



Harlow Youth Council minutes Monday 2nd April 2007

Present

Adam	Gracie	Stephen
Andrea	Hannah	Tara
Ben	Katie	Cllr Bob Davies
Bharat	Leroy	Cllr Tony Durcan
Charlie	Michael	Cllr Linda Palling
Charlotte	Mina	Lynn Seward HDC
Danielle	Perry - Chair	Diane Butler HDC
Darrell	Rosie	Ruth Morton ECC
Doris - Minutes	Ruby	Erica Bromage Connexions
Georgina	Sam	Maggie Lawlor: Rainer

Apologies

Cllr Chris Millington	Matthew King HDC	Ruby
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Absent

Ashley	Kelli	Tara
Emma	Sam	Tyler

Welcome and introductions

Agree minutes from last meeting 5 March – Item 8 should read Kingsmoor School.

1. Joint Leaders Cllr Durcan was pleased that the Civic room problem was resolved and monthly Youth Council meetings would be held at the civic. Any further problems with accommodation contact Cllr Durcan to keep him informed.

The adult elections are being held on the 3rd May. Cllr D encouraged the youth councillors to tell adults/parents/carers to use their vote, as it is important for the town.

The joint debate with the youth and adult councillors is going to be held after the elections. The topics to include: Transport, Environmental issues and Fast food packaging.

Stephen: Why is the football pitch at Passmores closed during the weekends?

Cllr D: It is private property, which is owned by the school.

Perry: Advised Stephen to contact the Head teacher Mr Goddard to discuss access.

2. Harlow Council feedback Lynn reported that the Youth Cllrs at a meeting with Malcolm Morley, the chief executive, raised the issue about the taxi driver making racist comments. Harlow Council issues the taxis companies with their licence. The first step will be a warning letter to the Taxi Company. If there are further incidents Harlow Council could take formal action. **Action: Cllr**

Durcan will send a letter of complaint to the company so that they are aware that this is not appropriate or acceptable.

Skate park update: Lynn reported that the designs have been agreed and approved. The Skate Park is due to be open by the end of the summer.

Action: Diane to invite Chris Purvis to the next youth council meeting to do a presentation about the skate park project.

The Gateway Project. Lynn suggested that the Youth Councillors watch the DVD presentation of the Gateway scheme. **Action: Diane to arrange for the DVD to be shown at a future youth council meeting.**

Hot desk at Civic - Lynn confirmed that youth councillors could use the members suite and PC. Action: Youth Councillors to contact Diane for the security code.

E-mails. Lynn has spoken to the ICT co-ordinator and youth councillors can have the firepass package for their home computers allowing them to access the Harlow Council intranet and e mails. **Action: Youth Councillors to contact Diane if they want Firepass at home**

Youth café project Lynn reported it is going well. Carole Banks the Project manager has negotiated a free lease for 6 months. Plans are being drawn up to re design the shop.

3. One Stop Shop Erica thanked the youth councillors for their input at the connexions marketing co-ordinators meeting to plan the launch of the One Stop Shop. The launch date has not been agreed. The building work is scheduled to end on the 27 April. The YPIC will close for a short period during May due to the move; the health service will remain open. The new centre will be open in May. The launch event will consist of hair and beauty workshop, video and editing workshops, a live band & DJ's from the square.

5. The Square Tara reported that there was a public meeting on 23rd March, to discuss the forth-coming changes at the Square. At the meeting most people felt Essex Youth service had not consulted with the community or the young people, including the members of the Young Essex Assembly and the Harlow Youth Council. The people opposed the decision to have an age restriction of 19 and objected to the closure of the alcohol bar. Parents were concerned as they would not be able to see their children's bands play.

Sue Thomas, manager of the Youth service, stressed that The Square was funded for young people aged 13 – 19 and there was no reason to have an alcohol bar in a youth centre. Alcohol will not be sold from the 7th April 2007. She agreed to re think the age restriction.

The Youth council selected 5 representatives to attend a meeting with Bill Rammell, Councillors, County Councillors and Essex Managers. The aim of the meeting is to have a discussion about youth provision, how to develop the square and not put it at risk by making the proposed changes. Tara reported that Brentwood youth centre had stopped selling alcohol and is not doing well. Hannah reported that Essex failed to consult with the young people. The next Square meeting will be held on 3 April at The Square. **Action: Tara & Adam**

to attend 3 April meeting as Youth Council reps and Sam, Bridget & Hannah top attend as YEA reps.

6. Chief Executive Feedback Ruby updated Malcolm Morley on the work of the youth council. Tara updated him about The Square. Perry requested information about having an Ice Rink in Harlow, the chief Exec explained it was costly and only a business would be able to move it forward plus there is no site for it in the town plan.

Ruby reported that the hot issues for Harlow council were: -

The Comprehensive Performance Assessment (C.P.A.) inspection - aiming to improve the council's rating from poor to good this year.

Growth – Harlow is looking to double in size.

Gateway – the building of Houses, a sports centre, the football stadium and improvements to the park were all planned.

7. 60th Anniversary Andrea reported that she presented a speech highlighting the positive aspects of Harlow for young people. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers at the event.

8. 2020 Charlie attended a public meeting about the future of Harlow. Passmores and Brays Grove School concerns were raised, as £20 million was needed to build a new school. Passmores may relocate to Brays Grove site but nothing has been finalised. The Anglian Ruskin University are working with Harlow College to have a campus in Harlow in 5 Years. Stephen asked if it would be called Harlow University? Cllr D said it would be the Anglian Ruskin University campus. Perry commented on how well the 2020 team were in involving young people at the meeting.

9. Kingsmoor School Michael received an email from Cllr Churchill about dog fouling by the school. Michael will contact the head teacher to clarify the problems they are experiencing. Perry suggested sending the school an application pack to apply for Youth Opportunity funding to pay for a gate or fencing to keep the dogs out of the school grounds. Michael said they could work with the school to run a poster competition to dissuade parents from allowing their dogs to foul by the school grounds. Cllr D suggested involving the RESPECT Team, as there is a Byelaw and dog owners can be fined. Cllr D. suggested getting clarification on where the dogs are fouling, also to check if the fence is adequate? **Action: Invite the Head Teacher and Harlow Council's Respect team to a future meeting**

10. Letters from the public – Perry reported that the youth council had received a letter from a young person requesting their support for a pedal trial bikes area. Cllr D requested a copy of the letter as someone with a similar request had approached him. Harlow Council do not have the funding to support this but could work with a business to look at future possibilities? Cllr D is planning to visit a warehouse project in Cambridge for trail bikes so he would take this matter up. **Action: Diane to forward details to Cllr D.**

11. Young Essex Assembly - Hannah reported the next sub group meeting is Saturday 7th April.

At the transport sub group meeting the three transport issues were agreed:

- 1) Working on the BITE card so that transport companies recognise and accept it.
- 2) Minimum age for Arriva to charge for a child - MYEA believe no one under 16 or students should be charged adult fares.
- 3) Survey to be continued both locally and county wide to assess the service that transport companies are giving to young people.

Bridget has a presentation to give to Diane and Ruth re UKYP, Eastern Region, issues. Issues include sex education and addressing the media.

No environment sub group feed back.

No SRE sub group feedback, but Ben Adams is thinking about restarting the Sexual Health Advisory sub group and it is going to be renamed to WESHAG (West Essex Sexual Health Advisory Group) because the PCT structure has now changed.

12. Project group feedback Sam and Perry reported that the HYC/YEA/Youth Bank Newsletter is ready for distribution copies from Diane & Ruth.

Hannah thanked Matthew King from the Children's and Young Peoples group for his support as he is leaving the Harlow region.

Perry reported that Active Harlow is putting an action plan together.

13. Transport Hannah distributed the transport survey pads to everyone, all completed surveys to be returned to Hannah at the next meeting. Volunteers to conduct the survey included: - Adam, Andrea, Ben, Bharat, Charlie, Charlotte, Danni, Darrell, Doris, Georgina, Gracie, Hannah, Michael, Perry, Rosie, Tara Hannah would like to arrange a meeting with the bus company.
Action: Diane to send contact details to Hannah.

14. Dutch guests Eleven young people aged 13 – 18 from Capelle Aan Den IJssel (near Rotterdam) arrive on Sunday 29th April 2007 for two days. The youth councillor's role is to share information about setting up a Youth council, talk about youth elections and the duties of a youth councillor. E-mail details will be exchanged before their arrival so that you have made contact with the guests before they arrive. **Action: Please send Profiles and e-mail details to Perry by Friday perry-williams@hotmail.co.uk** Please include Name, age, interests and hobbies, email address, hopes and ambitions and music should be put on the profile.

15. Youth Opportunity Fund Anyone that promotes the Youth Opportunity Fund or Youth Bank must stress that a young person has to fill in the form.

Next meeting: 14th May 2007 at 6:30pm

Venue: The Council Chamber , Civic Centre