



Harlow Youth Council Minutes 2 July 2007

Present

Andrea
Ben
Bharat
Bridget YEA - Chair
Charlie
Charlotte YEA
Doris
Georgina

Hannah YEA
Katie
Laura
Leroy
Michael
Perry
Rosie
Ruby

Sophie
Stephen - secretary
Tara
Nick Erica Bromage – One stop Shop
Diane Butler - Harlow District Council
Cllr Tony Durcan – Joint Leader
Maggie Lawlor – Rainer
Lonica Vanclay – Essex County Council

Apologies

Adam
Danielle
Darrell
Gracie

Mina
Sam YEA
Cllr Chris Millington – Joint
Leader

Ruth Morton – Essex Youth Service
Cllr Rob Eschle

Welcome and introductions

Minutes from Last meeting Minutes amended - item 1 Kier Harlow to pay the £5k to repair the temporary skate park.

1. Feedback from the Joint leaders Cllr Durcan said that the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (C.P.A) inspectors had visited the Civic centre, it was a critical time for Harlow Council to prove performance has improved. The C.P.A. inspector will visit the Youth Council on the 16th July to observe the Youth Council meeting and transport debate. Youth councillors may be asked about their achievements and how they have worked together with the council and the community to achieve them, an excellent example is the Youth Café project.

Cllr Durcan reminded youth councillors to meet with their ward adult councillors. Adult councillors were given £1,000 to spend on a project in their ward. Cllr Durcan is looking to spending his £1k on 5 a-side goal posts in the Hare St and Little Parndon. Ward councillors will need ideas from the youth Councillors on what to spend the budget on to benefit the ward. Adult Councillor details are available on www.harlow.gov under *councillors*. **Action: Youth councillors to make contact with their ward councillor by the next youth council meeting.**

Councillor Durcan said that Harlow hosted the European Assembly. Unfortunately the event was during school time which excluded the youth councillors from participating at the event. Cllr Durcan is keen to get sponsorship to enable Harlow Youth Council to work with European youth councils.

Ruby: Is there an update on the Square? Cllr Durcan said Tracey Chapman, the youth provision and cabinet member, was satisfied with the decisions agreed and that the current service remains successful. The

outstanding issue of the bar being available at weekends is awaiting a third party to produce a business plan outlining their proposals on how this service would operate. Bill Rammell MP is working with the group to progress this.

Bridget: Is there an update on the skate park? Cllr Durcan said that the Policy and Resources committee approved the budget and the company to do the work. The next stage will be a final consultation. The work will take 16 weeks, developers will start in October, bad weather may delay the work but the park should be ready for early 2008. Repairs to the temporary skate park were made by Kier Harlow. The money was new money and not taken from the skate park budget, the repairs were completed within 7 working days.

Hannah proposed a statement for the travel debate on the 16 July.

Young people aged 14 - 19 should have the same affordable travel and concessions as those enjoyed by senior citizens.

Councillor Durcan suggested looking at different types of transport, bus lanes, transport in and out of Harlow, safety on transport, transport in the future. Councillor Durcan suggested 3 youth reps and 3 adult councillors to lead the 'For' case and 3 youth reps and 3 adult councillors to lead the 'Against' case.

Action: Andrea, Bridget, Georgina, Hannah, Perry, Ruby to meet 10 July at 5pm to prepare debate case.

Bridget: Why are there so few litter bins in Harlow? Cllr Durcan suggested that youth councillors identify areas where bins should be placed. **Tara** suggested having a bin map of Harlow. Cllr Durcan said the town centre did not offer any recycling bins. **Hannah** suggested Harlow council use the free bins that are sponsored by keep Britain tidy. **Action: Cllr Durcan to arrange a visit with the Youth councillors to a waste centre to see how rubbish is filtered and reused**

2. Lonica Vanclay. Lonica is Matthew King's replacement, she works for Essex County Council, and she is responsible for the West Essex area, Harlow, Uttlesford and Epping. Her role is to co-ordinate young people's and children's services. Lonica attends the Children's and Young People Strategic Partnership (**C.Y.P.S.P.**) meetings. The C.Y.P.S.P. is a partnership of agencies and services working for and supporting families, young people and Children 0 – 19 years of age. It includes the police, health, schools, youth and community work. **Ruby** agreed to accept the vacant HYC seat on the C.Y.P.S.P. group. Hannah is the YEA representative. **Action: Lonica invited the youth councillors to get involved in the play strategy consultation.**

3. One Stop Shop. Erica said the official launch is on Friday 13 July and the grand opening will be on Saturday 14 July at 12 – 4. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be workshops and a live band. *Destiny* will be running a free hair and beauty workshop. **Action: O.S.S representatives Andrea, Doris, Mina, Perry to attend the official launch on 13 July. All youth cllrs to attend the 14 July opening.**

4. Chief Executive. **Andrea** said Malcolm agreed that Youth Councillors would be invited to Harlow Council training days and where possible to arrange the training outside school hours or during school holidays. Malcolm was updated on current work such as the Youth café. Youth councillors were concerned about the negative response from local traders in the newspaper.

Malcolm said that no written objection had been received. **Action: Planning application goes to the Planning committee on 3 July. Doris, Leroy, Mina, Perry, Rosie to attend.**

5. Young Essex Assembly. **Hannah** said the Y.E.A had a team building event which included circus skills. Could the youth council run something similar? **Action: Ruth to contact the circus organisers.** Charlotte to attend a *Global warming seminar* at the Civic. **Bridget** attended the regional Youth Parliament meeting; the discussion was 'Is the Youth Parliament a waste of tax payer's money?' Bridget disagreed as the youth parliament focus on changing policies and laws, such as votes for 16. This is a slow and gradual process. As the deputy M.Y.P. Bridget would like to organise a youth conference in Harlow, she would like to involve school councils, local youth forums and groups along with the police, health and transport services, to discuss local youth issues.

6. Jack Petchey Awards. As the chair of the Jack Petchey panel meetings **Katie** presented the March award to **Tara Davis** for her commitment and involvement in the youth council and for her delivery of the participation workshop at the February residential. The June award was presented to **Perry Williams** for his involvement in both Youth Council and Youth Bank work and for his support to others.

7. Project Groups

Active Harlow - Perry asked the youth councillors and YEA members, *What do young people want Active Harlow to do for them?* **Ruby** and **Perry** had suggested organising a mini Olympics. **Bridget** suggested circus skills, a fashion show, bike ride, Harlow Marathon. **Laura** suggested a charity fund raise. **Bridget** said the funds could go towards the Skate Park or the Youth café. **Hannah** suggested healthy living plans for young people. **Ruby** suggested a healthy Harlow day. **Laura** suggested a walk the dog week. Maggie suggested contacting the sports centres for sponsorship or free taster days. **Bharat** said he had attended a meeting with Helen Offord and Dave Archer to identify funding to run the event.

Canal Boat launch – Charlie, Michael and Perry attended the event.

Health – Next meeting 12 July @ 18.00 Georgina, Charlie, and Michael to attend

Epping Forest Council – Mina, Perry, Sam & Tara met the young people's officer. The youth councillors were invited to do a presentation about Harlow Youth council to Epping Forest Council and head teachers. **Perry** received a letter of thanks from Epping Forest Council.

Environment - Charlotte will be attending the *climate change* seminar at the Civic Centre tomorrow. Parents and school have given permission for her to attend a daytime meeting.

Newsletter – Sam, Bridget and Perry are working on the next edition.

8. Any Other Business

Weekly post Youth councillors may collect their post at any time from the member's room. Post trays will be emptied every Tuesday and posted to home addresses. Post may take up to 3 days therefore one copy of each

document will be filed in the *post file*; the *post file* is a reference file kept on top of the post trays and should not be removed. You may photocopy documents and return originals to the *post file*. Any problems please contact Mina.

Harlow Youth Council minutes. As requested in the last HYC meetings, copies of the HYC minutes and agenda will be available in the member's room 7 days before the meeting, the minutes will not be posted unless you request them to be, this will be a saving on the HYC budget. One copy will be filed in the *post file*. Minutes of meetings will record youth councillor's names to identify their input at meetings as evidence for their accreditation folders.

Accreditation – 25 folders have been registered some folders are missing a few pieces **Action: Bring the CCV question sheets, diary sheets and evidence for the folders by the end of the week. Ruth is available to meet individuals on Monday 9 July at 4pm to tidy up folders for submission.**

Transport survey – **Hannah** asked for surveys to be returned this week.

Harlow College - Perry has sent a letter to the principal requesting a meeting with the Youth Councillors. The 17 July was agreed. Danielle, Darrell, Katie, Perry, Rosie to attend.

Mi-Pod – Tara raised £5k to purchase a Mi-pod. A Mi-Pod is an inflatable exhibition stand equipped with a lap top and will be ideal to use at events such as the town show and the 60th anniversary. Training to set the Mi-Pod up is being organised.

Speakers Bank Gala evening - 6 places were allocated to Andrea, Doris, Hannah, Michael, Mina, Perry to attend the public speaking gala at the Mermaid theatre, London.

Fire passes internet access at home. The I.T. department have issued youth councillors and YEA members with individual HYC and YEA email addresses. Firstname.hyc@harlow.gov.uk and firstname.yea@harlow.gov.uk Youth Councillors who do not have internet access at home will be able to use the member's suite to access emails. The harlowyouthcouncil@harlow.gov.uk email will remain the generic email address on all HYC correspondence. Youth Councillors using their own HYC email must reply to emails within 5 days. **Action: Mina to co-ordinate who would like firepass access at home. Parents must consent to the firepass request.**

Next meeting: Special Youth Council meeting and Transport debate

Date: Monday 16 July

Venue: CR2A & CR2B Civic centre

Time: 17.30 – 20.00