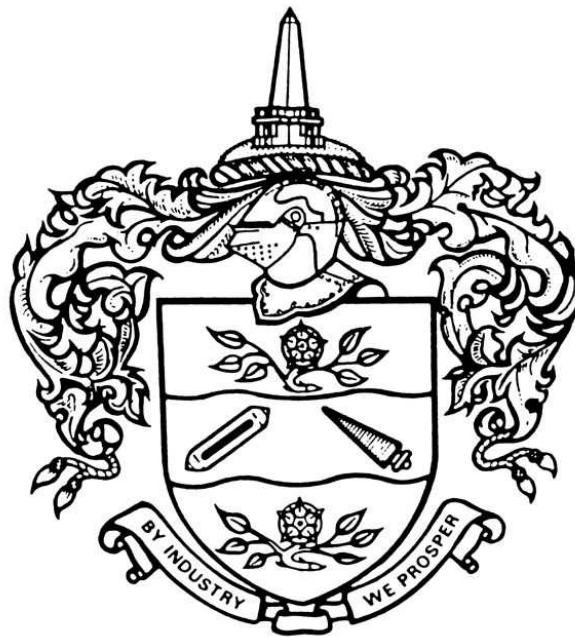


TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2010



The Annual Town Meeting is held in April each year. This is the occasion when Committee Chairs report on the activities of their Committee in the past year and give their proposals for the following year. It is also the opportunity for registered voters to raise matters of importance in the town.

This Annual Report is based on the reports given to the Annual Town Meeting in April 2010.

TOWN COUNCILLORS
CENTRAL WARD

ABID HUSSAIN

(Liberal Democrat)
133/5 Halifax Road
Todmorden OL14 5BE
Tel: 817544

JOHN R RODGERS

(Labour)
45 Stansfield Street
Todmorden OL14 5EB
Tel: 810129

CAROLANN TRUSTLOVE-SMITH

(Liberal Democrat)
3 Nutfield Street
Todmorden OL14 5EL
Tel: 07795 216337

CORNHOLME WARD

ANNE JAMES

(Liberal Democrat)
Springwood House
Pudsey Rd. Cornholme
Todmorden OL14 8NJ
Tel: 816113

PAMELA J LALLY

(Liberal Democrat)
88 Carr Road
Portsmouth
Todmorden OL14 7ER
Tel: 839940

STEVEN SUTCLIFFE

(Liberal Democrat)
45 Cambridge Street
Todmorden
OL14 5BJ
Tel: 813219

STANSFIELD WARD

JOSEF REZ

(Liberal Democrat)
37 Tennyson Avenue
Todmorden
OL14 8AH
Tel: 07835 543816

JULIE L STANSFIELD

(Conservative)
56 Claremont Place
Stansfield Road
Todmorden OL14 5DX
Tel: 839909

PHILIP A WALTERS

(Liberal Democrat)
21 Stansfield Road
Todmorden
OL14 5DN
Tel: 810943

LANGFIELD WARD

ROB GOLDTHORPE

(Liberal Democrat)
14 Honey Hole Close
Todmorden OL14 6LH
Tel: 815648

RUTH GOLDTHORPE

(Liberal Democrat)
14 Honey Hole Close
Todmorden OL14 6LH
Tel: 815648

STOODLEY WARD

MARGARETA HOLMSTEDT

(Liberal Democrat)
Upper Lockside, Lobb Mill
Todmorden OL14 6BT
Tel: 812510

STOODLEY WARD (CONTINUED)

DOROTHY JORDAN

(Liberal Democrat)
3 Buckley Court
Todmorden
OL14 5JR
Tel: 817816

DAVID W O'NEILL

(Liberal Democrat)
1 Stones Road
Todmorden
OL14 7JP
Tel: 812555

CHERYL STOVIN

(Liberal Democrat)
32 Lee Bottom Road
Todmorden
OL14 6HH
Tel: 816655

WALSDEN WARD

IAN V DAVEY

(Liberal Democrat)
13 Harley Street
Todmorden
OL14 5JE
Tel: 815406

HILARY A MYERS

(Liberal Democrat)
16 Park Road
Todmorden
OL14 5NJ
Tel: 817812

RICHARD WHITE

(Liberal Democrat)
774 Rochdale Road
Walsden
Todmorden OL14 7UA
Tel: 812007

Town Council Officers

The Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer is Mrs Catherine Emberson who has overall responsibility for implementing all Town Council decisions.

The Assistant Town Clerk is Mrs Helen Heyes who co-ordinates Mayoral and civic functions.

Todmorden Town Council
Todmorden Community College
Burnley Road
Todmorden OL14 7BX

Telephone 01706 548135
Fax 01706 548136
E-mail clerk@todmordencouncil.org.uk
Web site www.todmordencouncil.org.uk

MAYOR'S REPORT 2009 - 2010

CLLR CHERYL STOVIN

As my Mayoral year comes to an end I would like to reflect on what has been a truly memorable and enjoyable year. Both myself and the Mayoress have attended in excess of 100 engagements and would like to thank everybody for their warm welcome at all of these events. Some people have asked me what have been the highlights of the year. I can honestly say that all of the events we have attended have been special in their own way, and it has been a great honour to have been invited to share special events and occasions.

We have met many people who work tirelessly for the town, often behind the scenes. These individuals and groups and organisations make such a difference to the people of Todmorden. They give up their time and work hard to make the town a better place to live in.

My charity for the year has been Age Concern Todmorden and I would like to thank everybody who have helped in raising funds and promoting the organisation. The commitment of the Age Concern Todmorden volunteers is amazing and truly humbling. They work so hard to make sure that the older people of Todmorden have a good quality of life. Their endeavours earlier in the year during the spell of arctic weather is to be particularly commended, especially as a number of the volunteers are well over 80 years of age themselves!! It was a privilege to present a group of six 80 plus volunteers with over twenty years of volunteer service each, with a special memento in recognition of this. Keep up the good work!!

The total raised during the year for Age Concern Todmorden will be in the region of £5,000. This will help this vital local charity to continue their good work. Thank you once again.

One of my final acts as Mayor will be to present three local people with the Citizenship Award for Todmorden in recognition of their positive impact and contributions they have made to community life in Todmorden. It will be a great pleasure and privilege to do so.

There are many people I would like to thank for assisting me during the year, it would be impossible to thank everybody individually, so I say a big thank you to all. I would especially like to thank the Mayoress, Jo, for her hard work and understanding during the year, and also to Cllr Pam Lally and Liz Cuddington for accompanying me to events when the Mayoress was unavailable.

I would also like to thank the Town Clerk, Catherine Emberson and the Assistant Town Clerk, Helen Heyes who both work so hard behind the scenes. Without their help and guidance my year would have been so much more difficult.

I have been particularly proud to be involved with the Fairtrade Town Steering Group. Their hard work and commitment was rewarded when Todmorden achieve Fairtrade accreditation earlier in the year. Keep up the good work.

I would like to take this opportunity to give Cllr Margareta Holmstead, the incoming Mayor, my best wishes for the next year. I hope she will experience the same sense of honour and experience that I have during the past year. I will remember this year with a sense of pride for the rest of my life.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL 2009/2010

The Town Council operates three Standing Committees and the following is a résumé of work undertaken during the past twelve months.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – Chair Cllr Josef Rez

This Committee deals with environmental improvements and general amenity issues in the town and surrounding area.

The Council owns and maintains Lobb Mill Picnic Site. This year a programme of refurbishment works has commenced to improve the area, which is a popular location for visitors to the town and walkers accessing the Rochdale Canal and hillside walks leading from the car park. A central Todmorden open space known as Patmos Gardens is also owned and maintained by the Town Council. Formerly the site of an old Chapel, the Gardens provide a peaceful sitting area for all members of the community, with benches, tree seats and a small play area.

Todmorden Town Council supports youth projects by providing grants to local organisations, and this year has assisted the Acorn Centre in running a residential weekend, and also Churches Together in Todmorden with its caravan youth project.

The continuation of the Tourist Information Centre has again been assured by grant funding of £10,000. Financial assistance has also been provided for the purpose of environmental improvements to the Todmorden in Bloom and Riverside Improvement Groups, as well as Churches Together in Todmorden, with total 'Environment' spending this year being £13,285. Twenty new Barrier Baskets have been donated to Todmorden in Bloom to provide colourful floral displays to brighten up the roadside railings in the town. Local societies and groups have benefited via grants in respect of 'Entertainment, the Arts and Recreation' in the sum of £5,838, together with other grants totalling £17,911. Twenty-eight payments of Town Hall Hire Charge refunds of £10,389 have helped the town's societies and groups to help themselves by organising events in Todmorden Town Hall. This also makes good use of the building.

The Council continues to work in partnership with West Yorkshire Police Authority by the continuation of the part funding of two additional Police Community Support Officers to work in Todmorden.

The annual Mid-Pennine Arts Schools' Tour has again been arranged on the Council's behalf. This is always much appreciated and Mid-Pennine Arts continue to provide quality educational entertainment. A further five children's Christmas Light designs were made up into working lights and installed in time for the Christmas 'switch-on' event in November 2009. The growing number of new lights provide a welcome and colourful change to the town centre display. This year's 'Design A Light' competition was again popular with local schools and a large number of entries were received. A further five winning designs have been chosen and these are to be made into operational Christmas lights.

The Town Council Development Officer has worked on a number of projects under this Committee heading, such as the organisation of a 'Community Mingle' event, where the many groups and organisations were able to informally meet and find out about each other.

Working in partnership with Calderdale Council, the Town Twinning Association, Rotary Club and Todmorden High School have refurbished and updated the town's boundary signs, which will shortly be installed. One of the major achievements for the post has been the facilitation, via the local support Group, of the Fairtrade town accreditation for Todmorden. The Town Council supports Fairtrade and actively encourages the use of Fairtrade products at its own meetings and events where refreshments are provided.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Chair Cllr Anne James

A very large part of this Committee's work involves consultation and recommendation on Planning Applications and there are therefore two meetings per cycle. Local concerns are carefully considered by Members, especially when controversial Planning Applications are submitted, or in neighbouring authorities where there would be an impact on Todmorden and its environs.

In line with the Council's Public Transport Policy the Committee looks for opportunities to improve and enhance public transport, which it sees as essential to the economic and social well being of the town. Support has recently been given to the proposal to operate a bus service in the rural areas between Todmorden and Hebden Bridge, which will also link the two railway stations.

Representatives from Calderdale Council and other visitors as considered appropriate are invited to address the Committee to speak on a variety of issues. Site visits also took place this year to discuss Members' concerns on land adversely affecting the neighbourhood at the former Hope Street Mill site, and with Network Rail to take forward a group of residents' complaints.

Boarded up and unsightly public house entrances, together with empty shops in the town are felt to blight the street scene and the Town Council continues to press for action in this regard.

Many other areas are dealt with by this Committee, such as footpaths and obstructions, together with redevelopment and regeneration matters. The Town Council has representation on the current Town Centre Renaissance Board Project in order to ensure that its voice is heard on this important matter.

Overall the Committee tries to keep alert to the general concerns of the public in the areas covered by it.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – Chair Cllr Rob Goldthorpe

Council administration is dealt with by this Committee, in areas covering finance, staffing, standing orders, the mayoralty, electoral matters and town twinning. 'Communication' issues addressed via this Committee help to raise the profile of the Town Council through its Website, Annual Report booklet and quarterly Newsletters. A replacement noticeboard has been purchased and installed outside Todmorden Town Hall for use by the community and also to display Town Council material, which it is hoped will become a useful tool in the provision of public information.

New 'Citizenship Awards for Todmorden' have been introduced this year to augment the existing awards and to continue to recognise the commitment shown by individuals and groups. The winners will receive their certificates prior to the Annual Meeting of the Town Council in May.

Annual meetings are held with representatives of the Emergency Services and prove to be a useful forum to discuss issues of importance to the electorate, such as police presence and adequate fire service and ambulance provision.

The Committee keeps alert to general issues in Todmorden and the Council is represented on many bodies on which its input can be useful and takes Members into areas of concern for the town and its electorate. This is a valuable part of Town Councillors' work.

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

31/03/2009	<u>YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2010</u>	31/03/2010
	£ INCOME	£
169,135.00	* PRECEPT	175,864.00
13,798.00	BLOCK GRANT FROM CALDERDALE COUNCIL	14,234.00
0.00	* AGENCY SERVICES (not applicable)	0.00
0.00	* LOAN/CAPITAL RECEIPTS (not applicable)	0.00
0.00	* SALE OF ASSETS	0.00
17.50	PUBLICITY SALES	0.00
100.00	WALSDEN CC RENT	100.00
50.00	Y E WAYLEAVE	50.00
0.00	PAYMENT MADE BY CALDERDALE COUNCIL IN ERROR	416.00
5,977.40	* BANK INTEREST	541.34
1,000.00	STOPPED/RETURNED/NON-PRESENTED CHEQUES	2,270.50
<u>10.00</u>	OTHER PAYMENTS	<u>10.02</u>
<u>190,087.90</u>		<u>193,485.86</u>
	EXPENDITURE	
60,156.19	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	81,222.98
0.00	* AGENCY SERVICES (not applicable)	0.00
0.00	* CAPITAL SCHEMES (not applicable)	0.00
	<u>* SECTION 137 PAYMENTS:-</u>	
4,795.00	Grants & Donations	8,780.00
5,955.03	Refund of Town Hall Hire Charges	10,388.99
3,000.00	Education	1,550.00
5,000.00	Senior Citizens	0.00
1,162.50	SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,335.28
10,991.07	ENVIRONMENTAL & AMENITY	13,284.69
	ENTERTAINMENT, THE ARTS AND RECREATION GRANTS	
15,589.34	PLUS PUBLICITY	9,296.15
6,692.29	OFFICE OF THE MAYOR	5,880.30
20,590.00	TOURISM	13,800.00
25,449.85	TOWN CENTRE SECURITY	17,294.40
0.00	* PROVISION FOR DOUBTFUL DEBTS (not applicable)	0.00
0.00	* INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBTS (not applicable)	0.00
0.00	* ELECTION EXPENSES	0.00
0.00	RETURN OF PAYMENT MADE BY CALDERDALE IN ERROR	416.00
0.00	DEV OFFICER - FAIRTRADE AND COMMUNITY MINGLE	453.15
647.57	OTHER PAYMENTS	276.02
	<u>Rolled over monies spent:-</u>	
0.00	Dev Officer - Banners, board and telephone	777.49
0.00	Dev Officer - Noticeboard	1,543.65
0.00	Youth - Churches Together in Todmorden	878.92
<u>0.00</u>	Youth - Acorn Centre, Todmorden	<u>3,303.00</u>
<u>160,028.84</u>	Items shown * are for mandatory inclusion whether applicable or not	<u>170,481.02</u>
	CUMULATIVE FUND BALANCE	
84,285.05	Balance forward	114,344.11
<u>190,087.90</u>	ADD Total Income	<u>193,485.86</u>
274,372.95		307,829.97
<u>160,028.84</u>	DEDUCT Total Expenditure	<u>170,481.02</u>
<u>114,344.11</u>	Balance carried forward	<u>137,348.95</u>



The Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme was launched in June 2003, following the publication of the Government's 2000 Rural White Paper. The scheme was designed to provide benchmark minimum standards for parish and town councils and enable them to better represent the communities they serve. The scheme also aims to promote enhanced relationships between local councils, principal authorities and community and voluntary sector organisations.

Achieving Quality status demonstrates that a council has met certain standards expected from an effective, representative and active parish or town council. In order to gain the award, parish and town councils must demonstrate that they have reached the standard required by passing several tests. The tests, which are summarised below, exceed the statutory duties of parish and town councils.

- Electoral Mandate
- Qualifications of the Clerk
- Council Meetings
- Communications
- Annual Report
- Accounts and
- Code of Conduct

Todmorden Town Council achieved Quality Council Status in April 2007

