

THE THOMAS BRASSEY SOCIETY



The Chester Civic Trust



Date: 16th September 2016

Dear Chris

THOMAS BRASSEY STATUE, CHESTER RAILWAY STATION Application for 'Permission in Principle'

I am writing on behalf of the Chester Civic Trust and the Thomas Brassey Society to outline our aspirations and to formally request 'permission in principle' from Cheshire West and Chester Council, in your capacity as managers of the Station forecourt.

After years of good intentions we have decided to try to raise the necessary funds to erect a bronze life-size statue of Brassey outside Chester Station.

Thomas Brassey (1805-70) was born near Chester and became the greatest railway builder of his age. His achievements put him on a par with Stephenson, Brunel and Locke, yet he is little known, even in his 'home town'. (Please see the attached short biography).

We have a team of about 15 people who are willing to promote this project and we are mindful of the less obvious issues, such as :

- Location, buried services, foundations etc
- Ownership, maintenance, repairs, cleaning and insurance

Stephen Langtree [steve.langtree@yahoo.co.uk]

Peter Bolt [petergillianbolt1@btinternet.com]

Roger Croston [rogerc@croston-engineering.co.uk]

THOMAS BRASSEY STATUE, CHESTER RAILWAY STATION

That said, there are plenty of good examples of recent statuary in public places, so all the above could and should be satisfied. However, before embarking on fund-raising we are seeking 'permission in principle' from CWaC and from Network Rail (the land owner) and Arriva Trains Wales (the Station franchisee).

I'm sure you will wish to consult colleagues and probably call a meeting before replying – but we hope this will be as soon as is convenient. 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of Brassey's death so that is my target for completion!

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN LANGTREE MBE
Vice President
Chester Civic Trust

cc C'llr Samantha Dixon, Leader, CWaC Council
Carmel Clapson, Arts Officer, CWaC Council

Stephen Langtree [steve.langtree@yahoo.co.uk]

Peter Bolt [petergillianbolt1@btinternet.com]

Roger Croston [rogerc@croston-engineering.co.uk]