

Sevenoaks Town Council

Sevenoaks Youth Council



Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Council

Held on Wednesday 10th September 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices,
TN13 3QG

Meeting commenced: 18:00

Meeting Concluded: 18:41

Present:

Simba Li- Chair	Apologies	Sahej Kandhari	Absent
Rosie Blackmore- Vice-Chair	Absent	Esme Lefevre	Present
Harry King- Treasurer	Apologies	Joshua Marelane	Apologies
Bianca Agarwal	Absent	Riddley McDermott	Present
Aryanna Mahdavi Ardestani	Present	Sofia Moschini	Present
Catherine Barden De Leon	Absent	Ayaan Motwani	Present
Jasper Barnes	Absent	John Ng	Present
Dexter Buhmann	Absent	Errol Okundi	Absent
Lily Blackburn	Absent	Jaxon Pang	Absent
Catherine Campbell-Pitt	Apologies	Madeleine Politzer	Absent
Charlotte Doe	Absent	Elif Sabanci	Absent
Ayush Gautam	Absent	Drago Schwalber-Janaway	Absent
Maya Goodrich	Apologies	Jospeh Soanes	Absent
Bea Hayward	Absent	James Tang	Absent
Lizzie Hunt	Present	Ines wang	Present
Christian Hunter-Garcia	Absent	Aditya Vara	Absent
Ishwar Sharma	Apologies		

In attendance: The Deputy Town Clerk/ Responsible Finance Officer, Youth Committee Clerk and The Manager of the House in the Basement Youth Café.

1 – In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair and the Treasurer, Aryanna chaired the Meeting.

2 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and accepted as noted above.

3 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on Wednesday, 9th July 2025.



4 - FINANCE REPORT

It was noted that the DJ Kit had been purchased for House in the Basement for £148.67. The Youth Council noted that during the Climate Fair, some had been given Youth Council t-shirts and proposed that the New Youth Council could purchase new t-shirts for Youth Councillors to wear at events.

RESOLVED: To note the current Youth Council budget for 2025-2026 was £ 1,351.70.

5 – CURRENT & COMPLETED MATTERS REPORTS

The Youth Council received and noted the Current Matters Report,
The Youth Council received and noted the Completed Matters Report.

6 - SUMMER EVENTS REPORT

The Youth Council received the summer events report.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the summer events report.

7 - HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE

The Youth Council received the House in the Basement Managers' report.

It was noted that over the Summer holidays, there was an Open Mic Night held at the Vine Gardens and a Photography workshop (Wednesday, 27th of August) held at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve. It was also reported that over 35 young people attended the House in the Basement Summer trip to Broadstairs. The Youth Council also heard that House in the Basement held a Celebration for Paula to celebrate 40 years of Youth Work.

8 - FUNDING HITB BROADSTAIRS TRIP

The Youth Council noted that in the future, they could hold fundraising events to help pay for items such as the Coach for the House in the Basement trips. It was noted that they would like to have a stall at future events like the Christmas Lights Switch-on to do this.

RESOLVED: To fund £250 for the coach fare for young people to attend the Broadstairs Trip.

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9 - WEST KENT BADGER GROUP

The Youth Council received a presentation from the West Kent Badger Group, who outlined that they are primarily a volunteer-based organisation that helps to monitor, rescue and relocate badgers after they have been reported to them

. It was noted that they work with the Folly Wildlife Rescue Centre in Tonbridge Wells, to help house and look after the badgers. The Youth Council heard that Badgers are a protected species and are protected by Law under the Badger Protection Act 1992.

It was noted that the West Kent Badger Group also record the deaths of Badgers from Road Traffic Accidents (RTA) and may at times be asked to investigate the death of a badger if it is thought to be suspicious due to the protection of badgers. They reported that the number of Badgers reported dead from RTAs has increased in the last couple of years.

They reported that if any of the Youth Council members are interested in helping with the protection of badgers, they are more than welcome to either sign up to volunteer with the West Kent Badger Group or to volunteer with the Folly Wildlife Trust.

10 - YOUTH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted that the Youth Council Elections had started and were running until the 1st of October. Any Youth Councillors who wish to continue for another two years need to resubmit their entry forms if they have not done so already.

There being no further business the Chair closed the Meeting.

Signed
Chair

Dated

West Kent Badger Group

By Kathie Foster



What we do

- Rescue and rehabilitation
- Badger protection
- Badger advice
- Badger talks and events
- Badger sett surveying and monitoring
- National support

Rescues and rehabilitations

- Work closely with Folly Wildlife Rescue
- Have a network of volunteer rescuers
- Undertake training & provide equipment
- Assist with badger releases



What happens to a rescued cub?

- Hand reared until weaned – 12 weeks
- Kept at Folly in small group – 5/6
- Sometimes swapped with other rescue centers
- Released late August September
- Supported in the wild until independent



Badger Protection

- Badger are protected under the Badger Protection Act 1992
- Report badger crime to the police
- Monitor setts at risk – gather evidence
- Assist with investigations
- Review developments, ensure badgers, their setts and habitats are protected



Badger advice and Talks

- Badgers in gardens
- Talks
- Events



Sett surveys and monitoring

- Keep records of RTA's
- Conduct surveys
- Empower people



National Support

- Badger Cull
- Changings in planning law
- Writing to MP's
- Protesting
- Increasing public awareness



What can you do to help badgers?

- Find out more about badgers
- Report any badger crime
- Report any dead badgers
- Volunteer with Folly Wildlife Rescue
- Join the West Kent Badger Group!





THE END