



**TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL
GRANTS AWARDED FEEDBACK FORM**

Item 7a Resources
Committee 2nd April

Organisation Name	Todmorden Makery/ Scavenger Labs C.I.C.		
Date of Award	27.02.2024	Amount of Award	£3000
Total Actual Project Cost	£6317.27	Ref Number: <i>(office use only)</i>	Minute ref:

Purpose of Grant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Town Hall Hire <input type="checkbox"/> Project Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Core Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Pride <input type="checkbox"/> Town Centre Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Safety/Promotion <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Projects <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change <input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Arts & Music <input type="checkbox"/> Town Centre Event <input type="checkbox"/> Food Growing <input type="checkbox"/> Skills Development <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Sector Youth Engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Social Exclusion/Economic Difficulties <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility and Inclusivity – especially Dementia friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Specify) Health & Wellbeing

Summary of project successes outcomes, benefits to Todmorden Community and Residents and numbers positively impacted by this Grant. If a more detailed appraisal is available for your project and its outcome, please attach to this feedback form.

The core activities at Todmorden Makery are free repair and make drop-ins- open to all who become members- to address economic, social, mobility and climate needs in our area as a hub to exchange skills
The funding received has allowed for the evolution and expansion of our core services and objectives since inception over three years ago, our service has improved by accomplishing the following during the grant period.

Membership has increased by 2000 over the past year, with 15 new volunteers engaged. Attendance numbers are up, comprising a minimum of two up to five volunteers, plus five to twelve members per session- this is our current maximum capacity- alongside new visitors who wish to join or those bringing in repairs and donations. The bike repair and weekly daytime drop-ins in particular have become increasingly well used.

In responding to participant demand we have exceeded the project target of six sessions per week by carrying out eight. The duration of daytime drop-ins has been extended, at the request of volunteers, from two to three hours totalling 18 hours per week- this allows for more purposeful activity and achievements and has proved very popular.
These workshops comprise of: upholstery, textiles, bikes, electricals, electronic devices, woodwork, general, plus Men in Sheds; also monthly Women in Workshops; and Tool Library access for a minimum of two sessions per week. Included either as specific activities, or as an ongoing part of our services have been weekly orientation (induction) sessions, and workshop events with kit and materials boxes created and regularly utilised by participants. The guided workshops have drawn on the skills of volunteers and local artists in varied additional subjects including: 3D printing, computer skills, digital inclusion, beginners sewing, rug making and sign writing. There is an expansion of capacity with the now opened Woodshop, enabling contrasting activities, such as woodwork and textiles to happen in more suitable, dedicated spaces.

We have been involved with many outreach events- engaging with external groups and individuals by hosting or attending other community groups in Todmorden- to increase awareness and support of Todmorden Makery and sustainability, for example: Happy Valley Pride, Friends of the Earth, Extinction Rebellion/ XR, Food bank, Culturedale. We have devised and held workshops

or shared resources with, for example: Pushing up Daisies, Fantastic Orchestra, G.P's social prescribing, Story Magic and Todmorden College with 'Stitch Up'.

Development of new procedures has been implemented as numbers have increased: including health and safety, safeguarding, E.D.I.; plus log books for improved repairs and donations processing; enhanced user policies and improved monitoring and analysis.

Meetings were held regularly to increase participation, evaluate activities and agree future goals, having evolved to focus on volunteers, members- and a new management committee which meets monthly.

Impact – if applicable and where known have benefited from project - complete where relevant.	Numbers
Residents engaged in project/ viewed outcome.	350
Volunteers engaged in project.	15
Todmorden residents benefitting from skills development.	1150
Volunteers benefitting from skills development.	15
Town Centre and or other venue visits generated.	24
Youth persons involved in project.	35
Dementia friendly activities involved in the project	0
Socially excluded/those with economic difficulties involved in the project.	210

Financial Summary of Project/Event	Expenditure	£6317.27	Income	£6317.27
<p>If possible, please provide a set of accounts in respect of this specific project and where applicable, a later set of audited accounts if these are now available since originally submitting your grant application. Where accounts are not available a simple income and expenditure statement will suffice. Please attach evidence of expenditure e.g. receipts.</p>				

How have you promoted the assistance of the Town Council in your project literature/Web Site and or Social Media? Please provide supporting evidence and where able to analytics of visits to site, opportunities to see.
<p>Todmorden Makery has promoted the support of Todmorden Town Council by acknowledging its support and using the logo on all of our flyers which are available in the workshop and Todmorden College foyer, and distributed throughout Todmorden in local establishments and door to door.</p> <p>This information is also on our posters and banner, used at multiple outreach events in the town; plus on our website www.todmordenmakery.org.uk and Todmorden Makery Facebook and Instagram pages.</p> <p>We now have a dedicated social media coordinator, which has helped our online presence, however this remains an area where more time should be spent: to do justice to- and to publicise and analyse for greater community engagement and reporting- the incredible amounts of creative and repair work completed; ditto our website which is informative and attractive but needs updating more frequently.</p>

What lasting benefit do you think the Town Council Grant has made to your organisation?
<p>Todmorden Makery appreciates enormously the grants it has received from the Town Council which have been key to the success of the project overall: from its beginning, to a young yet established community resource that anchors social cohesion and resilience in Todmorden- through practical, inclusive collaboration with an emphasis on sustainability for all ages and demographic groups.</p> <p>Additionally, this grant has helped fund our vital Volunteer Coordinator role, through leading the workshops as part of this project, along with managing Todmorden Makery's operations, and through mentorship- nurturing and growing volunteer numbers during the project period. She has also facilitated work experience provision and enables volunteers to focus on the</p>

repairing and making much in demand by users; also encouraging increased membership, in part through multiple orientation sessions used to attract and familiarise new members with our ethos, practices, and procedures. The VC has overseen the success of the workshop and activities enabling the volunteers to find the best fit for their skills, whilst addressing members' needs and how to use the space safely, respectfully and productively; also monitoring the registering, fixing, testing and approving items for return, donation or sale efficiently.

If you have received grants from the Town Council before, please advise how you intend to be more self-sustainable and reduce your reliance on Town Council funding for the future.

We feel it important, for the time being, to offer free membership, repair and making opportunities for the community in order to reach those economically disadvantaged.

However we do encourage donations for the repair services of our volunteers, via our cash donations box and many users kindly do so- these are consistently increasing and are around £100 per month mark. There is also the option to contribute online through our website and we have recently obtained a card payment machine to further opportunities to donate. We also receive financial assistance from supporters with online monthly donations of £150. This financial assistance almost covers our rent which is the largest core cost.

Through continued and improved fundraising activities: at our 'pay what you feel shop', selling surplus materials at local markets and fairs- we raised around £500 over the course of this project this way, and need to monetise the large quantities of donated equipment and materials through online marketplaces in addition.

In the future we will consider ways to ensure the sustainability of Todmorden Makery, and how to promote and value the essential circular economy by providing training and job opportunities- the means of which to develop this could include charging those who can afford to do so for our various services and activities.

Funding streams will continue to be a key component of our viability. We successfully applied for Lottery funding of nearly £20,000 for two years from September 2024, to cover some administrative and workspace costs and for around 30% of the Volunteer Coordinator's time. We proactively encourage opportunities that present themselves, for example Active Calderdale providing a £2000 grant this year, to acknowledge the importance of our bike repair volunteers contribution to the community for equipment. Moving forward our strategy includes applying for larger multi year grants, initially to secure a manager's position to consolidate and drive what has been achieved so far.

If your project had any impact on Climate Emergency what were these and how were they minimised ?

This project has a positive impact on the Climate Emergency as Todmorden Makery's focus is on the reuse, remake, repair and recycling of the many donations of materials and equipment in response to the needs of the community. We strive to limit waste, and provide people with environmentally friendly solutions to some of our most common needs without being hampered by costs- through workshops which specifically build Todmorden's capacity to repair and make.

Reducing waste has a positive effect of lowering carbon emissions in regards to the impact of the full cycle of production and we prevent a significant amount of household items from going to landfill or overseas disposal- in particular, much textile surplus and electronic waste which are extremely damaging to the environment with negative effects on the climate.

We promote the value of repair and reuse and are proud of the willingness of the people of Todmorden to get involved in our workshop oriented to reducing environmental and climate impact. Having this as the most prominent feature of the project and the workshop shows that people will utilise and also volunteer their time to share skills and resources to improve the global environment and add richness to their local community.

Over six months 80 electrical donations were logged, many more of textiles, including house clearances. These were processed by sourcing and supplying recyclers for materials such as wood, tech and electricals; contacting resellers of tools and equipment to fundraise; meeting requests for materials and equipment to enable other's projects; and donating to organisations such as the scouts, Healthy Minds, various local craft groups and those housebound. Rehoming was also increased through our shop, well used by members- with visitors, in particular from the adjacent food bank.

120 electrical items were brought in for repair over the same period - the majority of which successfully - repairs over all types averaged 20 per week by our volunteers; not including the many more same day repairs carried out with the owner, and our PAT testing service.

Our outreach events complement the above and have included environmental groups Friends of the Earth and Extinction Rebellion/ XR, and those promoting sustainable activities, including: Mytholmroyd repair cafe, Todmorden Town Council's 'Tod Tomorrow', Cargodale and their 'On Yer Bike' electric bike fair.

Please attach visual evidence of the work that has been undertaken thanks to this grant. This can be photographs or videos of your work, your staff or your volunteers, recipients of services etc. Please ensure you have the permission of the people in the photographs or videos.

You can also consider attaching other visual material, such as any artwork that is created during the project, event posters, or certificates given to participants or volunteers.

These images may be used by Todmorden Town Council to share news about the project, and to publicise the work happening in our community. Images may be used in press releases, printed publicity, social media and published on Todmorden Town Council's website. We comply with GDPR law in regard to the storage of images.