

Hebden Bridge Community Association
Buildings briefing note

Overall policy

1. We have described Hebden Bridge Town Hall as a landmark building, and as a key focus for community and civic life.

We want any new buildings created on the Town Hall site to reflect the importance of the site within our community, and to be in themselves landmark buildings.

We want high-quality architecture which will stand the test of time. We are putting in place public buildings which we expect to serve the community for the whole of the remainder of the 21st century.

2. We also want buildings to be as 'green' as possible. We are looking for a design which will maximise energy efficiency and which will be environmentally sustainable (including in the materials selected and used).

We are interested in the buildings being exemplary in this respect, and we are prepared to look at innovative energy generation and conservation measures.

3. We want new buildings which will complement the existing (Grade 2 listed) late-Victorian Town Hall building in appropriate ways. We want modern architecture which neither dominates the existing building nor is overshadowed by it.

We want architecture which is sensitive to local building traditions and materials. We definitely do not want pastiche architecture, however.

4. We want to engage the Hebden Bridge community in the development of these new civic buildings to the fullest extent possible. The processes we use to achieve this will be subject to detailed discussions with the architects chosen.

5. We want as far as possible to take advantage of the attractive riverside setting of the site, which is currently not exploited fully.

6. In order to help ensure the design chosen is of the highest possible quality, we will consider using the advisory services offered by CABE.