



Minutes of a meeting of the Chippenham Youth Council held virtually on Zoom, on 14 December 2020 at 4.30pm.

Youth Councillors present:

Andrew Berry	Thomas Berry
Finley Cozens-Scott	Ruby Eggleton
Ayla Erencan (Vice Chair)	Faye Hadden
Declan Kiely (Chair)	Isabelle Pettinger
Sophie Townson	Alice Knight

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

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2020 were a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

As the Youth Council had not been able to meet since February 2020, due to the pandemic, the Democratic Services Manager recapped the key discussion points from the last Youth Council meeting and asked councillors if they had any questions or points to raise. There were none.

3. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's Announcements.

4. **RE-CAP OF CHIPPENHAM YOUTH COUNCIL WORK SO FAR**

The Democratic Services Manager summarised the work of the Youth Council (YC) so far. This included:

- Attendance at the Climate Area Board event.
- Agreement that 2 members of full council will be nominated to sit on YC in January.
- The Marketing Apprentice will come to a future meeting and help to set up YC social media accounts.
- Homelessness is an important issue to YC members.

5. CHIPPENHAM YOUTH COUNCIL LOGO

YC reviewed the three options for their logo. After discussion the Youth Councillors agreed on option 3. This will now be included on agendas and posters moving forward.

6. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS

Youth Councillors considered questions from four council meetings which had taken place since their last meeting.

1. Amenities, Culture and Leisure Committee (ACL) 4/3/20: Litter and cleaning in the town.

- The following areas were noted as having litter problems: lots of litter, cigarettes and chewing gum in main shopping area, cigarettes especially opposite old cobblers, Monkton Park.
- YC agreed there aren't enough bins outside of the town centre, especially in Monkton Park. Perhaps CTC could put more out, including recycling bins.
- Could there be fines for fly tipping, or someone to enforce fines for littering. Heather confirmed that CTC are currently looking into the feasibility of enforcement, alongside other options. If YC's have any opinions or ideas, please share.
- CCTV could also help with deterring littering. Heather Rae confirmed that there is good CCTV provision in the town centre, which has just been upgraded.
- Raising awareness of the environmental damage of littering could also help. If this was done in primary schools it would encourage people not to litter from a young age.
- Although the idea of an enforcement officer was liked, the YC also thought that voluntary litter picking groups would also be beneficial. A group could be set up and advertised by YC or CTC; could it form part of the volunteering hours for the Duke of Edinburgh Award; Youth Councillors could also join an existing group and encourage friends to join as well as peer-to-peer promotion might be more likely to encourage positive change.

2. Planning, Environment and Transport Committee (PET) 5/3/20: Cycle ways.

- YC agreed that if there were more cycle lanes they would be used by young people but some of the more recent lanes don't seem to connect - the one just put in on Bristol Road seems to stop suddenly. It would be better if they were more continuous, linked up and went to more central areas.
- The lanes on Hungerdown Road were thought to be unsafe as they were quite narrow, the newer style on Bristol Road feel safer.
- It was agreed that cycle lanes should be lit and where possible be separate from the road as it can be quite dangerous cycling,

especially in winter, and as electric cars cannot always be heard by cyclists.

- The YC could support or promote more bike safety checks in schools to remind young people on how to safely cycle. YC could lead on this, perhaps getting some support from interested parties e.g. Halfords to donate funds/equipment.
- YC suggested an initiative to provide bike lights free of charge for those who can't afford them to help encourage cycling. A scheme could be set up in local businesses, or huts where people can donate lights for others to borrow and return them later.

3. Amenities, Culture and Leisure Committee (ACL) 09/09/20: 'Bee the Change' Bee Gardens.

- YC agreed that working with local beekeepers to promote the importance of bees would be a good idea. Beekeepers could be invited to join the local charter market or other events and bring their bees to help teach people about their importance to our planet. Their passion would help to make others passionate about the cause.
- Supporting beekeepers by buying locally produced honey will also help combat climate change and CO2 emissions.
- YC agreed that creating more protected flower beds, or planting more flowers on CTC land would help.

4. Planning, Environment and Transport Committee (PET) 17/09/20: Parking in the town.

- YC agreed that other than the environmental issues surrounding the PET questions, this was an unusual topic to bring to the YC as none of them drive. They agreed they could ask their parents and feedback at a future meeting if necessary, but they had minimal comments to make.
- YC expressed an interest in investing more in cycle routes to reduce demand for parking spaces in the town centre, and in increasing the provision of electric charging spaces to meet future demands.

7. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Youth Councillors reviewed future agenda items proposed at the previous meetings. All agreed the following items should take priority for the next 2-3 meetings:

- Climate: Attending CEAG meetings and Update from Zero Chippenham (local climate group)
- Social Media and Branding
- Youth Council Budget
- Stanley Park Sports Ground Update and the work they do, including mental health

- Presentation from Doorway and/or Unity House on homelessness and their work in Chippenham
- Information on [Westmead Skate Park & Climbing Centre](#)
- Youth Council Update to Full Council (March meeting before Full Council on 24 March 2021)

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Youth Councillors agreed to review the frequency of YC meetings in the new year. A provisional suggestion of Monday's from 4.30pm - 6.30pm seemed to suit most councillors. Moving from monthly to fortnightly meetings was also put forward.

Any comments or feedback on the first virtual meeting or adjustments to be made can be submitted to the Democratic Services Manager via email, ahead of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held virtually via Zoom, on Monday 11 January 2021, 4.30 - 6.30.

The meeting concluded at 6.02pm

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: