

Hebden Royd Town Council

ANNUAL REPORT



May 2011 – April 2012

Town Mayor

Cllr Scott Trickett

Deputy Town Mayor

Cllr Dave Young

Chair of Allotments Committee

Cllr Nigel Yorke

Chair of Environmental Renaissance and Staffing Committees

Cllr David Young

Chair of Community Funding & Picture House Committees

Cllr Susan Press

Chair of Strategy & Review Committee

Cllr Steve Sweeney

Chair of Twinning Committee

Cllr Emma Tsoneva

Chair of Young Peoples Committee

Cllr Wesley Downs

Other Members of the Council

Cllr Rev James Allison

Cllr John Beacroft-Mitchell

Cllr Nader Fekri

Cllr James Baker

Cllr Karl Boggis

Cllr Tony Hodgins

Cllr Matthew Talbot

Cllr Christine Bampton-Smith

Cllr James Fearon

Cllr Richard Scorer

Clerk to the Council - Jason Boom
Neighbourhood Manager - Emma Green
Administrator - Rebekah Cox



The Town Hall, St George's Street, Hebden Bridge. HX7 7BY
email info@hebdenroyd.org.uk

Tel 01422 842181
www.hebdenroyd.org.uk

Hebden Royd Town Council

The Parish of Hebden Royd lies in the Calder Valley and includes the main population centres of Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd as well as surrounding rural areas, notably, Cragg Vale.

The Town Council, whose members act in a voluntary capacity and are unpaid, has to respond to legislation but is the tier of government closest to the electorate and it seeks to serve by identifying and responding to local needs.

VISION STATEMENT:

The economic, social, and environmental well-being of those who live and work in Hebden Royd will be a major factor in all our decision-making.

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are committed to a better quality of life for all the people of Hebden Royd. We plan to achieve this in association with community groups and the public, private and voluntary sectors. Hebden Royd Town Council will therefore strive to:

- *Be open and accessible in all its decision-making*
 - *Be accountable in all its council activities*
 - *Be responsive to the needs of the community*
 - *Promote equal opportunities*

Wherever possible, individuals and groups are encouraged to work in partnership with the Council to enhance the area to the benefit of the wider community.

Mayor's Report

Council Activities

2011 was an election year for the parish with half newly elected Councillors welcomed onto the parish council. The first month or so involved training and 'bedding in' for these new Councillors.

The year began with the setting up of committees and included a committee for the Picture House Transfer. The Picture House Transfer was the most significant event in the Council year and took up considerable officer and committee time. As chair I will say that all Councillors agreed that returning control of the Picture House locally to Hebden Royd community area was the right thing to do. The main discussion on this big decision was the funding method of a capital programme of works e.g. for Tax payer funding and alternative ways. The Council majority voted to fund the programme via the Parish Council precept.

Other council initiatives during the year included Happy Hounds (an event raising awareness of responsible dog ownership), School Council and school twinning – twinning our schools with respective schools in our twin towns. These were extremely positive initiatives for our Council.

Mayoral Year

The Mayoress and I have represented Hebden Royd Town Council to the best of our ability and in the process it was a year we will never forget. During our engagements the main priority was to show Hebden Royd in the best possible light, with over a 100 events attended here are a few of the highlights;

- Mytholmroyd Gala – a fantastic community event drawing in thousands of pounds for local charities.
- The Arts Festival— a major event for the region bringing in thousands of visitors from across the region.
- The Vintage Car Rally – bringing in thousands of visitors to Hebden Royd.
- Naming a bridge in Warstein, Hebden Bridge – this was a major landmark in the partnership between our towns and one we were extremely proud to be involved with.
- Other events included the Christmas Light switch on in Hebden Bridge and the first switch on of Christmas lights in Mytholmroyd for many years.
- The opening of the newly refurbished Mytholmroyd Memorial Gardens – this has really helped with the on going development of Mytholmroyd
- Most major businesses were visited in our area.
- Over 20 school assemblies – to explain to the children the function of the council and to elaborate the Mayoral theme for 2011/2012 – School twinning – this included the very first inter-primary school Skype meeting between primary schools in our respective areas – between Hebden Royd Primary School and Johannes Grundschule in Allagen, Warstein. Also in Attendance was our own MEP Rebecca Taylor

Very proud and honoured to represent our fantastic area

Cllr Scott Trickett

Mayor Hebden Royd Town Council 2011/2012

Work of the Council

During the last year the full council has met on 18 occasions and made 351 decisions plus considered and made recommendation to Calderdale MBC on 140 planning applications. The Council successfully received reaccreditation as a Quality Parish Council on the 1st July 2011.

Committees

Committees are where issues are examined in detail, Eight have been appointed this year.

Allotments

This committee continues to work toward an asset transfer of two allotment sites in the area. The first of these is Banksfield in Mytholmroyd, an existing site with 8 plots. The second of these is High Hirst at Dodnaze, This area of land will be developed to provide approximately 35 growing spaces alongside orchard and woodland planting in 2012/13.

Community Funding

Hebden Royd Town Council continues to be one of the biggest funders in the Calder Valley. This year grants to the value of £71, 260.04 were allocated which will directly benefit the residents of Hebden Royd. There were a wide and varied range organisations applying for the funding. Any formally constituted group may apply for funding and in certain circumstances running costs can be funded.

Please contact the office or website for further information.

Environmental Renaissance

This committee seeks to improve the environment of the area. The bulb planting and hanging basket schemes continue as well as the annual Spring Clean campaign. Work has been undertaken to encourage the proper disposal of dog waste with the Happy Hounds event and Poems Against Poo. The committee also decides on how best to support the festive lighting in the area working in conjunction with Calderdale MBC. Work will continue to improve the appearance of the area.

Picture House

The Asset Transfer of the Picture House was one of the main activities for Hebden Royd Town Council this year. This committee developed the initial ideas and business plan for the transfer of the Picture House, as well as carrying out an extensive public consultation which received almost 1500 responses and an overwhelming majority of 85% of respondents in favour of transferring the Picture House to Hebden Royd Town Council. The transfer was completed on the 1st April 2012.

Staffing

This committee deals with council employment and training issues affecting the Council and its employees. This year the committee has dealt with the retirement of long serving Mayors Secretary, Mrs Christine Jackson and the recruitment of a new Administrator/Mayors Secretary, Mrs Rebekah Cox.

Strategy and Review

This committee continues oversee the strategic direction of the Town Council in response to current issues and requests received from both National and Regional organisations. It worked to provide a fair and balanced budget taking in to account the imminent new addition of the Picture House and it's requirement for considerable capital investment.

Twinning

The twinning committee arranged a successful visit to Warstein in June 2011 to celebrate the opening of Beleck Square. A friendship visit to St Pol took place in November. Hebden Royd Town Council continues to work with the International Group to strengthen relationships with our twin towns and to develop new initiatives such as school twinning links.

Young People

This committee supported the development of the Skate Park and the Fair for Youth event and considered how it could best support young people in the area. It was originally set up to manage funding for the Fair for Youth event. Since these funds are directly allocated in the HTRC budget, it has been decided that this committee shall revert to its previous status as a working party continuing to support the work which is done for the benefit of young people.

Council has 18 members, four of which are also members of Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council.

Committees

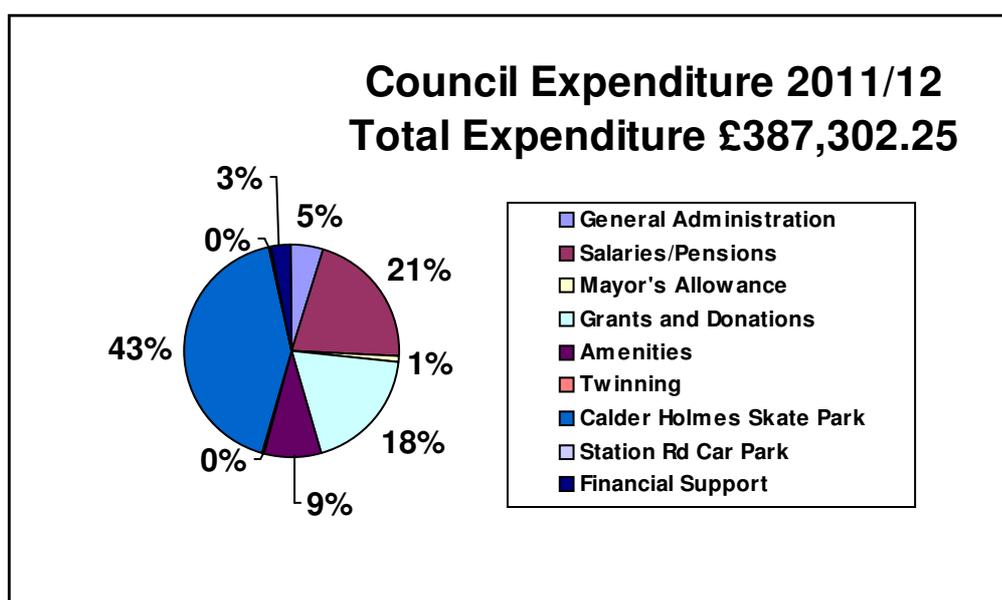
There are eight committees, Allotments, Community Funding, Environmental Renaissance, Picture House, Staffing, Strategy & Review, Twinning & Young People dealing with the main business, overseen by the Full Council.

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Member	Committees	Full Council Meetings		Committee Meetings	
		Possible	Actual	Possible	Actual
J T Allison	Staffing, S&R, Young People	18	12	14	8
J D Baker	Com Funding, S&R, Young People	18	18	15	11
C I Bampton Smith*	Com Funding, Staffing	18	15	8	5
J C Beacroft Mitchell*	Environment, S&R	18	11	12	5
K A Boggis	Allotments, Staffing	18	14	14	6
C A Davenport	Allotments, Picture House, Twinning	18	16	25	25
W J Downs	Allotments, Picture House, Twin, YP	18	16	25	20
J E Fearon	Allot, Com Funding, Pic House, YP	18	16	27	18
N Fekri*	Picture House	18	11	14	2
A R Hodgins	Environment, Twinning, Young People	18	15	13	10
S M Press	Com Fund, Pic House, Staff, Twin, YP	18	18	40	34
R Scorer	Com Funding, Environment,	18	14	9	7
S Sweeney	Environment, Staffing, S&R, Twin, YP	18	18	22	21
M J Talbot	Allotments, Staffing, S&R	18	13	18	15
AS Trickett	All as Mayor	18	11	50	20
E L Tsoneva	Community Funding, Twinning	18	14	8	8
N J Yorke	Allotments, Environment,	18	16	14	14
D K Young*	Environment, Picture House, Staff, S&R	18	17	34	32

These figures do not show other meetings attended by members on behalf of Hebden Royd Town Council, casework or other tasks undertaken by ward members.

The Council held eighteen meetings during 2011/12 plus committee meetings as well as working parties and community public meetings. The possible number of meetings depends on the committees to which a member is assigned and the record is summarised above.



The Precept, the amount collected by Calderdale MBC on behalf of Hebden Royd Town Council, was £199,762 plus a grant of £7,841. This works out at £58.64 per year for a Band D household or £1.13 per week. The majority of dwellings in Hebden Royd are Band A paying £39.09 or 75p per week.