

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON
11th MAY 2006 AT 8.00 p.m. AT THE HARTLEY LIBRARY, ASH ROAD**

Present: Cllr Mrs J Burns
Cllr Mr M Harris
Cllr Mr V Sewell (Chairman)

In attendance: Mrs J Hoad (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

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

2. Election of Chairman

RESOLVED: That, Cllr Mr V Sewell be elected Chairman of the Youth Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2007.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED: That, Cllr Mrs J Burns be elected Vice Chairman of the Youth Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2007.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Terms of Reference

The Committee reviewed its Terms of Reference and was satisfied that it could operate satisfactorily under the Terms of Reference as approved by the Council at its Annual Meeting held on 8th May 2006.

RESOLVED: That, the Terms of Reference, as set out in appendix 1 attached to these minutes, be noted.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Committee held on 30th March 2006 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7. Community Warden

The Community Warden was not present at the meeting.

8. Youth Worker's Report

The Youth Worker was not present at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That, the Youth Worker be asked to prepare a regular written report on his work with young people in the Parish and that in future the report be attached to the minutes.

9. Youth Zone Summer Programme 2006

The Committee considered a report on last year's Youth Zone Summer Programme. It was reported that Sevenoaks District Council intends to run another summer programme this year and would like to visit Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground on Friday 4th August 2006 with the Youth Zone bus.

RESOLVED: That,

- (1) Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground be made available to Sevenoaks District Council for a visit from the Youth Zone bus on Friday 4th August 2006 and,
- (2) the quotation for the sum of £60.00 plus VAT to hire a portable toilet on Friday 4th August 2006 from Castle Marquees be accepted.

10. Young People's Action Plan 2006

Members of the Committee were provided with a copy of the Young People's Action Plan 2006.

RESOLVED: That, consideration of the Young People's Action Plan 2006 be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

11. West Kent 8-12 Project

The Committee considered a report on the proposed 8-12 project and in particular the difficulty that West Kent Xtra was experiencing in finding a venue to deliver the project. The Committee expressed its disappointment with the decision taken by the governors of the St Francis De Sales RC Primary School not to allow the school hall to be used for the project.

RESOLVED: That,

- (1) the report be noted and,
- (2) the Clerk be asked to enquire with West Kent Xtra as to why St Francis De Sales RC Primary School was not willing to make available the use of the school hall for the 8-12 project and to suggest that it may wish to consider the use of the WI hall or the Hartley Primary School hall.

12. Sevenoaks Mini Bus

The Committee considered guidelines issued by Sevenoaks District Council's in respect of its Minibus Hire Scheme for Youth Groups and was extremely disappointed to note that the District Council charged to hire out the use of its mini buses to Youth Groups. The Committee noted that the current guidelines only permit upto a maximum of 3 subsidised uses per group per fiscal year and that the subsidised charge for the use of the mini bus after 4.30 p.m. Monday to Fridays and at weekends was £10 per hour. The minibuses were not available for hire Monday to Friday between the hours of 8.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. and the District Council charged for the whole time the vehicle was in use by the group, including waiting time plus the time it would take for the driver to travel to and from the Dunbrik Depot in Sevenoaks.

The Committee felt that the young people of Hartley were being penalised twice, as firstly they could not access the recreational facilities provided at the White Oak Leisure Centre, Sevenoaks and Edenbridge as there was no public transport links to any of these facilities and secondly they would be faced with higher hire charges for the use of the minibus because they lived on the edge of the District and therefore would face greater travel times to and from the minibus depot.

RECOMMENDED: That,

- (1) this Council express its disappointment regarding the current arrangements for the hire of the Sevenoaks District Council's minibuses for Youth Groups, particularly in view of the geographical location of Hartley in relation to the rest of Sevenoaks and that the local Members for Sevenoaks District Council be asked to make representation to the District Council, on behalf of the Parish Council, to assist financially with respect to the provision of more transport to the Parish and,
- (2) the Parish Council make representations to the Head of Community Development to express its dissatisfaction with the arrangements for the hire of the Sevenoaks District Council's minibuses.

13. White Oak Leisure Centre and Gillingham Ice Skating Rink

The Committee considered a report outlining the admission costs to the swimming pool at White Oak Leisure Centre and the ice rink at Gillingham.

RESOLVED: That, the reports be noted.

14. Skateboard Park

The Committee was informed that grants were available from its Community Dividend Fund and that the average level of grant awarded by the scheme was between £100 and £500. The Co-op had confirmed that Parish Councils were eligible to apply for grants under the Community Dividend Fund.

It was reported that information had been received from Kent County Council on its Small Community Capital Project Fund, but the Committee was uncertain as to whether the provision of a skateboard park would comply with the criteria for priority funding set by the County Council.

RESOLVED: That, costings be obtained for the provision of a skateboard park at Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground.

15. Date of next meeting

Thursday 22nd June 2006 at 7.30p.m. at Hartley Library.

The meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Youth Committee Terms of Reference

1. To work on behalf of all of the youth of Hartley to assist them in taking a full and active roll in the life of the village.
2. To liaise with any organisation involved with youth work and act to assist them.
3. To enlist any organisation involved with youth work and young people to work with the Council to achieve the above aims.
4. To co-opt persons who have a particular interest in the well being of young persons or have a special knowledge or expertise where appropriate.

Delegated Powers

To authorise expenditure on those matters that fall within the responsibility of the Committee up to the sums contained in the annual budget approved by the Council, provided that any new schemes shall be subject to prior approval, in principle, by the Council.