
10 PLAQUE FOR LAUREN HEW - Councillor Penny Pedersen

File Number: CLM/19/1/1/6 - BP19/983

BACKGROUND:

Five years ago, local Marsfield mother and St Anthony's primary school teacher, Lauren Hew 30, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer called Ewing's sarcoma. Lauren had just given birth to her second child, after having given birth to her daughter only 19 months before, when she and her husband Ken were given the news.

Rather than go into hibernation and keep her fight with cancer personal, she selflessly chose to share her journey with others through a blog and posts on Ryde District mums. Thousands of women, many of a similar age with children of similar ages, followed her journey through scans, operations and the struggles of maintaining some normality for her young family, as she fought hard against the disease. Ryde district mums were devastated to lose her and many donated to a crowd funding effort, organised by her friends, to help her young family with the costs of her treatment.

Lauren's brave journey touched many mothers in Ryde and beyond.

MOTION:

That the City of Ryde:-

- (a) Acknowledges the devastating impact of Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare type of cancer that forms in bone or soft tissue.
- (b) Offer its condolences to Ken Hew, his young family and his extended family, who lost Lauren Hew 35, to Ewing's Sarcoma on July 15, 2019.
- (c) Install a plaque in memory of Lauren at the Granny Smith Park, a place she regularly played with her children and is close to St Anthony's primary school Marsfield where she worked.
- (d) Consult with the Hew family about the specific location and inscription of the plaque, and identify an appropriate unveiling opportunity consistent with Council policy.
- (e) Acknowledges the support the community from Ryde district Mums facebook group extended to Lauren and her family and invite them to the unveiling of the plaque.
- (e) Allocate appropriate funding from General Revenue.

ITEM (continued)