

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SEVENOAKS YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2016 IN THE BAR ROOM, SEVENOAKS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Ana Lawther, Charlotte Humm, Daniel Izu, Estella Darnford, James "the Don" Armitage, Katie Willis, Malcom Briery, Oliver Firth-Humm, Phoebe Crichton and Zak Young.

Apologies: Elise Van Den Hoek, Katherine Magee and Sam Chard.

In Attendance

Cllr Mrs R Parry and Cllr R Parry
Cllr M Canet and Cllr E Parson *[arrived 6:51]*
Mr Shane Mochrie-Cox
Linda Larter MBE, Chief Executive/Town Clerk
Michèle MacDonald, Committee Clerk

Welcome

Linda Larter (MBE), Town Clerk/Chief Executive introduced herself to the 9 young people aged between 11 and 18:

1	Miss	Ana	Lawther	Year 12	Walthamstow Hall	
2	Miss	Charlotte	Humm	Year 6	Dunton Green Primary	
3	Mr	Daniel	Izu	Year 12	Sevenoaks School	Chairman
4	Mr	James	Armitage	Year 12	Sevenoaks School	Treasurer
5	Miss	Katie	Willis	Year 7	Sevenoaks School	
6	Mr	Malcom	Briery	Year 12	Sevenoaks School	Vice Chairman
7	Mr	Oliver	Firth-Humm	Year 8	Wrotham School	
8	Miss	Phoebe	Critchlow	Year 7	Sevenoaks School	
9	Mr	Zak	Young	Year 12	Sevenoaks School	
10	Miss	Estella	Darnford	Year 12	Walthamstow Hall	
11	Mr	Sam	Chard	Year 8	Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar	Apologies given
12	Miss	Elise	Van Den Hoek	Year 12	Sevenoaks School	Apologies given
13	Miss	Katherine	Magee	Year 8	Walthamstow Hall	Apologies given
14			Vacant			
15			Vacant			
16			Vacant			

and introduced them to the town councillors, Shane Mochrie-Cox and Michèle MacDonald.

Linda explained that they would be welcome to attend either as school representatives or sign up as Youth Councillors. They elected to become Youth Councillors.

Linda advised that the Youth Council currently has a balance of £990.29 to spend on facilities/events for the Young People in Sevenoaks and that the Youth Council budget of £500 per annum is allocated annually in April. Funds may also be sought from the Town Council if required as was provided for the Live on the Vine Event and Skateboard Day at Greatness in July/August 2016.

Workshop

Youth Councillors were asked to put forward their ideas for the new Youth Council to consider over the coming two year term.

i. What would you do in the next year?

- Extra parking at the station because the train users are parking in Oak Lane which endangers me, my sister and others walking to school to school every day.
- Zebra crossings
- Provide a wider variety of things for young people
- Astro all weather pitches
- Raise at least £1000 for Sevenoaks Charity
- Improve the community by carrying out a beneficial project
- Sit & talk
- Sit and nod
- Over the course of the next year I want to extend the opportunities that Sevenoaks has available to the youth community and hope to see an increase in young people engaging in a variety of activities such as fun runs.

ii. What would you do in the next 2 years?

- Achieve a beneficial project for the local community
- More public transport
- Sit, talk and listen
- Sit and nod
- More activities involving young people
- To even out opportunities for children to get a good education
- I would like to help young people have a more positive outlook on life
- Over the next two years I want to have directly organised a number of intellectual and physical activities that appeal to a wide range of genders and age groups to see people come together and enjoy themselves.

iii. What is the main problem for young people in the Sevenoaks area?

- Money
- Clowns (anti-social behaviour)
- Stress
- Exam pressure
- Lack of sports facilities
- School stress
- I think that the main problems is transport and schooling. I think that the fact that there is no grammar school, creates the transport issue is that we are shipping students out on buses at costly expense
- I think that the greatest problem for young people in Sevenoaks is that of the lack of advertising concerning them. I had no idea about the existence of the HOUSE in the Basement until today and I've been here for four years.

iv. If money was no problem, what facilities would you like in Sevenoaks?

- Free buses and trains
- Recording studio
- Learning centre
- Theme park
- Silence rooms
- Make it the capital of the world
- More shops for young people
- More zebra crossings
- Junior under 18
- A sports Hall would be nice as well
- Wider range of shops in the town centre
- I would aim to improve the youth facilities available and to set up more large scale activities to ensure the youth of Sevenoaks are always enjoying their time here.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Five Youth Councillors put themselves forward as candidates.

- i) **Daniel Izu** – to listen understand and bring everyone together in discussions to forward an assertive plan. Was Head Boy for last two years. Able to summarise and approve course of action.
- ii) **Malcolm Briery** – Been in Sevenoaks for just over three years. A leader and led teams on entrepreneurial side. Very motivated to help in the town. Part of team will enable all to have a say and will listen to all.
- iii) **Zak Young** – lived in Sevenoaks for last six years. Address real issues in town. Worked with teams in boarding house.
- iv) **James “The Don” Armitage** – ensure everyone would really enjoy coming to Youth Council make an impact, have a good time and get something done.
- v) **Oliver Firth-Humm** – lived in Sevenoaks for five years. Would keep all in control and everything going on and make it a lot better. Usually aware of everything that is happening.

It was noted that Sam Chard who was not present had expressed an interest in being Chairman in his apology note. The voting procedure was discussed and agree and all voted. Daniel Izu was duly elected Chairman of the Youth Council for the 2016-2017 term and took the Chair.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Daniel asked for nominations and three Youth Councillors put themselves forward as candidates:

- i) Oliver Firth-Humm
- ii) James “The Don” Armitage
- iii) Phoebe Crichtlow
- iv) Malcom Briery

All voted. Malcom Briery was duly elected as Vice-Chairman.

3 ELECTION OF TREASURER

Six Youth Councillors put themselves forward as candidates:

- i) Oliver Firth-Humm
- ii) Phoebe Crichtlow
- iii) Charlotte Humm
- iv) Zak Young
- v) Katie Willis
- vi) James “The Don” Armitage

All voted. James “The Don” Armitage was duly elected Treasurer.

4 FINANCE REPORT

The Chairman confirmed the balance the balance of accounts shows a current balance of £990.29 in the bank.

5 MINUTES

RESOLVED: the notes of the meeting of the Youth Council meeting held on 20th July 2016 be received and adopted.

6 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

NOTED: dates for meetings in 2016 are [usually on Wednesdays apart from November 2016] and last for one hour:

Day	Date		Time & Location
November 2016			
Tuesday	15.11.2016	Youth Council	6- 7pm Town Council Chamber
Tuesday	15.11.2016	Youth Services Sub Committee	7-8pm Town Council Chamber
December 2016			
Wednesday	14.12.2016	Youth Council	6- 7pm Town Council Chamber
Wednesday	14.12.2016	Youth Services Sub Committee	7-8pm Town Council Chamber

7 SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

The Chairman asked all to read the constitution and to verify agreement/updates to Michèle MacDonald.

The meeting closed at 6:59pm.

