

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 4 DECEMBER 2013 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER**

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

In Attendance: Cllr Eyre, Linda Larter and Michèle MacDonald

Apologies for Absence: Youth Councillor Caitlin Stevens and Adam Wedd, Youth Café Manager

GUEST SPEAKER – Mr Richard Wedd, SAFE Development Officer, Voluntary Action within Kent (VAWK) introduced **SAFE**, a mental Health Awareness scheme for Young People to Sevenoaks Youth Council.

SAFE will

- meet monthly at the HOUSE in the Basement Youth Café. Richard asked if any sixth formers would like to join the committee.
Youth Councillors Harriet Linley and Tanjinna Miah joined the Sevenoaks SAFE Committee
- set up a club, SAFE SPACE for any young people within the area of Sevenoaks District aged 10+ who have experienced mental health issues. SAFE SPACE will meet weekly at the HOUSE in the Basement Youth Café at 5pm and will be run by the SAFE Committee, with activities such as music, song writing and art workshops and other to enable young people to express their emotions. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 December 2014 at 4:30pm, which may possibly in future be changed to a 5pm start.

Richard will email the link to 'Talk to Someone' to Michèle for distribution with the minutes.
[attached: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6s34A38FBw>]

It was AGREED that if fund raising events were held at the Youth Café for SAFE in the future to be 50/50 for the benefit of the Youth Café and the SAFE project.

14 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on 30 October 2013 be received and adopted.

15 FINANCE REPORT

The newly elected Treasurer, Youth Councillor Harriet Linley reported the net balance remained unaltered at £1,877.23.

16 EVENTS

REPORTED that the

- a) Monthly Soundwaves event take place on Friday 6 December 2013
- b) HITB Christmas Party on Saturday 21 December 2013 is free of charge thanks to a donation from Cllr Mrs Crabtree
- c) HITB Beauty Evening takes place in the Youth Café on Thursday 22 January 2014. SAFE be invited to be involved

RESOLVED that the Youth Councillors

- e) organise an Open Evening to be held at the HITB Youth Cafe on Friday 17 January 2014 [date agreed after the meeting] in order to canvass young people for ideas and to attract some more young people to join Sevenoaks Youth Council to fill current vacancies
- f) organise free refreshments using the Youth Council's budget
- g) design posters
- h) redesign the Youth Council election leaflet ready for October's election
- i) advertise the Open Evening on Facebook
- j) draft an article of the Open Evening for Sevenoaks Chronicle

17 FAIRTRADE

Youth Councillor Harriet Linley reported that there were now 50 likes on the Facebook page and that more work needs to be done in order to be prepared for the Fairtrade fortnight taking place Monday 24 February to Sunday 9 March 2014.

18 KENT YOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Congratulations were conveyed to Youth Councillors Alexander Dunn and Harriet Linley who had successfully been elected at Kent County Council (KCC) as KCC Youth Councillors. The three campaigns for 2014 were noted.

19 HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT YOUTH CAFÉ

The Youth café's November 2013 report together with the general statistics and geographical data were received and noted.

REPORTED that:

- a) more young people have joined [October saw 69 new members join the Youth café] but are attending less frequently
- b) case studies were being prepared highlighting some interesting and positive feedback
- c) the Youth Magazine's editorial team continues working on this project - revised launch date is Spring 2014
- d) the KCC QES computer system continues to present issues. Mr Nigel Crocker will chase up results following the recent meeting between the KCC QES representative and the Town Clerk.

20 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS

All meetings start at 6.00pm in the Town Council Chamber:

- a) 15 January 2014
 - Youth Councillor Oliver Harper and Michèle MacDonald to prepare a Youth Survey to identify Shops and films to suit young people of Sevenoaks to be discussed at the open evening
 - Youth Councillor Tanjinna Miah to set up a Sevenoaks Youth Council Facebook page with Youth Councillor Harriet Linley setting up a Facebook Chat page ready for this meeting. All Youth Councillors, Linda Larter and Michèle MacDonald to be administrators
 - Fairtrade support for the Fairtrade fortnight [24.02 to 09.03.2014]
- b) 26 February 2014 – Youth Café's rules to be reviewed by Young People at the Youth Cafe during half term week
- c) 9 April 2014 – agenda items yet to be confirmed

The meeting closed at 6:40pm

Chairman