

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE
BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.00 PM**

Present:

Youth Town Councillors: Councillors H Goodman (Chairman), F Barr, T Paxton-Doggett,
R Purbrick, E Rixon, B Wylde and J Wyndham-Rooke.

Town Councillors: Councillors Mrs M Gradwell and B Mabbett

Others present: 1 member of the public

Deputy Clerk: Mrs K Buckingham

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Youth Councillor L Munday.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

28. Election of Youth Council Chairman and Vice-Chairman

There was one nomination for Chairman of Youth Councillor Goodman and he was voted into position. There were two nominations for the Vice Chair: Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke and Youth Councillor Purbrick. Following a secret ballot Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke was elected Vice Chair.

29. To sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2017

The minutes were approved and signed.

30. Statements and questions from the public

None.

31. Matters arising from the previous minutes

a) Donations and grants

There was considerable discussion regarding how much should be made available to 'Sweatbox on Tour'. Further information about specific costings had been made available from the Sweatbox Youth Centre Manager. This indicated that, for the specific events for which they were looking for assistance from the Youth Town Council, £2,618 was requested. This did not include staff costs or promotion of each event. This cost would cover six of the events which would be taking place from January through to July.

It was noted that there was currently £4,300 left from the Youth Town Council budget that could be spent before April 2018. It was also noted that the Town Council had given Sweatbox £10,500 for the year.

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ON THE PROPOSITION of Youth Councillor Goodman
SECONDED by Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke
IT WAS MOVED that £3,000 would be made available to Sweatbox.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Youth Councillor Wylde
SECONDED by Youth Councillor Paxton-Doggett
IT WAS MOVED that this be amended to make £2,800 available to Sweatbox leaving the Youth Town Council with £1,500 for any other projects. The amendment defeated 2 in favour and 5 against. The original proposition was unanimously approved.

This decision was to be reported to Sweatbox and more information obtained as to how the Youth Town Council could be involved in the running of the events. It was also to be indicated that there may be more funds available in March 2018 should no other projects come forward for the funding. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

An update had been received from Jim Mitchell regarding the 'One Voice' Competition, to which the Youth Town Council had approved a £700 grant. He advised that the launch was slightly delayed but that work had commenced and there was likely to be a deadline of 1 December for the launch. There was still the intention to have the involvement and acknowledgment of the Youth Town Council.

b) Financial education theme day

Progress had been made with King Alfred's School in relation to their Financial Education Theme Day. This would be held on 6th February 2018 and Barclays Bank would be available on the day to give a talk. The subjects they would likely be covering would be taxes, budgeting (particularly at university), student loans, savings accounts and insurance. The Chairman and Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke would also be looking at getting a pack of resources to send round in form time and potentially to do so each term. It was noted that the Young Enterprise company provided many resources and had provided paper copies to look through. These covered a variety of topics on money management and paper resources could be made available if numbers required were confirmed. **Action: Chairman**

Such resources could also be made available on the Youth Town Council noticeboard or via website links on the Facebook page. The Young Enterprise company also ran CPD training events which could be looked into for the Youth Council to then potentially roll out to others. It was noted that the theme day would be for year 13 all day and year 12 for some of the day.

c) Youth Town Council noticeboard

The Chairman had circulated the profile questions and these had been completed and returned by some of the Youth Councillors. It was requested that all complete these as soon as possible. **Action: All**

It was also noted that any youth event posters or the Sweatbox on Tour timetable be made available for the noticeboard. There could be monthly updates posted in the noticeboard as to current activities and matters discussed and the noticeboard would be on the side facing Costa.

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d) Elections and primary school involvement

Further letters had been sent out to the C of E Primary School and Stockham Primary School. This was to try and establish meetings with the Student Council at each school to enable the views of primary school age children to be filtered through to the Youth Town Council. There was also an invitation for primary school children to attend the Youth Town Council meetings.

A letter had been received from Charlton Primary School Student Council. They had requested a meeting with a Youth Councillor and it was planned that this would be on Wednesday 22 November at 1pm with the Chairman and Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke. They would feed back to the next meeting the issues which had been raised and how the format worked.

A letter had been sent to Fitzwaryn School which suggested that a representative from the School be elected onto the Youth Town Council. The only parameters would be that the pupil be of secondary school age range 11-18 who lived in Wantage or within 3 miles of the town. No contact had been received yet from Fitzwaryn School and this would be chased up.

Action: Mabbett

A schedule of the next few meeting dates was to be made available to all.

Action: Deputy Clerk

The election for the additional position on the Youth Town Council would wait a response from Fitzwaryn.

e) Wi-fi availability

There had not yet been another Joint Economic Forum meeting hence this has not been referred to the District Council with regard to increasing wi-fi availability at Manor Road Memorial Park and in general. It was questioned whether there was availability of wi-fi within the Vale and Downland Museum. It was agreed that thought would be given by all as to what specific improvements were wished for i.e. in terms of specific locations or increased speed. It was also agreed that this would be an ideal poll to have on the Twitter page.

Action: Mabbett

f) Mayor's Carols

The Youth Town Councillors were preparing a joint performance with Sweatbox and one rehearsal had already taken place. They would be singing "Santa Claus is Coming to Town". Further rehearsal dates had been suggested at Sweatbox from 7.30pm to 8.30pm on Tuesday 21 November and Tuesday 5 December. The Mayor's Carols were on 6 December from 7pm. It was suggested that Christmas jumpers be worn by all.

g) Skate park provision

There had been no meetings of the Crab Hill Forum in which to discuss this, although a recent consultation had taken place where community facilities and provision on the site had been discussed. Feedback on this consultation event would be requested. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

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32. Consideration of social media use and Youth Town Council page on main Council website

It was still awaited for Facebook to remove the previous profiles to allow work to start again and there was an existing Twitter account which was @WantageYTC. There was discussion regarding a schedule being put together to post polls once a month and also to post something about a meeting after each one had occurred. Any suggestions were to be sent to the Deputy Clerk or Councillor Mabbett. **Action: All**

It was agreed that the “suggested polls” be a standing item on the agenda. The contact information sheets and approval for photo consent would be sent round by Councillor Mabbett prior to the next meeting **Action: Mabbett**

33. To consider the Youth Town Council Constitution

It was agreed to meet on 27 November to finalise the Constitution covering objectives, criteria for grants, elections etc. This would be from 7pm in the Beacon. The intention would be for a final draft to be taken to the next Policy Management & Finance meeting on the 5th February and for one or two of the Youth Councillors to be at that meeting to present the Constitution.

34. To consider recent consultation regarding new leisure centre

The plans for the new leisure centre were considered. The location of the site was adjacent to the Mably Way Health Centre. A planning application had been submitted for the access road, as this needed to be in place to allow the Great Crested Newts to be relocated by April 2018. A further planning application would be submitted in Spring 2018 with the aim of opening by 2020.

The facilities to be included were welcomed by the Youth Town Council, although there was regret at there being no crèche facility/ soft play as with the existing leisure centre and that the leisure centre was not larger in size, considering the increase in population. This would be filtered through to the design team at the District Council. The Youth Council would be kept updated on the leisure centre plans as they progressed. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

35. General correspondence and other business

Some letters had been received from the Girl Guides and these would be circulated for consideration at the next meeting. The Volunteers Reception will be taking place on the evening of 25 November and all Youth Councillors were invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm
