

MINUTES OF THE SEVENOAKS YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on 24 July 2013 in the Town Council Chamber

Present:

Youth Councillors: Caitlin Stevens (Vice Chairman), Alexander Dunn (Treasurer), Oliver Harper, Harriet Linley and Tanjinna Miah

In the absence of the Chairman, Youth Cllr Danika Dixon, the Vice Chairman, Youth Councillor Caitlin Stevens chaired the meeting.

Apologies for Absence:

Youth Councillors: Anneesha Bhandan, Danika Dixon (Chairman), Sufiyah Fitzgerald and James Barton

KCC: Mr Nigel Crocker, Youth and Community Worker Officer

In Attendance:

Cllrs A S Clayton, A Eyre, R J Parry, S G Raikes and Mrs P C Walshe

KCC - Ms Pauline Wagon, Community Youth Tutor

Mrs Linda Larter MBE, (Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk), Mr Adam Wedd (Youth Café Manager) and Mrs Michèle MacDonald (Committee Clerk)

Guest Speaker:

Mrs Gwyneth Brearley, Chairman of the Sevenoaks Fairtrade Network Steering Committee attended to seek volunteer(s) as Youth representative on their committee.

Mrs Gwyneth Brearley briefly explained the history of this committee and handed out leaflets to all asking if any Youth Councillors would like to help raise awareness in Sevenoaks, give their ideas and/or take ideas to Youth Council, liaise within their schools and attend meetings of the Sevenoaks Fairtrade Network Steering Committee approximately four times a year.

Youth Councillors Caitlin Stevens, Alexander Dunn, Harriet Linley and Tanjinna Miah offered to represent Sevenoaks Youth Council and assist the Sevenoaks Fairtrade Network Steering Committee with at least one Youth Councillor to attend each meeting.

42 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Youth Council Meeting held on 10 July 2013 be received and adopted.

43 FINANCE REPORT

Alexander Dunn, as Treasurer, outlined the financial report of the Youth Council and the Youth Café noting that following the Youth Council's visit to the Houses of Parliament on 17 July 2013, the net balance taken forward be £1,933.66. **It was AGREED that** the September 2013 Financial Report will show the income derived from VOICES (£2 per ticket) separately recorded as fundraising.

44 KCC YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS

Youth Councilors Oliver Harper and Harriet Linley attended the meeting on 18 July 2013 in Swanley with Linda Larter MBE, Chief Executive/Town Clerk.

Both Youth Councillors reported the benefits of learning about other versions of HOUSE Youth Cafes, welcomed the advice regarding e-safety training and the risks of internet and social networking and came away inspired to organize more events for both the Youth Council and HOUSE in the Basement Youth Café either to socialize or to fundraise.

44 EVENTS

- a) Parliament Trip 17 July 2013 – Youth Councillors Danika Dixon, Caitlin Stevens, Alexander Dunn, James Barton, Oliver Harper, Harriet Linley and Tanjinna Miah visited the Houses of Parliament and found the tour and the meeting with the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP to be educational and of interest.
- b) British Youth Council (BYC) 31 August 2013 – **It was RESOLVED that** Youth Councillors Danika Dixon, Alexander Dunn, Harriet Linley and Tanjinna Miah would attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in London with Michèle MacDonald. A working party pre-meeting will be arranged during the school summer holidays to discuss the BYC AGM.
- c) KCC Diversity Event – Following the KCC Youth advisory meeting held on 18 July 2013 in Swanley, all were asked to discuss amongst their peers what they would like the KCC to include in their Diversity Event. **It was RESOLVED that** Sevenoaks Youth Council submit Food Tasting from around the world and or a multi-cultural film festival.
- d) Summer Outings for Sevenoaks Young People – West Kent Extra confirmed a trip to Thorpe Park on 1 August 2013 and Swanley's Summer Programme was distributed to Youth Councillors. Various suggestions of outings to be arranged in August 2013 by Sevenoaks Youth Council were discussed. Following a vote **it was RESOLVED that** Sevenoaks Youth Council to arrange free return transport to Thorpe Park. Tickets for entry to Thorpe Park to be paid for by young people themselves but be bought in bulk by the Youth Council.

45 KENT YOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

It was noted that no reports had been received.

46 TOWN DEBATE TUESDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2013

The Town Mayor will be hosting a town debate during Local Democracy week. Topic to be agreed by the Mayor nearer the date. During the day schools will be invited to debate the topic and in the evening this will be debated again by the general public.

47 HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT YOUTH CAFÉ

The June 2013 report was received and noted

48 IDEAS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE YOUTH COUNCIL

It was RESOLVED that:

- fundraising be included on future agendas
- seasonal events be organised
- Town Twinning with Pontoise be discussed at the next meeting of the Youth Council on 18 September 2013
- The relaunch of Soundwaves in October, November and December be on the September agenda. Michèle to organise a meeting in August for Youth Councillors to submit a bid to the KCC via the Youth Opportunity Fund.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm