

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE
BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2018 AT 7.00 PM**

Present:

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

Town Councillors: Councillor B Mabbett

Others present: 1 member of the public

Deputy Clerk: Mrs K Buckingham

Deputy Clerk Communications: Mrs S McKendrick

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs M Gradwell.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

36. To sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2017

Section 31 (b) was amended from “Barclays Bank would be available on the day,” to “Barclays Bank may be available on the day.” The minutes as amended were approved and signed.

37. Statements and questions from the public

None.

38. Matters arising from the previous minutes

a) Donations and grants

Sweatbox on Tour had now commenced and would next have a roller disco at the Beacon followed by a DJ event at Old Mill Hall. There would also be other events including Zorbing and laser quest. It was discussed that the Youth Town Council should be involved in the running of certain events and that the easiest way to achieve this might be for a Youth Town Council member to attend a Sweatbox Union meeting. This would be discussed with Sweatbox, together with obtaining a full list of arranged events. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

There had been no further update received on the One Voice Competition. The Youth Council logo had been passed on to be included within the promotional material. An update would be requested from Mr Mitchell. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

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b) Financial education theme day

The theme day would be held at King Alfred's Academy on 6 February 2018. The Chairman and Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke had prepared a booklet that would be handed out to each student attending. 375 copies (of a 13 page document) would be required and assistance had been requested for the printing costs. The Chairman would clarify with the school the cost of printing in house and an external quote would also be obtained for comparison.

Action: Chairman/Deputy Clerk

The booklet would be forwarded to the Deputy Clerk to be distributed to Youth Councillors for comment prior to this being printed.

Action: Chairman

Councillor Mabbett had been contacted by a former Youth Councillor who now worked for RBS, and who may be able to provide information for the resources pack or attend the financial theme day as a speaker. Contact information would be passed on to the Chairman and Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke to liaise directly.

Action: Mabbett

The Young Enterprise Company which had been contacted for resources had confirmed that their booklets were mainly "trainer facing" documents. 10 copies would be requested for use by teachers.

Action: Deputy Clerk

c) Youth Town Council noticeboard

Paper copies of the profile questions were handed out to be filled in as soon as possible. These would be used for the noticeboard and on social media. The information currently available would be put up on the noticeboard next week, including posters from the Beacon, previous groups that have received donations from the Youth Town Council such as Opera Unmasked, South and Vale Young Carers and Sweatbox. Any further leaflets sourced or information found would need to be handed to the Deputy Clerk to include.

Action: All

d) Elections and primary school involvement

The Chairman and Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke had now met with the Charlton School Student Council. This had been well received and some interesting ideas had been obtained. The main issues raised included the lack of provision of a youth club environment for under 11's and whether a Sweatbox style group could be created on a specific evening for years 5 and 6, and potentially year 7. This could be discussed further with Sweatbox.

Action: Deputy Clerk

In addition, it was noted that there was no central information base of youth activities going on in the area such as different sports clubs and groups, detailing which ages could attend, days of the week etc. Such a resource could be made available by the Youth Town Council, particularly to include on their social media pages and on the new website. It was agreed to try to take this forward, initially by making contact with the Town Team Coordinators and attending the Joint Economic Forum.

Action: Mabbett/ Wyndham- Rooke

Engagement would now try to take place with the other primary schools in the area. Joyce Hutchinson agreed to refer this to Stockham School and Councillor Gradwell would be asked

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to liaise with the C of E School. Fitzwaryn School would be contacted again, particularly for confirmation of whether they wished to elect a student to the Council.

Action: Deputy Clerk

e) Wi-fi availability

It was noted that there was a Joint Economic Forum meeting taking place on Thursday 18 January and this issue would be raised at the meeting to gauge assistance available from the District Council.

Action: Wyndham-Rooke

f) Youth Town Council Constitution

The amended draft version was distributed and discussed. Further changes were proposed.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Youth Councillor Goodman

SECONDED by Youth Councillor Wyndham-Rooke

IT WAS RESOLVED to proceed with the proposed changes and to refer the amended Constitution to the next Policy Management and Finance meeting on 5 February 2018.

Action: Deputy Clerk

g) Skate park provision

The provision of a skate park had been included in the plans for Crab Hill within the Neighbourhood Centre area. The inclusion of such a facility was specifically mentioned within the Section 106 document for the site. The layout plans of the Neighbourhood Centre detailed in the Design Strategy document were viewed and discussed.

A Crab Hill Development Forum meeting was due to take place at the end of the week and it would be reported that the Youth Town Council were keen to be involved in further discussion on the provision and design of the skate park and other youth equipment.

Action: Deputy Clerk

h) Girl Guide letters

The letters received from the Girl Guides included issues relating to empty shops and trying to increase the variety of the retail offering. It was also noted that the clock was broken on the external face of the library. The Chairman would reply to the letters directly and the Deputy Clerk would pass on the concerns regarding the clock to the relevant Authority.

Action: Chairman/Deputy Clerk

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

The new website would include a specific page for the Youth Town Council. This could be used as an online noticeboard and information point, including minutes, agendas and how to apply for grants from the Youth Town Council.

It was agreed that there should also be a Facebook, Instagram and Twitter page, with the Facebook page to include profiles. The set up of the Facebook page initially and the Youth Town Council website page would be discussed between Councillor Mabbett and the Deputy Clerk Communications.

Action: Mabbett/ Deputy Clerk Communications

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40. General correspondence and other business

The Town Council provides financial support to the Wantage Counselling Service. The Town Council had suggested that the Youth Town Council be involved in considering the annual grant, to the extent to which the services were being provided to youngsters, and in bringing this service to their attention. It was agreed that a contact name be passed on to the Chairman to engage directly.

Action: Deputy Clerk

The attendance of the Youth Town Council at both the Mayor's Carols and the Volunteers' Reception had been well received and those that attended were thanked for their time.

The next meeting would be held on 26 February 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm
