

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL
HELD ON 16TH MARCH 2016
COUNCIL CHAMBER, SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL TN13 3QG**

Present: Olivia Kings (Vice Chairman), Alexander Dunn, Kelly Williams [left at 6:40pm], Thomas Smith, Oliver Forth and Sam Chard.

In Attendance: Linda Larter Town Clerk, Michèle MacDonald, Mr Shane Mochrie-Cox, Senior Early Help Worker (Open Access – Youth Work) KCC, Cllr Stephen Arnold *[ex officio]*, Cllr Andrew Eyre and Cllr Simon Raikes *[arrived 6:28]*.

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Mrs R Parry and Cllr R Parry, Youth Cllrs Alexander Dunn, Philip Magee and Gail Grieves, Manager of HITB Youth Café

Youth Councillor Olivia Kings chaired the meeting.

21. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20th January 2016

Received and agreed to be a true record of the Meeting.

22. Finance Report

Noted that the balance on the account stood at £1,495.44.

23. Events

a) Rockdale Housing Association

RESOLVED:

- i. Youth Councillors to bake cakes on Saturday 16th April 2016 from 12 noon ready to visit Rockdale with the Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Stephen Arnold, at 3pm.
- ii. Manager of the HOUSE in the basement Youth Café to purchase ingredients to be paid for by the Youth Council and provide an ingredient allergy list.
- iii. The Mayor will bake his own cake to bring along.
- iv. Youth Councillors to check home diaries and let the Committee Clerk know whether or not they are attending as soon as possible.

b) Sevenoaks Youth Advisory Group [YAG] meeting – Thursday 28th January 2016

The Town Clerk provide a precis of the meeting touching upon (i) school transport, (ii) school lunches and (iii) life skills:

- i. Transport – the Youth Council have previously considered school transport and liaised with local bus company
- ii. School Lunches – Youth Cllrs undertook a brief survey of those present regarding school lunches as the young people attending the Youth Advisory Group had complained in general about school lunches. Their results were:

School	Lunches	Prices	Opinion
Weald of Kent Grammar	Ok	£2 approx.	Good lunch Snack lunches expensive 2 x youth cllrs feel 6 th form Canteen is really nice
Wrotham	Pretty good	Unknown	Pretty good
Tunbridge Wells grammar	Expensive	Unknown	Takes packed lunches
Knole Academy	Lovely Main meal Subway	£2.20 £2	brilliant

- iii. Life Skills – concerns locally were that schools did not prepare pupils for adulthood with life skills such as finances, sexual health, civic issues, citizenship and suggested schools to involve more volunteers to deliver this.

RESOLVED: Committee Clerk to feed information discussed at the Youth Council to the schools.

The next meeting of the YAG is in Swanley on 28th April 2016. **RESOLVED:** Youth Councillors to inform Committee Clerk if they wish to attend so that transport can be arranged.

c) Sevenoaks Summer Festival

RESOLVED: not to partake on the stage on the opening day of the festival. Instead the youth council will liaise with any bands they know of and suggest dates to perform at the Vine Bandstand during the school holidays. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

24. TRAIN COSTS FOR 16-18 YEAR OLDS

- a) Youth Cllr Forth advised that 15-20 regularly catch the train to school at Wrotham aged 16-18 and that costs increased as below:
- i. Bus Pass (Kent Freedom Pass) - £250 or £100 if you get free school meals
 - ii. Train Fare Otford to Wrotham £494 and post 16 is £658.66
 - iii. Train fare Kemsing to Wrotham £351.50
- b) The response from Wrotham School was received and noted.
- c) The Committee Clerk provided an update regarding Minute no 18 (d) bullet point 3, advising that the British Youth Council's remit this year does not include transport. However they would be happy to share the link of this survey in their newsletter which they distribute across the UK. **RESOLVED:** The Committee Clerk draft a questionnaire ready for the next meeting.

25. DRIVING AWARENESS SESSION

RESOLVED: Youth Council host a Driving Awareness Day on Saturday 28th May 2016 and committed to finding 15 Young People to sign up and attend the course. The KCC Youth Worker agreed to assist in finding some to join this event. The Committee Clerk to circulate the advertising leaflet.

Youth Cllr Kelly Williams left the meeting.

26. FAIR TRADE

RESOLVED: Youth Councillor Tom Smith agreed to create a Fairtrade Facebook Page. Youth Cllr Olivia volunteered to represent the Youth Council. The Committee Clerk to inform the Fairtrade Committee that if they wanted Youth Councillors to attend its meetings, they would need to be in the evenings.

27. HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT

- i) HITB Report for February and March 2016
 - ii) Geographical data for February and March 2016
 - iii) General statistics, including income for February and March 2016
 - iv) Wellbeing statistics January 2016.
- It was agreed to note all of the reports.

28. YOUTH SHELTER

The proposed Youth Shelter survey was received and noted.

RESOLVED: Committee Clerk to

- i. include an 'other' answer box with a comment box under the question "Why would you use a Youth Shelter?"
- ii. move contact information questions to follow
- iii. publish a survey electronically in hard format where requested.

29. IPAG

RESOLVED: Youth Cllr Sam Chard represent the Youth Council at the Independent Police Advisory Group

30. Dates of future Meetings, 6 p.m. in the Town Council Chamber

- 4th May 2016
- 8th June 2016

There being no further matters for discussion, the Chairman closed the meeting at 6:58pm