted via Spotlight	900	1200	1200
Production & distribution of Spotlight magazine	12	12	12

Appendix B Income & Expenditure

<u>Income</u>	Budget	Actual
	End year	End year
	2009/10	2008/2009
	£	£
Centre Income		
IT Centre	45,000.00	49,510.51
Rental Income		
Embrey's	2,708.94	11,738.64
Library	6,739.92	6,739.87
Housing Association	2,039.40	1,979.97
Dial a Ride	1,819.80	1,636.48
Wasteless	509.85	1,825.70
Chris Russell/Ian Edwards	2,039.40	1,990.28
Registrars	2,513.20	2,440.00
Hunter International	2,039.40	1,930.14
Tenant		
Elec usage - Emb	2,000.00	24,038.22
Elec usage - Lib	2,000.00	1,926.47
Water usage		2,861.32
Grants		
SCC	29,750.00	29,750.00
SSDC VO Skate Ramp £13277.50 over three years - per year = £4,425.00	4,425.00	4425
SSDC - Chall Court		816
SCC - Comm Info Point	4,500.00	4500
Final receipt Learn Direct		232.86
Shropshire Chamber - BCBiz		550
SSDC - Business Grant		620
SSDC -TMS		5716.09
MTI (Business Network)	12000	
SSDC - Mgt Fee		
Other		
VO Income	13,000.00	13,135.72
Lib Mgt	1,920.00	1,570.86
Misc		
Projects		
Bank Interest	100.00	2,100.00
VO Bank Interest		29.78
TOTAL INCOME	135,104.91	172,063.91

<u>Expenditure</u>	Budget	Actual
	End year	End year
Staff Related	2009/2010	2008/2009
Wages	74,000.00	72,188.91
Village Outreach Wages	13,583.00	13,317.80
Consultancy		5,000.00
Casual Wages		266.80
Employers NI	6,500.00	6,358.43
Staff Training		
Employers Pension	3,100.00	2,568.06
Medical Expenses		25.00
Premises Related		
Security	250.00	220.00
Electricity	4,000.00	27,035.56
Water	1,000.00	2,583.23
Premises Expenses		
Oil	2,000.00	1,689.00
Other		
Advertising	750.00	704.42
Annual Maintenance	8,500.00	7,888.04
Audit/Accountancy	2,500.00	2,162.76
Stationery	7,000.00	6,498.40
Telephone	1,000.00	1,002.70
Postage	450.00	400.24
Hardware	1,000.00	1,494.86
Insurance	6,000.00	5,515.84
VO Repairs and renewals	500.00	501.00
Repairs/Renewals	1,500.00	904.22
Legal		
Refreshments	500.00	454.30
Repayment	3,943.00	
Subscriptions	500.00	506.11
Honorarium G Edge		100.00
Bank Charges	350.00	339.68
VO Bank Charges	150.00	146.90
VO Telephone	300.00	296.23
<i>MTI Expenditure</i>	5,000.00	
Projects		
MUGA		275.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	144,376.00	160,443.49
Surplus/Deficit	-9,271.09	11,620.42

Appendix C Directors as of 1st April 2009

Name	Represents
Mr C J Millard	Bishops Castle Chamber of Trade
Mr L Morgan	Southern Parishes
Mr M J K Smith	Clun Community Forum
Mr G Perry	Independent Member
Mr P F Phillips	Shropshire County Council
Mrs Jane Carroll	Bishops Castle Tourism Group
Professor Ray Pahl	Bishops Castle Community Forum
Rev. Paul Collins	Local Churches
Mrs Georgina Ellis	South Shropshire District Council
Mrs M Davidson-Stanley	Bishop's Castle Town Council
Mrs Anne Oakes-Jones *	South West Shropshire Mines Area Tourism Group

* Indicates New Member 2008

Resigned 2008

Mr Terry Hunt	Bishop's Castle Community College
Ms Angela Charlton	South Shropshire Voluntary Action
Sue Percy	Bishops Castle Arts Group
Richard Priest	South West Shropshire Mines Area Tourism Group
Iain Skewis	Enterprise South West Shropshire

Staff at 1 April 2009

Mike Ashwell	Company Manager (FT)
Sarah Ellison	Deputy and Financial Control (FT)
Gail Pickford	Company Secretary and Administrator (4/5)
John Lucas	Village Outreach Coordinator (2/5)
John Downing	Village Outreach Storekeeper
Elizabeth Ronan	IT Centre Assistant
Duncan Burns	Village Outreach Assistant & Cleaner