



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Item 12 – Resources Committee 23rd
November 2022

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Date:	11 November 2022
Subject:	Blue Plaque – Stansfield View Hospital

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Todmorden Town Council support and involvement in the installation of a Blue Plaque commemorating Stansfield View Hospital.

Background

2. Gerard Wainwright, a Learning Disability Nurse and Service Manager employed by St Anne’s Community Services contacted the Town Clerk’s office to ask if the Town Council could offer any support for a new Blue Plaque commemorating the former Stansfield View Hospital.
3. Appended to this report is a paper written by Gerard outlining why a Blue Plaque is needed.
4. The Plaque would form part of a wider project to remember Stansfield View that Gerard is developing in his personal time. Additional elements of the project include the production of a short film and the creation of a website. A separate funding application for £3,000 towards production costs of the short film will be submitted to the Resources Committee on 23rd November.
5. Gerard would appreciate any support that the Council could offer with the Blue Plaque project, and he has indicated that he could arrange a crowd fund for the costs of the plaque.

Siting the Plaque

6. As there is no building associated with this project , other possible locations will need to be considered. An initial location idea is the boundary wall of the former Stansfield View site that remains in situ. This wall runs along the track that stretches from Lee Bottom Road to Sisley Lane.

Financials

7. The estimated total cost of fabricating and installing a Blue Plaque is £770 (ex VAT). This will cover the cost of the plaque which could be up to £570 (ex. VAT) depending on plaque size and installation costs of £200 (ex VAT) for a simple wall mounted installation.

Considerations

8. The Council could consider the following options:
 - **Fully funding the project** and allocating Officer time to oversee production and installation of the Plaque, liaising with Gerard on plaque wording, site selection and promotion of the project.
 - **Part funding the project** and allocating Officer time as above. Remaining financial contribution to be crowd funded by Gerard.
 - **Allocating Officer time** as above but no funding.
 - **No involvement** in the project.

Recommendations

9. That the Resources Committee resolve to support this project with funds and/or officer time.

Reasons For Recommendation

10. Gerard Wainwright's paper (Appendix 1) presents a compelling case for supporting a Blue Plaque to commemorate Stansfield View, it's residents, staff and its part in Todmorden's social history.
11. In addition to demonstrating a commitment to the project and its aims, Council support for this project would have several benefits, key amongst them:
 - Having a say in the appearance of the plaque (wording, visual coherence with other plaques, inclusion of the Town Crest etc)
 - Making use of the established systems/relationships the Council has with plaque fabricators and installers
 - Use of the Town Council's local knowledge and contacts to seek permission for siting the plaque

Policy Implications:

12. None directly arising from this report

Details Of Consultation:

13. None from this report.

Climate Change:

14. None arising from this report

Impact Equality Assessment

15. None arising from this report

Supporting Papers:

Appendix 1 – Remember Stansfield View a paper written by Gerard Wainwright

For further information, please contact Nicola Pugh.