



Minutes of a meeting of the Chippenham Youth Council held virtually on Zoom, on 10 March 2021 at 4.30pm.

Youth Councillors present:

Ruby Eggleton (Vice Chairman)
Declan Kiely
Isabelle Pettinger (Chairman)

Officers present: Heather Rae, Democratic Services Manager, CTC
Esme Griffiths, Museum Assistant, CTC
Ollie Phipps, Community Engagement Manager, Wiltshire Council
Elaine Davis, Engagement Officer, CTC

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Youth Councillors Andrew Berry, Thomas Berry and Faye Hadden.

Apologies were received from the Social Media and Digital Marketing Apprentice

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous meetings, it was agreed with all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2021 were a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements

4. UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

Youth Councillors discussed the presentation to be made to the Full Council Meeting on 24 March 2021, from 7pm.

The vice chair is not longer able to attend and Youth Councillor Declan Kiely will attend in her place.

The following were discussed for possible inclusion for the presentation.

- How the Youth Council have been gathering information and speaking to outside groups to get an understanding of what the Youth Council could do.
- The presentations to the Youth Council by Doorway, Unity House and Stanley park
- CEAG youth led webinar
- Work on establishing a social media presence to publicise the youth Council to a wider audience

It was agreed that it would be helpful to go back through previous minutes to identify things that highlight what the Youth council have been working on. However it was understood that this would be limited due to the current circumstances

It was agreed that a PowerPoint would be created for the presentation and if possible, this would be shared online to give access to the subgroup members so that everyone could work on it during the subgroup meeting. Topics could be divided amongst the group.

It was agreed that the subgroup would meet on 16th March at 4.30 to discuss the presentation. The Democratic Services Manager was asked to arrange the meeting and inform those on the subgroup not present.

5. FUTURE CHIPPENHAM CONSULTATION

Youth Councillor Declan Kiely had approached his peer group for their opinions to the Future Chippenham proposals. He had received 74 responses with 44 of these broadly opposed. Concerns were around general urban sprawl, environmental consequences, and damage to farmland.

Those in favour believed that the proposal presented new economic opportunities for the town, making the town more significant and traveling in and out of the area easier.

Youth Councillors then voiced their own views on the proposals. It was concluded that as opinions were divided it would not be appropriate to respond as a Youth Council. It was agreed that Youth Council members would be encouraged to respond individually if they wanted. The Democratic Services Manager will circulate information on how this can be done.

6. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Youth Councillor Declan Kiely provided an update on the requests for representatives of the UK Youth Parliament and Wiltshire Youth Union to attend a Youth Council meeting to provide information on their work with Barnardo's regarding mental health.

The meeting were informed that the Member of Youth Parliament for North Wiltshire would be happy in principle to attend but no response has been received to an email sent to Wiltshire Youth Union representative.

It was agreed that a follow up email was to be sent and Declan would update the Youth Council on progress at the next meeting

7. HOMELESSNESS IN CHIPPENHAM

Following the presentations at the last meeting from Doorway and Unity House it was suggested that the Youth Council could work with the two organisations to put together a presentation. This could be used in local schools to raise awareness of homelessness and highlight how people can help.

It was agreed that this should be added as a future agenda item when more councillors could comment

8. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Due to the Social Media and Digital Marketing Apprentice apologies this agenda item will be moved to the next meeting. The Communications & Customer Services Manager has offered to attend the next meeting if the Social Media and Digital Marketing Apprentice was still unavailable. This would prevent further delay in moving this agenda item on.

It was agreed that the Democratic Services Manager would invite the Communications & Customer Services Manager to the next meeting.

9. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

It was agreed that the following items could be communicated by the Youth Council once Social Media had been set up.

- Homelessness - to raise awareness and ways people could help
- Mental health - Share posts from the Local Youth Network on mental health
- Recruitment
- Share information about youth groups and things to do around the town

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following potential future agenda items were discussed

- Recruitment of Youth Council members (post Easter) - it was agreed that this was a priority for the next meeting
- Wiltshire Police Cadets/Police to attend future meeting - the Democratic Services Manager informed the meeting that this was planned for the 21st April and will update at the next meeting

- Information on Westmead Skate Park & Climbing Centre - It was agreed that this should be given greater priority and the Democratic Services Manager was asked to arrange for a representative to come and speak to the Youth Council as soon as possible.

It was agreed that the following items could be considered again at a later meeting

- Town Council requests - Litter Enforcement and Dogs on/off leads in John Coles Park Consultation
- Climate - Update from Zero Chippenham (local climate group)
- More clubs for young people to be more social, especially those who are shy
- Opportunity to visit CCTV

It was agreed to move the social media updates to the next meeting and include on the agenda for the next meeting

- Further update from councillor Declan Kiely on the request for representatives of the UK Youth Parliament and Wiltshire Youth Union to attend a Youth Council meeting
- Update and feedback on attendance at the Full Council Meeting

Future agenda items were considered

- working with Doorway/Unity House on a presentation on homelessness for schools.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Youth Council will take place on **Monday 29 March 2021 at 4.30pm** (join from 4.15pm). Youth Council meetings are approximately every two weeks alternating Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The point was raised that this may coincide with the preliminary assessment period for school years 11 and 13 which may affect attendance.

The meeting concluded at 5.18pm

These Minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting

Signed on behalf of the Committee as a true record of the meeting

Chairman:

Date: