

Sevenoaks Youth Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 September 2026

Attendance:

Aahana Verma	Apologies	Grace Bejarano		Naima Karki	
Aalim Saeed-Tirmizi		Harry King	Apologies	Nelly Schiefer	
Adelina Suslikova	Apologies	Harry Powell		Pendar Ahmadvazir	
Aditya Srinivasan		Henry Thomas		Penelope Muccino	Apologies
Aidan Hirst	Present	Hugo Welsh		Penelope Rowbotham	
Alex Jin		Ines Wang Neto	Present	Poppy-Grace Dixon-Lyon	Apologies
Ali Esad Kutuloglu		Ishwar Sharma		Presha Vyas	
Alice Warren	Apologies	Jasper Barnes	Apologies	Reza Panlavi	
Alicia Ho		John Ng		Rhea Engineer	
Allegra Delli Rocioli		Joshua Maddox Aquino	Apologies	Riddley McDermott	Present
Angelos Maroulis	Apologies	Joshua Maretlane		Riley Ferguson	
Arina Evtushenko	Apologies	Julien Beck	Apologies	Russell Street	Present
Aryana Mahdavi Ardestani, Chair	Present	Karam Kandhari		Ryan Zhaeentan	
Audrina Chan		Katie Lo	Apologies	Sarah Pardasany, Social Media Officer	Apologies
Ayan Motwani		Kisali Wijesekara		Sayeesha Boysen	Apologies
Benjamin	Present	Lily Court	Apologies	Scarlet Gane	
Caspar Tillieux		Lizzie Hunt, Treasurer	Present	Shinki Yu	
Catherine Barden de Leon	Apologies	Lukas Abromavicius, Vice Chair	Apologies	Shiv Lamba	
Charlotte Bagoee		Logan Lewis	Present	Simi Akintoye	
Chelsey Dai		Mackenzie Willis	Apologies	Sofia Vittoria Moschini	Present
Clement Isong		Mark Bielikov		Sophia Yu	
Cynthia Chen		Max Oser		Sophia Sheridan	Apologies
Cyrus Tillieux	Apologies	Max Rowland		Summer Chen	Apologies
Dhriti Pasumarty		Maximilian David		Susanna Local	
Ethan Cook	Apologies	Megan Philips		Taani Shukla	
Eva Wang, Social Media Officer		Mila Skoko	Apologies	Thomas Heregods	
Finn Chadwick	Present	Milly Anscorb		Thomas Mather	
Franz Lahura-Sturm	Present	Mirabel Poulson		Vihaan Sharma	
George Kelly	Present	Morgan Ingarfield	Present	Vyom Bhandari	Apologies

Also Present:

Town Clerk/ Chief Executive Officer, Youth Committee Clerk, Manager of House in the Basement

01 GUEST SPEAKER: THE BEATLES IN SEVENOAKS

The Youth Council received a talk from Juliet Stephens of Sevenoaks Sings Community Choir on the history of the Beatles in Sevenoaks.

It was NOTED that the following year would mark the 60th anniversary of the Beatles filming both Strawberry Fields and Penny Lane in Knole Park. Over the week of 31 January to 6 February — the period 60 years previously during which the Beatles had been in Sevenoaks — a range of events would take place in the town. The week would draw to a close with the Mayor of Sevenoaks Charity Concert, at which a Beatles tribute band would perform at the Stag Theatre.

It was NOTED that a previous Youth Council had designed a flyer showcasing all of the films that had been filmed in Sevenoaks, including the Beatles videos. It was also NOTED that officers would enquire with Knole to see if they still had a copy that could be reprinted or could be made available digitally.

02 GUEST SPEAKER: KENT POLICE

The Council received a presentation from two representatives of Kent Police: Tim, one of Kent Police's Police Community Support Officers, and Tom, a Local Beat Officer for Sevenoaks Town.

It was NOTED that Kent Police are adopting a more community-focused role, stepping back from engagement across more than 70 schools in the District in favour of a more targeted approach. It was further NOTED that this shift is reflected in the creation of neighbourhood-focused task forces.

A member asked how young people might report matters such as anti-social behaviour (ASB) or concerns about someone carrying a weapon. The officers explained that Kent Police have introduced a number of tools to assist members of the public in reporting crime. It was NOTED that the preferred method for reporting ASB is to call 101; however, for those unable to make a telephone call, an online reporting tool is available which allows members of the public to communicate directly with a member of the Kent Police team to report issues, including ASB.

It was further NOTED that, since the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) had proved effective at the Vine, but had created some pockets of ASB that had been observed at other locations around the town. The officers advised that, where possible and if members felt safe to do so, reporting such incidents when they have been seen taking place would assist officers in identifying individuals involved and could enable actions to be taken, including the issuing of written notices or home visits to speak with those individuals.

03 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED To receive and note the apologies for absence as above.

04 MINUTES OF THE SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH JUNE 2026

RESOLVED To accept the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 2026 as a true record.

05 FIANCE REPORT

It was NOTED that the £18 raised at the previous charity cake sale had been transferred to the charity Friends for Families.

It was further noted that, over the summer, the Youth Council raised an additional £ 19 during the Skateness event for the current year, and that a charity would need to be selected to receive these funds.

A member also noted that they would be holding a bake sale at their school to raise further money for the Youth Council's chosen charity but the charity would need to be selected before this could take place.

RESOLVED 1) To note the Youth Council's balance was £1,501.70

2) To select a charity at the next Youth Council Meeting

06 HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HITB) YOUTH CAFE- MANGERS REPORT

The Youth Council heard from Daren Mountain, Manager for House in the Basement Youth Cafe, It was NOTED that, over recent months, HitB had been very busy, seeing approximately 200 young people per month.

It was NOTED that a number of events held over the summer period had been successful, and that several limited-capacity sessions, including Dungeons and Dragons tasters and fishing workshops, had been oversubscribed, with waiting lists having to be created.

Daren also reported that House in the Basement had a number of upcoming events, including Open Mic Nights on 25 September and 13 November 2026, a further fishing session during the October half term, and additional Dungeons and Dragons sessions in the pipeline.

RESOLVED to receive and note the manager of House in the Basement's report.

07 FRIENDS OF RHEINBACH- PEN PAL SYSTEM

It was hoped that Ethan, the author of the report, would be able to attend the next meeting.**RESOLVED**, to defer this to the next meeting.

08 SUMMER EVENTS REPORT

It was NOTED that a wide range of events had taken place over the summer holiday period, during which a significant number of young people engaged in activities.

09 SEVENOAKS REFILL

The Youth Councillors received the redesigned poster for the Sevenoaks Refill project. It was NOTED that the Youth Councillors wished to share the poster on the Youth Council's social media channels and with schools to help raise awareness of the Refill scheme. It was further NOTED that it would be helpful for the poster to include a QR code linking to the map of Refill stations.

RESOLVED To obtain the QR code from Refill and to promote the scheme via social media and schools, and to request participating venues to display the posters.

NOTE:

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEETINGS:

There was a query about Youth Councillors not attending meetings and for how long this was acceptable.

The Youth Councillors Constitution states under Structure and Membership paragraph 5:

Should a Youth Councillor miss 3 consecutive meetings (without agreement of exceptional circumstances), they would no longer be a member.

Youth Councillors will be reminded about this part of the Constitution.

The meeting closed at 18:48.