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**CHIPPENHAM
TOWN COUNCIL**
Improving the quality of town life

Minutes of a meeting of the Chippenham Youth Council held in the Mayor's Parlour, on Tuesday 4 November 2025 at 4.45 pm.

Youth Councillors Present:

Ten Youth Councillors were present

Officers Present:

Heather Rae, Director - Democratic Services & Governance

Sadie Klos, Democratic Services Officer

18	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> There were no apologies for absence.
19	<u>ROLE OF A YOUTH COUNCILLOR</u> Youth Councillors went over the role of a Youth Councillor, some of which includes: being a voice for the young people in Chippenham, being involved with the Town Council, and making the Youth Council what they would like it to be.
20	<u>RULES & MEETING PROCEDURES</u> Youth Councillors reconsidered the meeting rules they'd come up with in September, and made an amendment to 'no biscuit thievery' to read 'no biscuit thievery / no sweet thievery'.
21	<u>ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL</u> Youth Councillors received the following updates and questions from Town Councillors: i) At the Planning, Environment, & Transport Committee meeting on 16 October, Councillors requested that the Youth Council be informed that the Head of Planning would be attending the Wiltshire Local Plan Review Examination Stage 2 Hearings on behalf of the Town Council. ii) At the Grants Sub-Committee meeting on 23 October, Councillors requested that the Youth Council be informed of successful grant applications. iii) At the Civic Sub-Committee meeting on 28 October, Councillors requested that the Youth Council be informed of the new Youth category for the Community Civic Awards.

- iv) At the Amenities, Culture & Leisure Committee meeting on 29 October, Councillors requested the Youth Council's opinion on the following:
 - a. The Committee requested that the list of events coming up at the Neeld be shared with the Youth Council for their comment.
 - b. The project around the area by the Yelde Hall was also raised to ask Youth Councillors what they think of the plans and what they would like to see.
 - c. The Committee further requested the opinion of the Youth Council on whether public toilets should be free or paid for (20p charge).

With all in favour, it was;

RESOLVED that:

The Youth Council send its responses, as seen below, to the relevant Committees.

- i) The Youth Council's response to the PET Committee:
The Youth Council wanted to make sure that the Wiltshire Local Plan includes maintenance and protection for outdoor environments, spaces for wildlife, greenery, and options for climate friendly transport such as cycle paths, especially since this plan affects the future development of Chippenham.
- ii) The Youth Council's response to the Grants Sub-Committee:
Youth Councillors noted this information.
- iii) The Youth Council's response to the Civic Sub-Committee:
Youth Councillors noted this update.
- iv) The Youth Council's response to the ACL Committee:
 - a. The Youth Council thought the Santa Christmas Party shows were good for the very young people in Chippenham. Youth Councillors wondered who was allowed to play at the Neeld Foyer Music Sessions.
 - b. The Youth Council liked the project's goals to make the area surrounding Yelde Hall nicer, and came up with a list of ideas for the area, including: making sure the alleyway is lit, places for market stalls nearby, more flowers, having an activity (like chess boards or giant sidewalk games), light-up tunnels, swings, a nearby graffiti wall/public art space, a notice board with Town info, community book swap/little library, fence to keep young people safe, and things to make the area feel like it's not next to a busy road.
 - c. The Youth Council had a lively debate on this topic and did not reach a conclusion.

22	<u>MATERIAL FOCUS TAKEAWAY</u> Youth Councillors considered what action they would like to take regarding the Recycle Your Electricals campaign following the presentation at the previous meeting from the guest speaker from Material Focus. The following was suggested: a market stall, collect recycling for people and help educate them on recycling electricals, Instagram post, indoor market stall, and educate people.
23	<u>TEEN TAKEOVER TAKEAWAYS</u> Youth Councillors began considering/organising the responses received from the Teen Takeover event to figure out what they would like to action from the responses. With time running out, it was agreed to continue this item at the next meeting.
24	<u>SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE & ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION</u> The Youth Council requested that their responses to PET, Grants SC, Civic SC, and ACL be sent to those Committees.
25	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next Youth Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 09 December 2025 at 4:45pm.

The meeting concluded at 5.46 pm