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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 9 September 2025 at 4.45 pm.

Youth Councillors Present:

Seven Youth Councillors were present

Officers Present:

Beth Joslin, Democratic & Governance Officer

Sadie Klos, Democratic Services Officer

1	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> There were no apologies for absence.
2	<u>SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF OFFICE FOR 2025-26</u> Youth Councillors read and signed the Declaration of Office for the academic year 2025-26, which stated: <i>As a Member of the Chippenham Youth Council I declare that I take that office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties of it according to the best of my judgement and ability.</i> <i>I agree to abide by the requirements made in the Chippenham Youth Council's Terms of Reference and recognise that if I do not, I may be in breach of my role as a member of the Chippenham Youth Council.</i>
3	<u>ELECTION OF THE CHAIR</u> Youth Councillors who wished to stand for the position of Chair presented their case for doing so. With the majority in favour, it was; RESOLVED that: JM be elected as the Chair of the Youth Council for the academic year 2025-26.
4	<u>ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR</u> The Youth Councillor who wished to stand for the position of Vice Chair presented their case for doing so. With all in favour, it was; <u>RESOLVED that:</u> SN be elected as the Vice Chair of the Youth Council for the academic year

	2025-26.
5	<u>RULES & MEETING PROCEDURES</u> Youth Councillors considered and came up with a list of rules for their meetings in the academic year 2025-26: • Respect one another • Listen to each other • The Youth Council as a whole and meetings are non-partisan • Be nice to one another • There are no silly questions • Don't judge each other's spelling • No biscuit thievery • Raise your hand to speak • Have fun • Be polite
6	<u>ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL</u> Youth Councillors received the following updates and questions from Town Councillors: i) At the Amenities, Culture & Leisure (ACL) Committee Meeting on 23 July, 2025, Councillors requested that the following be shared with the Youth Council: a. The Firework Policy b. The MOU between the Wiltshire & Berkshire Canal Trust and Chippenham Town Council c. What events would the Youth Council like to see in the Town? ii) At the Planning, Environment & Transport (PET) Committee Meeting on 14 August 2025, Councillors requested the opinion of the Youth Council on Saltersford Lane development's garages, cycle paths, and crossings to get to play equipment. With all in favour, it was; <u>RESOLVED that:</u> The Youth Council send its responses, as seen below, to the relevant Committees. i) The Youth Council's response to the ACL Committee: a. The Youth Council thought including balloons in the policy was a good idea because they're bad for the environment. b. The Youth Council did not have an opinion on the MOU and questioned what the Committee wanted from them. One Youth Councillor asked to be sent the MOU as they were interested in

	the upkeep of the canal. c. The Youth Councillors came up with a list of suggestions, including: a firework display, a duck race, a Chippenham version of the Athelstan 1100, paint the kerbstones for more holidays (like what was done for pride), more murals, more events like Teen Takeover, a big market day, a graffiti wall, and a sponsored camp-out. ii) The Youth Council's response to the PET Committee: • Garages: They're not the best looking buildings. It's good to have a garage as long as they're designed with more modern cars in mind which tend to be larger. The garages are fine as long as the development's house prices are reasonable with lots of price points as well as affordable housing options, because it's important to allow people to get onto the property ladder - especially young people and first time buyers. • Cycle paths: There should be cycle paths around the whole neighbourhood, they could be doing more with the green spaces and adding more cycle routes. • Crossings to get to play equipment: If young people wanting to get to play equipment aren't old enough to cross the roads by themselves they probably shouldn't be going unsupervised to the play equipment.
7	<u>YOUTH COUNCIL BANNER</u> Youth Councillors received and considered designs for a Youth Council banner to display at events. After much discussion about the design and colours, it was; <u>RESOLVED that:</u> Officers come to the next meeting with more colour options for the design.
8	<u>TEEN TAKEOVER PLANNING</u> Youth Councillors considered what the prize should be for the scavenger hunt they'll be running at Teen Takeover. With time running short, it was suggested that a workshop in preparation for Teen Takeover be organized.
9	<u>SOCIAL MEDIA & ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION</u> i) The Youth Council requested that their responses to ACL and PET be sent to those Committees. ii) Youth Councillors requested that information on Teen Takeover be

	posted on their Instagram.
10	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next Youth Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 4:45pm.

The meeting concluded at 5.50 pm