



Minutes of an informal meeting of the Chippenham Youth Council held at the Town Hall, Chippenham on Tuesday 07 December at 4.30pm.

Youth Councillors present:

Harriet Auld (Vice-Chair)	Andrew Berry
Thomas Berry	Alice Knight
Daniel Mason	Thomas Short
Evie Southgate	Zoe Jakab-Barthi

Officers present:

Jess Mantell, Democratic Services Officer
Michael Weeks, Democratic & Civic Officer
Maisie Simpson, Marketing Assistant
Esme Griffiths, Museum Assistant

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Youth Councillor Isabelle Pettinger due to a school commitment.

24. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As this was an informal meeting of the Youth Council, the minutes of the previous meeting will be approved at a subsequent meeting.

25. FUNDRAISING

Youth Councillors brainstormed ideas for fundraising. Ideas included hosting a quiz/games night, doing a jumble sale, school bake sales, collecting donations at stalls, sponsored silences and runs and participating in 'tough mudder'. Youth Councillors expressed a keen interest in arranging a quiz/games night to be held in the Citadel building to raise money for Doorway. Youth Councillors discussed using Eventbrite to issue tickets for the event and asking friends and family to enter teams. With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

(i) Jess contact Jo from Doorway to discuss availability of their hall for a quiz/games night event in the new year to fundraise for the organisation.

(ii) Youth Councillors to plan the arrangements for a 'toiletries drop-off'. Items received will be donated to Doorway.

26. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Youth Councillors brainstormed ideas for raising awareness of mental health. Ideas included provision of specialists in school, more tutor mentoring in schools, getting more counselling in schools, advertising on social media mental health organisations and Hello Yellow Day. Youth Councillors emphasised the need to raise awareness of mental health at an early age, highlighting primary schools as a target. Tackling mental health at a young age could help to remove the stigma around opening up. The Democratic & Civic Officer advised that The Rise Trust and Relate Mid Wiltshire are local organisations that might currently undertake similar work in schools. With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

(i) Jess contact these organisations regarding further information on the work they do how Chippenham Youth Council can support them.

27. NIGHT SAFETY

Youth Councillors brainstormed ideas for improving night safety in the town. Ideas included raising awareness of CCTV which operate in the town by creating posters and circulating information through school assemblies in addition to increasing street lighting in the town. Youth Councillors believed it would be beneficial to conduct a survey so that young people can express their views and give suggestions for potential locations. Current areas of concern are around the Olympiad, Monkton Park, alleyways around John Coles Park, One Stop on Audley Road (lane under the tunnel), Woodlands Road, Allington park, under the bridge by Rowden Hill and Webbington Road. The Democratic Services Officer, Jess advised it might be possible to improve street lighting by submitting a highways improvement request form to the Chippenham Community Area Transport Group (CATG) after areas of concern have been identified. With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

(i) Youth Councillors agreed to conduct a survey regarding young people's views on areas where street lighting could be improved.

(ii) Youth Councillors in sixth form who are available to attend the Community Safety Forum to present these ideas.

28. BOOSTING CHIPPENHAM YOUTH COUNCIL SOCIAL MEDIA

Youth Councillors brainstormed ideas for boosting Chippenham Youth Council social media. Ideas included creating posters about the Instagram page, uploading content regarding what the Youth Council have achieved and how interested young people can sign up, having a QR Code displayed at all events linking to the social media site, creating posts which attract young people and older Youth Councillors who have social media to share the page using their personal accounts. With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Youth Councillors agreed to ensure the QR Code is visible at future events.
- (ii) Youth Councillors agreed to help the Marketing Assistant create more personal content.

29. WORKING WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL

Youth Councillors brainstormed ideas around how the Chippenham Youth Council can work with the Town Council. Ideas included inviting Councillors to some meetings, attending organised events that Town Councillors are involved in, attending Council meetings when relevant, conveying ideas to Councillors and asking Councillors for advice when needed. With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Youth Councillors agreed two Chippenham Town Councillors be selected by the Town Council to attend CYC meetings when required to offer Youth Councillors advice and support, in accordance with the Chippenham Youth Council Terms of Reference.
- (ii) Youth Councillors welcomed information regarding work and activities Councillors are involved in and how the Youth Council can get involved to be communicated.

30. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at 4:30pm on Tuesday 11 January.

The meeting concluded at 5:55pm

These Minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting

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

Chair:

Date: