



WILTSHIRE & SWINDON SMARTPLACE PROGRAMME END PROJECT REPORT

Project name ePewsey

Version 1.0

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Introduction

1. The Wiltshire & Swindon Smartplace Programme developed from the decision in June 2002 by a range of public and voluntary sector partners in Wiltshire and Swindon to work together with BT to secure the benefits of broadband and related technology for the people and organisations of Wiltshire and Swindon. The programme aims to maximise the benefits from ICT and broadband technology for businesses, learners and communities across Wiltshire and Swindon. It will bring benefits for all sectors, both public and private, and voluntary and community, in a holistic way, with particular focus on delivering long term employability.
2. The programme comprises five themes: Business Development, Learning & Skills, Community Capacity Building, Broadband Infrastructure, and Marketing. Each of these themes will be implemented by means of a series of individual projects which, when taken as a whole, will realise the aims and objectives of the programme. This project forms part of the Community Capacity Building Theme
3. Pewsey was selected as one of the pilot sites for the Community Capacity Building theme because
 - 3.1. Pewsey had an active Community Trust already in place (Pewsey Area Community Trusts – PACT) which had developed and published a community plan that already ran community building projects
 - 3.2. PACT had already identified its ICT Champion and has an ICT strategy in place which compliments Smartplace
 - 3.3. PACT had the opportunity to combine funding from other organisations such as Kennet District Council to create a more sustainable resource in the community. Initially PACT sort a partnership with VAK to offer combined services for the public and then looked for other organisations which complimented ePewsey's objectives.
4. .

Project Objectives

5. The objectives of this project were:
 - 5.1. To develop a pilot for Community Capacity Building in Pewsey.
 - 5.2. To create a resource in the village (ePewsey) to promote wider community capacity building. This is located in a building in Pewsey High Street which meets the needs of the Smartplace project and takes advantage of other community activities being undertaken by PACT.
- 6.

Project Deliverables

7. The project's deliverables are:
 - 7.1. A high visibility presence for Smartplace in Pewsey High Street called ePewsey
 - 7.2. Positive publicity for Smartplace on launch of ePewsey
 - 7.3. A community access point in Pewsey comprising 4 broadband enabled terminals in a combined Smartplace / PACT centre
 - 7.4. PACT will develop plans with Smartplace partners to deliver the range of events that are scheduled for experience points (on a smaller scale.)

7.5. Contribution to the wider Smartplace objectives such as learning outcomes and business opportunities

8.

Achievement Against Objectives & Deliverables

9. ePewsey developed a Community Capacity pilot in the Pewsey High Street.

10. The Project met the needs of the Smartplace Project, whilst meeting the community activities undertaken by Pewsey Area Community Trusts (PACT)

11. The Project achieved a high visibility presence for Smartplace, and is considered a model centre for ICT in the community. The ePewsey launch created positive publicity for the Smartplace Programme on its launch day.

12. The centre has been equipped with 11 state of the art PC's all with free Broadband access, and 2 colour printers,

13. The client groups that ePewsey serves are from a wide spectrum of the population, including Youth, Silver Surfers, Non UK Nationals, being but a few examples.

14. Toby Keepence, the Centre Manager, is training to become an Adult Education Teacher, and Professional Trainer, this will allow Toby to Facilitate Training in House, in the future, thus ePewsey will be less reliant on outside sources for providing training.

15.

Conclusions

16. The project reached the target audience and exceeded the objectives set for it.

17. The success of the ePewsey Project makes it a viable working model for other similar centres.

18. ePewsey centre is administrated by a full time facilitator, this has had an impact on the centres success.

19. A working partnership with eTidworth to facilitate training courses has proven successful, and has helped build in some elements of sustainability, whilst creating good practice.

20. This is an access point for the whole community; it is serving Non UK Nationals, the youth with LAN parties, silver surfers, and keen learners alike.

21. The centre acts as a booking office for local community events, e.g. the village Carnival. It has become the "hub" of the village life

Recommendations

22. The overall success of the ePewsey Project and the ongoing demand for one on one taster sessions, the continual recruitment of willing volunteers and ICT courses demonstrates that there is an overwhelming demand for Facilitator led ICT and e learning in the Pewsey community.

23. Access to Free Broadband and ICT facilities, is essential to helping bridge the digital divide and enhance social inclusion in this rural area of Wiltshire.

24. Consequently all efforts should be made to secure follow on funding so that initiatives developed as a result of Smartplace can continue to benefit the Pewsey community