

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

The Annual Report summarises the activities of Hebden Royd during the year 2022/23

www.hebdenroydtowncouncil.gov.uk

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About Hebden Royd

Hebden Royd Town Council is an elected authority which works closely with the area's principal authority, Calderdale MBC to support the residents of the area by funding local projects and organisations. It provides services such as allotments and owns and runs the Hebden Bridge Picture House. It acts as a catalyst for discussion working with other organisations to lobby and campaign for local improvements. The Council area has a population of 9,728 and includes the settlements of Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd. The full council meets every three weeks and there are six committees.

Hebden Royd Town Council's strategic aims are to:

- Protect, enhance and improve the local environment
- Promote Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd
- Support and develop our young people
- Improve the resilience of the area and strengthen our community
- Improve our own efficiency and effectiveness, leading to good governance.

This annual report gives a summary of the work of the Town Council over the last year more can information including agendas, minutes and press information can be found at www.hebdenroydtowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Mayors Overview

The Mayor, Cllr Jane Hoyle reflected on arriving at the end of her Mayoral Year and that Hebden Royd Town Council will soon be at the beginning of another council starting for another four years following a newly elected council.

The past four years have been eventful - with the Covid – 19 Pandemic, Zoom meetings and the floods in 2020. While having seven newly elected Councillors, but I would like to mention thank the seven Councillors who have worked with us over the past 4 years and who decided to stand down at the May 2023 elections:

Tony Hodgins, who has served despite ill health for much of the past four years.

Rob Freeth, who served as Mayor in 2021-2022 and will continue his good work with the Teaching Unions and the Hebden Bridge Rotary Club.

Val Stevens, who served as Mayor during the Covid – 19 Pandemic and is looking forward to the birth of her second grandchild, I am sure will remain very active in the community.

Geoff Wood who has served for 4 years and will continue with his work with Royd Regen.

Sarah Courtney and Scott Patient, who will continue as Councillors with Calderdale Council. I'm sure they will keep in touch.

And last, but not least Dave Young who has served on HRTC and Calderdale Council. We wish him a great retirement.

I would also like to thank HRTC Committees and Committee Chairs. For the past year, I have attended as many committees as I could and have come to appreciate that they form the backbone of all we do at HRTC. I would like to thank all the chairs and committee members for all their hard work.

I would like to highlight Dave Young who has served as chair of the Environment and Allotment committee for nearly 20 years. This committee is responsible for all the lovely peat free hanging baskets that you see around the town, as well as litter picks, bulb and wildflower planting. This committee will cease to exist on its own in 2023/24 and is now part of the Climate Emergency committee.

The Climate Emergency committee is responsible for High Hurst Wood Meadow and now has a dedicated Climate Emergency and Bio-diversity Officer working with schools and in the wider community.

Many local groups have benefitted from grants received from the Community Funding Committee; we look forward to attending them throughout the year. We are very proud of the Picture House with its variety of great films, the

volunteers, the friends of the Picture House and its designation as the UK's first Cinema of Sanctuary as asylum seekers have been made welcome there. The Cost of Living Committee has provided funding for warm spaces throughout Hebden Royd, a much need initiative during this year's fuel crisis. The Projects and Events committee is responsible for the Christmas Lights and the Light Switch-on in Mytholmroyd and Hebden Bridge, Happy Hounds and the Pumpkin Festival.

Personally during my year as Mayor I have hosted three fundraising events for my charity, Calder Valley Search and Rescue – A fund raiser at Mytholmroyd working Man's Club, a Civic Service and a Ceilidh. A total of £3000 has been raised for Calder Valley Search and Rescue.

Central to these fundraising events as well as the Light Switch on, Happy Hounds, the Pumpkin Festival are the HRTC Office Team, Emma and Rebekah, who work so hard at all these events, both on the day and with all the planning. They are busy from morning till night making sure things run smoothly. I want to thank Rebekah for keeping my diary and Jason for guiding and supporting me throughout my mayoral year.

I have had a very busy civic year with a number of events taking place having been postponed due to the covid – 19 pandemic. These included twinning visits from St Pol and Warstein.

During the year I attended events associated with the Queen's Jubilee and sadly her death followed by the proclamation of the new King and the subsequent Coronation.

I have cut ribbons at the Kindness Shop, The Vault Pub and information boards at High Hurst wood meadow and taken a Yorkshire Day breakfast on the Worth Valley railway. I was also invited to see Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Nativity and Cinderella!

The year was tinged by sad and moving occasions, a Mesothelioma/asbestosis awareness raising event and the Vigil for Brianna Ghey in addition to the passing of the Queen. It's been an interesting and varied year.

And finally, I would like to thank Cllr Bernice Hayes who has been my right hand woman over the past year having stepped in to chair Full Council meetings when I was unwell and for supporting civic events.

Thank you.

THE MAYOR'S OVERVIEW

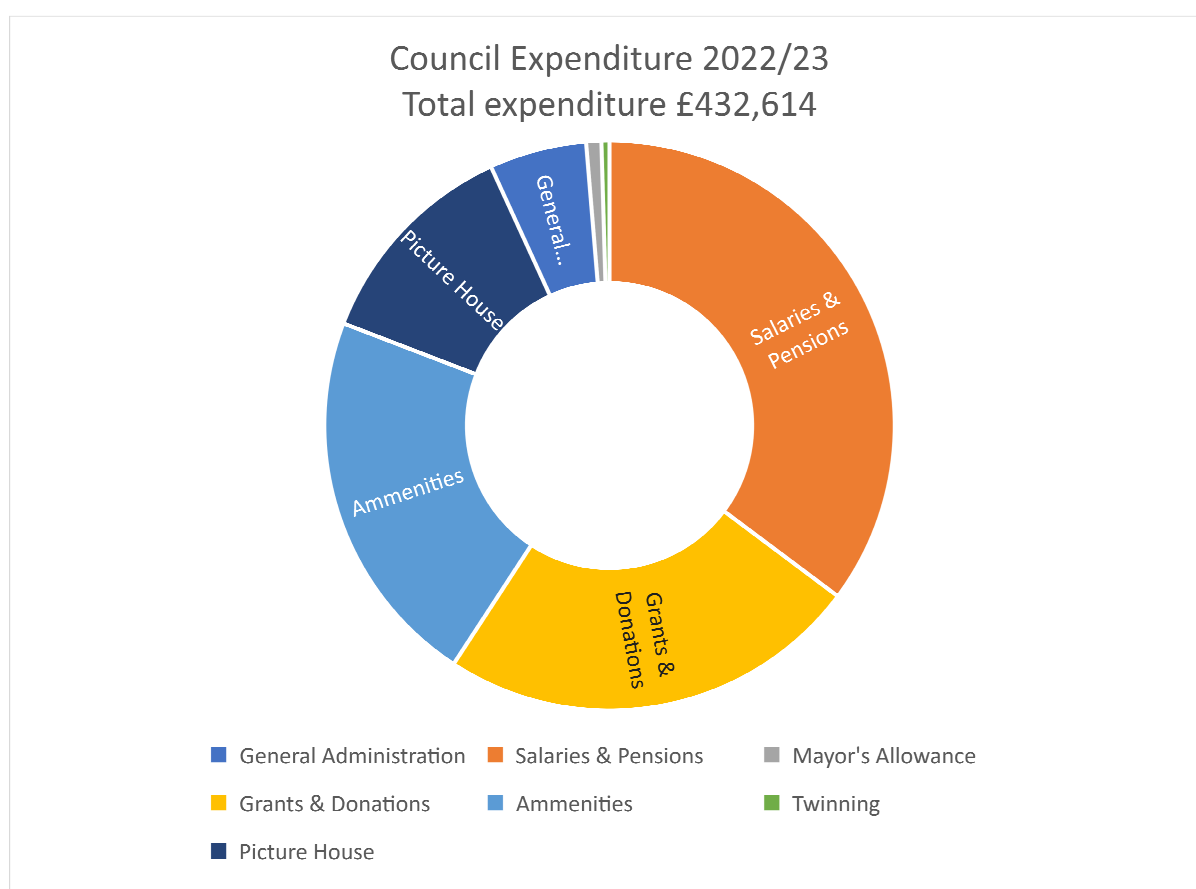
Cllr Jane Hoyle

Mayor of Hebden Royd Town Council

Financial Information

The Precept, the amount collected by Calderdale MBC on behalf of Hebden Royd Town Council, was £402,150 plus grants of £42, 546. This works out at £123.52 per year for a Band D household or £2.38 per week. The majority of dwellings in Hebden Royd are Band A properties which are charged £82.34 per year or £1.58 per week.

The account statement for 2022/2023 is subject to external audit and may be modified.



Town Councillors

The Town Council comprises eighteen elected members. Elections take place every four years when all eighteen of the Town Council seats will be available for contest. The next elections will be in May 2023.

The eighteen members below were members of the Town Council on 2 November 2022. During the year the schedule of meetings was displayed on Town Council notice boards and on the website.

Members of the Council

Town Mayor – Cllr Jane Hoyle
Deputy Mayor - Cllr Bernice Hayes

Members of the Council

Cllr Christine Bampton Smith	Cllr Karl Boggis	Cllr R Boden
Cllr June Cammack	Cllr Sarah Courtney	Cllr Sue Fenton
Cllr Pat Fraser	Cllr Rob Freeth	Cllr Patsi Guilfoyle
Cllr Nikki Harvey	Cllr Tony Hodgins	Cllr Richard Needham
Cllr Scott Patient	Cllr Val Stevens	Cllr Geoff Wood
	Cllr Dave Young	

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