

ANNUAL MEETING of the TOWN COUNCIL
held TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025 at
WATERFRONT HALL, HEBDEN BRIDGE TOWN HALL

PRESENT **Councillors** - Butterick (Chair from item 2), Bampton Smith, Fraser, Guilfoyle, Harvey, Hedges, Macdonald, Morse, Turner and Young

Town Clerk - Emma Green

Executive Assistant to the Clerk and Mayor – Rebekah Cox (Minutes)

Deputy Town Clerk – Ebony Andrews

47 members of the public.

MINUTES

The Town Clerk opened the meeting and welcomed all those present.

1. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MAYOR

It was moved by Cllr Hedges

Seconded by Cllr Morse and

RESOLVED: That the Mayor for the Council year 2025-26 shall be Cllr Keith Butterick

Cllr Butterick accepted the role of Mayor and signed declaration and announced that his consort for the year shall be Lorna Butterick.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Hoyle, Howes and Woodhead.

3. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Cllr Young

Seconded by Cllr Harvey and

RESOLVED: that Cllr Steve Woodhead be the Deputy Mayor for the Council year 2025-26.

4. SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD 2024/25

Cllr Butterick introduced the Service to the Community Award in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the community of Hebden Royd and asked for nominations.

Cllr Nikki Harvey nominated Neil Diment for outstanding contribution to the community for his inspirational contribution to natural environment and wider community in Hebden Royd. Cllr Harvey also

gave a speech about the work Neil has carried out in a voluntary capacity with the High Hirst Woodmeadow Project. With Neil's professional background in ancient hay meadows and working with farmers and communities he has contributed countless hours of his own time and expertise in supporting the meadow which has become a success today both in terms of community engagement and the increasing biodiversity there.

Neil was also the cofounder of Calder Youth Folk Group in 2018. A inclusive music group that many local children have benefited from over the years.

The Service to the Community Shield and Certificate was presented to Neil Diment.

Neil accepted the award and gave words of thanks to all volunteers especially the co-committee members Steve Hindle, Kerry Mcquade and Susan Smith. Neil thanked Hebden Royd Town Council especially Nikki Harvey for all the hard work and commitment. It shows real leadership and motivating people to help out educating and conservating of a wildlife site.

5. SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD – YOUTH SECTION 2024/25

Cllr Barry Young introduced the Service to the Community Award – Youth Section and in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the community of Hebden Royd nominated Happy Valley Pride Youth Engagement Programme.

Cllr Young said that he was proud to be involved with Happy Valley Pride over the last two years. As well as the Pride festival they hold other events that are inclusive to all and are focused on participation of creative arts involving schools and the local community. Electric Bloom created a safe and inclusive space for all young people. The event held was a free event for music lovers aged between 11 and 18 years old.

Terry Logan and Adam Pryce accepted the Service to the Community Shield and Certificate was presented to Happy Valley Pride Young Engagement Programme team.

Terry thanked the council and said it was an honour to accept the award. Terry shared words of thanks from the leader of the youth group who had send apologies for not making the event but was currently taking GCSE's. The group are looking forward to the future providing a safe space for you children. Terry expressed how proud she was of the team and look forward to the future.

6. RETIRING MAYOR

Hebden Royd Mayor, Cllr Keith Butterick invited the retiring Mayor Cllr Pat Fraser to address the meeting having presented her with a Past Mayors Badge, a record of her Mayoral Year and a plant.

Cllr Pat Fraser expressed thanks to HRTC Councillors during her Mayoral Year of 2024/25 and gave an account of the year, making presentations to those who have supported her during the year including her five consorts.

Cllr Pat Fraser gave the highlights from the Mayors Diary for 2024/25, to name but a few, presenting the Kenneth Kaberry Awards to local primary schools which provides money to buy books, a celebration for Women's International Day, her Civic Service in October with the theme of 'Peace' where fellow councillors, family and friends read poems, the Dock Pudding Competition, the Brass Band and Hebden Royd Town Council events such as the Pumpkin Trail and Christmas Light Switch On's.

Cllr Fraser presented the Mayors Charity for 2024/25 a cheque for £2130.00 to Hebden Bridge Saints Under 15's Girls Football Team. A member of the team accepted the cheque on behalf of the team giving thanks to the Mayor.

Cllr Fraser thanked Cllr Butterick for being her Deputy Mayor and said that she would be leaving the Mayoral role in good hands with him.

7. MAYORAL ASPIRATIONS FOR 2025/26 & ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAYORS CHARITY

Cllr Keith Butterick gave an outline of his aspirations for the year ahead and announced the Mayor's Charity for 2025/26.

Thanked and welcomed all for attending the event and that some people had travelled far and wide to attend Cllr Butterick said that it was an honour to serve Hebden Royd and promote the importance of the community working together.

Cllr Butterick announced that The White Ribbon Campaign will be the Mayors Charity for 2025/26. The White Ribbon Campaign is a global movement aimed at engaging men and boys to end violence against women and to promote gender equality. This is a charity close to Cllr Buttericks heart.

The Mayor of Hebden Royd, Cllr Keith Butterick closed the meeting and encouraged those attending to enjoy the refreshments and stay after the meeting to network and catch up with friends.

Steve Tynan, local guitar teacher (and the Mayors guitar teacher) provided background guitar music.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.