

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON  
2nd DECEMBER 2004 AT 8.00 p.m. AT THE PAVILION, MANOR FIELD**

**Present:** Cllr Mr M Harris  
Cllr Mr V Sewell (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs M Solman  
Cllr Mr A Tremain

**In attendance:** Mrs J Hoad (Clerk)  
Mr G Walsh (Youth Worker)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mr J Gaywood and Cllr Mrs J Burns.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Committee held on 19th October 2004 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**4. Youth workers report**

The Youth Worker informed the Committee that a bid for funding a course of snow boarding lessons for a group of 8 young people over a period of 6 weeks through the Local Network Fund had been successful. The Youth Worker reported that a meeting had been organised with the young people to finalise the arrangements, but unfortunately they had failed to attend and so the course had been temporarily suspended until sometime after Christmas. This was disappointing as the lessons had been booked and the necessary risk assessments completed. The Youth Worker explained that should the group of young people fail to attend again, the course will be offered to another group of young people.

The Youth Worker informed the Committee that the Longfield Youth Centre had been temporarily closed due to the departure of its Youth Worker.

The MC DJ workshops on Monday evenings at the New Ash Green Youth Club continue to be very popular and regularly attract 40-50 young people. A few young people from Hartley attend the workshops.

The Youth Worker was informed of the next Youth Activity Day which will be held on Saturday 17th September 2005 at Manor Field. MC Fun will be in attendance to organise another rapping competition.

The Youth Worker reported that the graffiti project in the subway under the railway line had been delayed due to Dartford Borough Council's reluctance to grant the necessary approval.

**5. Youth Projects**

(a) The Committee considered a report on the action taken since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: That, the report be noted.

(b) It was reported that a number of letters had been sent out to local businesses in respect of a request to make a donation for a prize draw for the youth questionnaire and that to date prizes had been kindly provided by Pizza Express, Cascades and Movies of Longfield.

The Committee considered the design and siting of a purpose built youth shelter fitted with solar powered lighting at the Woodland Avenue recreation field, to replace the two existing benches.

The Committee discussed at length a number of other youth projects and initiatives within the parish, but the feedback received by the Youth Worker from Hartley's young people still strongly supported the provision of a BMX track. It was generally agreed that the best location for a BMX track within the parish was at the Woodland Avenue recreation ground. The Committee favoured progressing the provision of a youth shelter, which could be sited so that it could be incorporated with any future plans for the installation of a BMX track at Woodland Avenue.

RECOMMENDED: That,

(1) advice be sought from the Planning Authority with a view to submitting an outline planning application for the provision of a purpose built Youth Shelter fitted with solar lighting on the Woodland Avenue recreation ground,

(2) West Kent Housing Association be asked to make available the funding it had earmarked for the toddler playground at its development site in Caxton Close, to support the provision of a youth shelter on the Woodland Avenue recreation ground,

(3) the views of residents immediately overlooking the proposed site for the youth shelter be sought,

(4) a questionnaire seeking residents views be prepared for distribution with the next edition of the Council's newsletter,

(5) a modified questionnaire be prepared for distribution by the Youth Workers to the young people.

**6. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 20th January 2005 at 8.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Signed:.....

Date:.....