



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS AWARDED FEEDBACK FORM

Organisation Name	Todmorden Book Festival		
Date of Award	May 2025	Amount of Award	£3000
Total Actual Project Cost	£15540	Ref Number: <i>(office use only)</i>	Minute ref:

Purpose of Grant	
<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	<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)

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.
<p>2025 was a very successful Festival in spite of the cost of living crisis. Grant support enabled us to maintain low ticket prices despite inflation and to engage with some 2000 people during the Festival. Our schools programme was themed around the graphic novel with all 7 primaries engaged through our professional story teller and poet, generating great enthusiasm from the pupils. We were able to bring Bobby Joseph, the Comics Laureate, to Todmorden for a public performance and also a hugely successful session with students at Todmorden High School, strengthening its reputation for art and design.</p> <p>The result of all this endeavour was an inspiring celebration of <i>Story Telling Beyond Words</i> on the final Saturday at our annual Community event in the College made free thanks to grant support and featuring Annapurna Dance, TOADS youth team's magical puppet show and Music for the Many. We also gave away over 200 books to local children.</p> <p>The majority of attendees are from the OL14 post code but we have significant number of visitors from Hebden Bridge, Halifax, Leeds, Huddersfield and beyond.</p>

Impact – if applicable and where known have benefited from project - complete where relevant.	Numbers
Residents engaged in project/ viewed outcome.	C2000
Volunteers engaged in project.	25
Todmorden residents benefitting from skills development.	15
Volunteers benefitting from skills development.	15
Town Centre and or other venue visits generated.	
Youth persons involved in project.	C200

Dementia friendly activities involved in the project	
Socially excluded/those with economic difficulties involved in the project.	

Financial Summary of Project/Event	Expenditure	£15,540	Income	£12,934
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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.

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.

We always put the Town Council logo on all publicity material, including our website, banners, flyers & brochures. At our launch event we pay tribute to the support of the Town Council and of course invite the Mayor and councillors to join us.

What lasting benefit do you think the Town Council Grant has made to your organisation?

To have the Council's support is, of itself, incredibly important to us as local volunteers as it gives us confidence that we are seen as a Festival of benefit to our town. The grant is important as it allows us to book nationally renowned authors as well as local ones and most particularly allows us to put on free events for young people and the community. Without it we couldn't reach the numbers we do reach.

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 will always attempt to maximise income from ticket sales, keep costs down and invest in our volunteers, but as an inclusive festival with many 'free to locals' events we will always, to some extent, rely on public support to help make this possible.

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

N/A other than we book as many local authors as possible and encourage people to travel by public transport.

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.