

- The relocation to High Lea Hall secures the Heritage Centres long term financial future as since the opening of the original site **many stakeholders have withdrawn** funding leaving NMTC as the sole financial provider.
- NMTC will **no longer be required to pay rent** for the current site as it owns the Hall.
- The **new location is larger** and will enable more artefacts to be displayed and retained.
- The new location has **scope to further expand** into the Victorian cellar and gardens.
- The new facility will have **better refreshment facilities** available to all park visitors. This will make the Park more attractive to the residents of the Town, boosting its use **and benefiting the health and well being of our residents and other societal benefits as residents interact.**
- The relocation removes the risk of being evicted from its current site, or suffering additional rent demands which was a threat some years ago.
- Since opening the current centre many cafes have opened in its vicinity. NMTC felt that it was unfair to subsidise a town centre Heritage Centre café with council funds in direct competition with these struggling local businesses.
- Over the years NMTC has had to fund repairs to the fabric of the current centre building as part of the lease arrangements. The spending of NMTC ratepayer funds to maintain someone else's property is not best use of the precept funds.
- The relocation enables High Lea Hall lower floor to be returned to its original decorative Victorian state **restoring it to its Victorian splendour.** Moreover, in future it will be maintained and overseen by NMTC. This removes the risk of a lower Hall tenant defaulting on their lease or damaging these premises.
- NMTC are requesting an additional bus stop be provided on St Marys to enhance access for residents and visitors of the Town.
- The new centre will attract increased visitor numbers which have fallen over time at the current location.
- The Town model is being moved by specialists to a location in the hall enabling access to clean its interior. At present the rear of the model cannot be accessed and as such the railway has not worked for many years due to track contamination

Finally, NMTC are dedicated to maintaining a Heritage Centre long term and this relocation delivers that strategy. The relocation makes financial sense and also enables expansion. New Mills is very fortunate to have this facility and its associated volunteers. NMTC is committed to expanding and developing the new site for residents, volunteers and all.

Please consider getting involved and becoming a volunteer In this exciting project!