

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SEVENOAKS YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2014 AT SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Present: Kelly Williams, Olivia Kings, Alexander Dunn, Ben Park, Thomas Smith, Tanjinna Miah, James Craggs, Taramina Miah

In Attendance

Cllrs A Eyre and R J Parry

Mr Shane Mochrie-Cox, KCC Community Youth Tutor

Linda Larter MBE Chief Executive/Town Clerk

Michèle MacDonald, Committee Clerk and Secretary to Chief Executive/Town Clerk

10 APOLOGIES

None received.

11 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: received and noted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: At the Chairman's request, the Youth Councillors decided to proceed with the following suggestions over the forthcoming year:

a. School Bus Tickets

- Prices deemed expensive. A breakdown of the Freedom Bus Pass numbers for Sevenoaks Town was requested. Michèle to action.
- Worthy of consideration is an introduction of a joint leisure bus ticket in Sevenoaks subject to costs. Subject to costs, Linda asked Youth Councillors put forward ideas for questions for a survey by email to Michèle.

b. School Bus Journeys

Concern regarding

- overcrowding [young people standing in corridors and stair on buses]
- behaviour of young people
 - sixth formers taking drugs
 - objects thrown out of windows
 - fights taking place
- bus drivers not scanning all passes which is felt that numbers and overcrowding figures were not accurate

AGREED that Michele approaches schools and the Director of Education at KCC about these concerns. Youth Councillors to note their concerns to Michele as soon as possible via email in order that the information may be collated.

- Sometimes buses don't turn up, school is notified but then there is no system in place to address getting home. A duty of care should exist.
- CCTV/Cameras – could schools be given access to these?

AGREED that Linda invites the Go Coach Director to attend the next meeting to hear concerns and offer help address these. Perhaps put in place a tweet network to notify late busses

c. Street Lights

- In some streets within Sevenoaks need turning back on as young people don't feel safe to go out especially around the Bat & Ball station. Linda advised that the KCC website is where to register any street lighting problems. Cllr Parry informed all of the quarterly meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held at KCC who would welcome a petition from Sevenoaks Youth Councillors.
- Linda asked Youth Councillors to email concerns regarding personal safety around the Bat& Ball area to Michèle **as soon as possible** as an audit of how safe people feel is being carried out there on Monday 22nd December 2014.

d. Event

Youth Councillors to consider the following events and their feasibility regarding timing and costs:

- partaking in the WW2 National VE (Victory in Europe) Day on Friday 8th May 2015 – considering either an event in Knole Park or Vine Gardens
- having a themed public event well-advertised such as an open air cinema event at Knole Park or Vine Gardens – free entry – money charged for refreshments.

ACTION Andrew Eyre to check Marvel Film blockbusters due out in 2015 for May half term holiday so that this idea may be further discussed at the next meeting of Sevenoaks Youth Council.

12 FINANCE REPORT

RESOLVED: no changes with the balance on account as £2,351.90.

13 HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT

RESOLVED:

- The HOUSE in the Basement report for December 2014 be received and noted
- General statistics, including income for October and November 2014 be received and noted
- Geographical data for October and November 2014 be received and noted

14 CONSTITUTION

RESOLVED: no changes

15 EVENTS

NOTED:

- Christmas Decoration Event at HITB Friday 19th December 2014 from 6pm to 8pm free of charge. Youth Councilors encouraged to come.
- Work Experience for Young People – offered under Sevenoaks Town Partnership, Stag Community Arts Centre, and Sevenoaks Town Council.

16 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

NOTED: the dates for the next meetings are: 28.01.2015 and 11.03.2015, in the Town Council Chamber at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 7pm