Item 6a Climate Emergency Committee September 2026

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2026/27

Before applying for a grant from Todmorden Town Council, applicants should familiarise themselves with the Discretionary Grants Policy and award criteria before submitting their grant application.

Please complete all the highlighted boxes on this application form. If you require any guidance whilst filling out this form, please contact the office at admin@todmorden-tc.gov.uk in advance of the application deadline. Deadlines can be found on our website - https://todmorden-tc.gov.uk/upcoming-grant-deadlines/

If you have been awarded a grant from us previously, please ensure you have sent us the required feedback for that grant before applying for another as the Council will not consider a second grant until completion of the first grant which includes the feedback being submitted.

Following receipt of your application, the office may need to contact you about you for further information or clarification purposes. Please ensure the contact details provided are for someone who will be contactable following submission and can speak on the application.

If your application is late or incomplete, it may not be processed until the following grant round. Please submit completed form to the office in Word format.

Name of Organisation	**Friends of Centre Vale Park**
Project Name/ Purpose of application	**Wetland Wildlife Project**
Grant Amount Requested from TTC	**£1,245.30**

Below is the list of supporting documents required with your grant application. If you are unable to provide one of these for any reason, please contact the office in advance of the application deadline.	**Included with application.**	
Full and complete copies of your latest signed, certified and audited accounts. *(For those applying under the New Organisation Stream: If your organisation is less than twelve months old, please provide your latest bank statement with a statement of income and expenditure or other financial information which indicates your financial position, and the projected income and expenditure for the next 12 months. You must also supply one person and one business reference.)*	Yes	
A copy of your organisation's constitution or set of rules.	Yes	
Copies of your bank statements for the last six months.	Yes	
A copy of your organisation's safeguarding policy/policies.	Yes	
Copies of two written estimates/quotes : **Only one quote – just cost of materials and labour provided without charge*		* No
Evidence of any other awards received towards the cost of the project		No
A certified copy of the resolution of the organisation to apply for a grant or letter of approval signed by two trustees/ board members.	Yes	
Any other information that is relevant to this application e.g. insurance cover, health and safety issues, planning/ events permissions.	Yes	

1. Contact Details

Address of Organisation	[redacted]
Name of person making application	[redacted]
Position in Organisation	[redacted]
Phone Number	[redacted]
Email address	[redacted]
Website	www.friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk

2. Organisation Details

2a. What type of Organisation are you? (Delete as appropriate)

	Unregistered Community Group	
2b. Do you have a constitution or a set of rules? (if yes, please enclose a copy of your constitution)	Yes	
2c. Are you part of a larger, national or regional organisation? (If yes, please give details)		No
2d. How many trustees, volunteers and service users are there in your organisation?	Committee of 7 Membership of 130	

2e. Tell us about your organisation, its aims and the work you wish to undertake and your main activities and how you encourage engagement from all sections of the Todmorden Community. (Please aim for a minimum of 200 words)

The Friends of Centre Vale Park is a diverse group of 130 local residents which aims to facilitate, promote, and maintain the recreational use of Centre Vale Park - safe, welcoming and enjoyable for all. Key objectives from our constitution:
a) To work in partnership with CMBC for the general betterment of Centre Vale Park.
b) To work in partnership with the local community, local agencies and local organisations to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility for Centre Vale Park.
c) To improve and restore the parkland environment, and to help develop new and existing facilities at Centre Vale Park, including community recreation.
Our activities have included • woodland management, planting initiatives, pond restoration and path improvements - we have a team of regular park work volunteers including some teenage boys with complex behavioural needs from Compass School • projects include: creation of a Heritage Trail and leaflet – Bug Hotels with Castle Hill temporarily located on the meadow - Stories of Centre Vale Trees – contributing to Town Deal funded developments - running birdwatching guided walks – Community Litter Picking events – free kids bike safety check and repairs - annual Picnic in the Park with musical entertainments - maintain our website, park noticeboard and quarterly newsletters.

2f. Will your project have any implications in respect of climate emergency and if so, how do you intend to minimise such impact? (Please aim for a minimum of 200 words)

Our changing climate is negatively impacting the long-term survival of local nature fauna and flora. This project aims to:

- Restore a vital and permanent wetland to the park
- Increase biodiversity of flora and fauna
- Lessen winter flooding of public paths
- Increase mental health and wellbeing through the interaction with natural beauty
- Raise educational knowledge and understanding of climate change and nature

The Friends of the Park would like to restore the currently fenced off Wetland area within the park – near the John Fielden Statue. We envisage creating a place of diverse wildlife, flora and fauna which can be enjoyed by the public. It will contain ponds which would be wet all year round, a boardwalk and viewing platform outside the fenced area, and information boards on what to look out for – suitable for all ages and equally accessible to view by people with differing mobility needs.

With a scoping exercise grant of £500 awarded to us by CMBC Ward Forum in 2024 we engaged the services of a Tod based ecologist, Miranda Cowan Ecology Ltd, BSc (Hons), PGCert FSC Botany, MCIEEM, ArbTech at reduced rates to establish the potential.

Project plans were shared with CMBC - [redacted], then Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, described it as a *great project on which CMBC and the Friends could collaborate,* in particular, with Moy Cash and Phil Singh, Countryside Management; Tammy Marshall, Technical Officer Flood Storage and Drainage, and Paul Scott, Head Gardener.

Over the last two years there has been meetings, site visits and surveys involving CMBC's Strategic Infrastructure Team, Todmorden Town Deal, Environment Agency, Ridge Consultants, and Planit – who presented the plans attached.

We now have approval through [redacted], CMBC Countryside Manager to proceed. [redacted], Area Countryside Officer (Upper Valley) has drawn up a costed specification for the materials required to install the new fencing and make the scrapes/ponds. The Countryside team would 'do the work' and the Friends are seeking the funds to cover the cost of the materials.

We see this initial activity as Stage 1 of the project – getting it started, the groundwork done. Stage 2 would involve creating the boardwalk, viewing platform, information boards, and planting.

We will be running a Crowdfunding campaign, to raise the remainder of the funds required to carry out Stage 1. Should additional donations be received above the target, they will be used towards Stage 2 of the project. This grant request is specifically for Stage 1.

2g. How will you acknowledge the assistance of Todmorden Town Council on all promotional material (Please see Section 6 below)

We will add the logo to publicity regarding the project – on our website, Facebook page and newsletter.
Our crowdfunding publicity will include reference to TTC support and its financial contribution.

3. Project Information

3a. Which Grant are you applying for?			
Climate Grant			
3b. What is the Purpose of grant request (delete as appropriate)			
Community Benefit	Environmental project	Climate change	Civic Pride

3c. When will your project start?	Late October 2026
3d. When will your project finish?	Stage 1: December 2026 Stage 2: During 2027

3e. How will your project benefit the local community within Todmorden?

To have a beautiful, richly biodiverse wetland wildlife area within Tod's Centre Vale Park will benefit the local community through enhancing the enjoyment of being out and about in the park. The volunteers within the Friends of the Park will work as a team supporting the development and maintenance of the project increasing their skills and community cohesion. There will be benefit for people young and old to see and learn more about wildlife around us and what is needed to secure its long-term survival. It will add to the attraction of visitors from outside Tod to the park and thereby benefit the local businesses and local economy.

3f. Why is this project needed? What advantage will it bring to Todmorden?

The current Wetland area is not managed, serves no purpose and is deteriorating.
The scrapes and ponds will retain water and lessen the winter waterflow on to the paths.
It shows climate change action being taken locally to support the survival of flora and fauna.
It enables people to actively engage in doing something to counter the enormity of 'climate change'
It benefits people in maintaining good mental health through their connecting to nature.
The staff-led nursery and primary school walkers through the park will view and learn about nature.
Todmorden is more than just its human inhabitants – the flora and fauna needs sustainable wetland environments to counter the impact of the warming climate.

3g. How many people within the Todmorden town boundary will benefit from the project?

Hard to say. Friends of Centre Vale Park Wetland Wildlife Project Group – currently made up of seven people will be involved in raising the funds needed and play a more direct role on site in 2027. The Friends' Park Work Volunteers meet fortnightly (usually a turnout of 10 people) and will likely be drawn in to help on the ground in 2027 – the group includes teenage boys from Compass School in Sowerby Bridge for children with complex behaviours and needs. As the project develops with boardwalk access and viewing platform with information boards, we would hope the numbers of people (adults/children/schools) that would benefit thereafter will be in the thousands.

3h. Please include dates and venue of events if applicable (include a draft programme if available.)

n/a

4. Financial Information/ Project Costs

The total grant requested must equal the shortfall between expenditure (Fig A) and income (Fig B) in section 4e. For example, if expenditure = £7500 and income = £4750, your grant request would be a maximum of £2750.

4a. Total Project Costs	**£4,995.30**		
4b. Amount requested from TTC	**£1,245.30**		
4c. Have you previously applied for grant funding from Todmorden Town Council? (If yes please give details of grants received from the Town Council over the last 10 years).		Yes	
Picnic in the Park 2026 - £1112.00 Heritage Trail Restoration 2025 - £2477.07 Picnic in the Park 2025 - £913.00 Picnic in the Park 2024 - £693.00 Commemorative Booklet of Jubilee - £825.00 Jubilee Picnic in the Park 2022 - £550.00 Booklet Production 2020 - £678.50			
4d. Have you or this group previously applied for or received any other grant for this project? (If yes please give details below)		Yes	
Applied to	CMBC Ward Forum Grant		
Dates of application	1 February 2024		
Received from	CMBC		
Date received/or due	22 February 2024		
Amount received	£500		

4e. Budget: This budget should be for the total cost of the activity you are applying to do and total the full project cost. Please be as accurate as you can, as you may be asked to explain any amount which is unclear. *(Please provide estimates/quotations of the proposed items of expenditure you may use as evidence on separate sheets. If you are unable to claim VAT back please ensure the gross value is put in here. Do not round figures up)*

Expenditure Description	**Cost (£)**
Fencing including hire of auger drill for one day	£4,345.30
Mini digger hire – 2 days @ £250 per day	£500.00
Warning signage x10	£150.00
A. Total Expenditure (must be = to 4a: Total Project Costs)	**£4,995.30**

Other income	
Income Description	**Cost (£)**
Contribution from Friends of Centre Park	£1,250
Crowdfunding	£2,500
B. Total Income	**£3,750**

C. Total Grant Requested from the Town Council*	£1,245.30

***This figure must be equal to the difference between Figure A and Figure B above. Please put this figure in box 4e. Amount Requested from TTC.**

5. Organisation Financial Information

5a. Level of Reserves Held at application date	£3,226.39
5b. Bank Statement(s) Balance at application date	£3,726.39
5c. Total value of Assets Held	£4,000 approximately
5d. Name of signatory on the account 1	[redacted]
5e. Name of signatory on the account 2	[redacted]