Hurrah for home care

IT WAS the news that everybody wanted to hear about nobody was taking for granted: that the worthy Hospice at Home pilot scheme had got the full funding approval from the Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group. So when it was confirmed the CCG would be investing £560,000 a year it was smiles all round in the knowledge that the support network can be provided for those wishing to end their days at home rather than in a hospice or hospital. In these times of acute financial constraint it was very much a genuine concern the pilot scheme — part-funded by the CCG and the ever-generous Stoller Charitable Trust — might not achieve full funding.

But that first year of support has proved invaluable. It certainly made a big difference to the 197 individuals and their families.

As Hospice at Home co-ordinator Lindsey Hanley puts it: “Sadly, when it comes to dying we have only one chance to get it right.”

Sir Norman will be delighted that his seed funding enabled the scheme to show its worth. The philanthropist is renowned for giving projects a chance. It is visionary and vital to improving Oldham in a myriad of ways.

The celebrations will be brief. There is important work to do but Vernon Cooney, Dr. Kershaw’s Chair of director, is rightly very proud of the team that has accomplished so much in a short space of time.

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Learn more about local cheerleading team

Choirs GARTH HARR- KNESS, DEBRA HEPFEN- NAN and JOHN MCCANN

Need a new school

WE HAVE written to Cllr Amanda Chadderton (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills), together with the Chief Executive and Council Leader as follows:

We are following the outcome of the Judicial Review by Mr Justice Kerr relating to Saddleworth School which now causes further delays on a project where a new school should have been built and occupied 10 years ago.

No doubt many parents, grandparents and pupils will be so disappointed at the further delay in providing a new school building for Saddleworth school children for 21st century education yet they still reside in crumbling accommodation reaching the end of its life. Indeed the words by Saddleworth school head boy, Joe Wheeler stating “The construction of the school should not have fallen between the villages. We should all be in position to allow the children of tomorrow every single opportunity to flourish within their education”

The implication of this statement suggests that the Education Funding Agency would provide for the increased costs of providing a new school and presumably financially supporting the decant of students to alternative accommodation during the process. This contradicts every single line of Joe Wheeler and my colleagues have ever received from Oldham council members.

If we have learned anything from the processes being it is that the silence will be filled with inaccuracies. I am fully aware that such comments will be addressed head on. We are in possession of the facts. If it is apparent that councilors have been misled then I would call for a full investigation and if appropriate, disciplinary action to be taken.

If the accusations are follies then such reporting should be condemned and Oldham Council need to do the investigations straight away.

We are more than willing from this stage we are to ensure that we get a new school for Saddleworth. Other schools funded in this programme are now built, occupied and providing the facilities we want for Oldham.

This has gone on too long and we need the truth being spoken.

Cllrs GARTH HARR- KNESS, DEBRA HEPFEN- NAN and JOHN MCCANN

Chronic13

PLEASE NOTE
Letters to the editor must be accompanied by a name and address, even if you wish to use a nom-de-plume.

Quotes of the day

“To think that a woman was not ashamed to go to America to hold hands with a man who has bragged about sexually assaulting women”

— Bianca Jagger attacks Theresa May for her invitation to Mr Trump to visit Britain

“Donald Trump is making me gain weight. I eat a Big Mac a day with liquids, but after the breakfast, I eat pancakes smothered in maple syrup!”

— Singer Barbra Streisand

From the web

www.oldham-chronicle.co.uk

Landlord fined for lack of licence

What a surprise. As a landlord myself, I see multiple properties there is a lot to do to make sure we have to adopt. Well some of us do but obviously people like this think they are above the law and create the term “slum landlords”. Should have been hit with a higher charge. It is the only way they will learn you provide a service but it had better be up to standard.

OVERSEAS

Reported robbed in street

Shame on these two individuals. May it come back to haunt them.

I hope this poor lady recovers from her injuries quickly.

Well done to the men who chased after the offenders.

Hopefully they managed to get the vehicle registration.

LOYONT

No description of the robbers despite two men chasing them, and no description of the vehicle either?

FLAKE

Nuisances facing ban from public transport

Does this mean each and every tram will have staff from the Tram Company looking after them? If not, a waste of time and once banned, how does one stop them travelling?

LESUPHTWALL

Hospice home service secure

Dr Kershaw’s does such good work, it is brilliant that this service can now reach more people.

My father had hospice at home and it was such a comfort for him and a support for my mother and the whole family at such a difficult and scary time. The lovely hospice team helped us every step of the way and made the experience bearable. Please consider supporting this organisation or going to one of their fundraising events.

TOWN CENTRE DWELLER

College ishttp://www.lesuphtwall.org

College is very much grateful for bikes

And we are told the country is on the brink of a second hand bike ban?

Did kids 20 years ago have bikes bought for them by the state?

CHAIRMAN