

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the **PROJECTS, EVENTS & CHRISTMAS LIGHTING COMMITTEE** Held **WEDNESDAY 30th JULY 2025**

MINUTES

PRESENT: **Councillors:** Fraser (Chair), Bampton Smith, Hedges, Hoyle, Macdonald, Turner and Young

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Andrews

Also: HRTC Communications & Engagement Coordinator, B Moore

122. To receive apologies and reasons for absence and any substitutions.
There were no apologies received at this meeting.

123. To receive members' interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.
There were no interests declared at this meeting.

124. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 11th JUNE 2025 not itemised on this agenda.
There were no matters arising.

125. BUDGET UPDATE
The budget for the forthcoming year was discussed. Councillors asked for clarification in respect of the Remembrance Sunday budget now being a stand-alone budget, not part of the overall committee budget. The Deputy Clerk confirmed further information on this will be brought to the next meeting.
RESOLVED: To note the information.

126. CONSIDERATION OF PROJECTS/EVENTS PRIORITIES
The committee considered if and how the Council might respond to key calendar dates, how to better identify the needs of residents, and how projects and events align with the wider strategy of the Council.

Councillors discussed at length various options for future projects & events. The following key ideas were identified, and it was agreed that the Project Officer will develop an outline brief for each to be considered further to the next committee meeting:

a). **'Green Network'**

To instigate and develop a 'green network' (working title) across Hebden Royd, working in conjunction with the Local Environment & Climate Committee, and in collaboration with relevant volunteers, businesses, and partners on local, environmentally focused initiatives. Following models of best practice, this network would be designed to become self-sustaining over time. Its aims would include strengthening community connections and providing a hub for partnership opportunities and skills sharing. Key priorities would be to alleviate social isolation, support mental and physical wellbeing, and offer inclusive, accessible ways for people to engage with the local environment. Potential outputs could include but are not limited to: Community engagement days (e.g., working with schools), local produce events, planting days and other seasonal activities across Hebden Royd.

b). **Lamp Post Banners**

A review and update of the street lamppost banners which are now out of date, faded, and becoming damaged. Possibly working with project partners – for example Hebden Royd Business Forum, and with a view to include Mytholmroyd in the scheme, with the intention to improve the overall look of the area and better reflect the more recent work and logo update of the Council.

c). **Christmas Grotto**

To review the Christmas grotto, offer, and look at possible areas for improvement and alternatives.

d). **What's On Hebden Bridge (WOHB)**

As part of the ongoing development of HRTC assets, it is worth noting that the WOHB community events calendar will mark its first anniversary in September. The working group has identified several priority areas that would benefit from additional support and enhancement. These priorities include: Engaging with current users to gather feedback and improve the platform's offer, reaching out to individuals who do not currently use the platform, and putting in place measures to encourage their participation, exploring new options for marketing and promotion, such as email notifications and printed listings and expanding the platform's community reach through the use of visual display technologies.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION POINTS

a). **Calder Holmes Park - Flood Alleviation Works**

That the availability of Calder Holmes Park, Hebden Bridge, during the upcoming flood alleviation works will require consideration in relation to the delivery of events. The dates, details and implications of which will be discussed further by the committee when released by the Environment Agency.

b). **October Events in Hebden Royd**

That Hebden Royd Business Forum have expressed an interest in delivering a seasonal project / event around the October period. The project Officer confirmed that HRTC are open to working with the Business Forum and continue to welcome Community Funding Applications.

c). **Communications Calendar**

The committee requested that a HRTC communications calendar in respect to key national dates and significant anniversaries could be developed and reviewed.

RESOLVED: The committee requested that, if possible, a date for an additional committee meeting is identified and secured. This will occur on the 23rd September 2025. This additional meeting will be used to further discuss the detail of the ideas noted.

RESOLVED: To refer the request for the development of a Communications Calendar to the Strategy & Review Committee for consideration.

Meeting finished at 9:00pm