



## Full Youth Council Meeting

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007

### Present

Ben	Darrell	Hannah (YEA)	Ruby
Bharat	Doris	Katie	Sophie
Bridget (YEA)	Georgina	Leroy	Stephen
Charlie	Gracie	Michael	Tara
Danielle		Mina	

**Chair: Mina**

**Minutes: Hannah**

### Guests in Attendance

Alicia – Café Youth competition winner	Maggie Lawlor Rainer
Diane Butler Harlow Council	Ruth Morton – Essex CC Integrated Youth Support
James Day PAH	Robert Powell PAH
Cllr Mike Danvers	
Cllr Chris Millington	

### Apologies

Andrea	Laura	Cllr Tony Durcan
Charlotte (YEA)	Perry	

### Absent

Adam	Rosie	Sam (YEA)
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### Welcome and introductions

**Minutes from last meeting** Michael was not present at the last meeting – record amended.

#### 1. Joint Leaders feedback

**Recycling Visit.** Diane had spoken to the recycling officer and due to health and safety rules at the Kent plant; visitors must be 18+. **Action: Ruth agreed to check with Essex CC colleagues as they have arranged visits to a plant in Essex.**

**Community meetings.** To avoid youth councillors from becoming involved in party meetings locally, youth councillors can attend any Neighbourhood Police meetings and Residents Association meetings. These meetings are Ward based and cover ward issues. Cllr Millington is happy to arrange any meetings for youth councillors wishing to get involved in their Ward area work.

**2020 meetings.** Cllr Millington asked whether there was any development regarding the 2020 meetings being held outside of school hours. **Action: Diane to contact the 2020 group about moving the times.**

#### 2. Questions to Joint Leaders

**Youth Council Support Group.** Doris asked whether the youth council's support group could be reinstated, thus giving youth councillors access to council officers and youth organisations? Cllr Millington said that letters would need to be written to organisations inviting them to a meeting. **Action: Doris**

**and Diane to send letters to people that may be interested in joining the HYC Support Group.**

**Lord Hanningfield.** Hannah asked whether there was any news following Lord Hanningfield's comments in the paper. Cllr Millington said that Malcolm Morley was speaking to Lord Hanningfield's secretary about it, considering Harlow Council now has a good rating.

**Debate.** Bridget asked whether we could have a more formal debate on votes at 16. Cllr Millington said he had asked about a formal debate and will get back to the youth councillors.

**3. Princess Alexandra Hospital consultation.** Robert Powell and James Day from Harlow Hospital spoke about how the Hospital is looking to become a Foundation Trust; to gain more freedom in controlling the way the hospital works as a non-profit making business. If they become a foundation trust, the Hospital will still be part of the National Health Service but they will have greater accountability to the people.

They are looking for volunteers from the community to be involved as governors to the Hospital so the public are able to help choose how the hospital is run. Robert invited youth councillors to apply to become a member, as they are looking for people aged 14 plus. You have to be 16 to become a governor. Have until 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008 to apply. Robert said the youth council would have two seats on the council of governors.

Robert also asked if youth councillors could look at their website on the back of the booklet; <http://www.pah.nhs.uk> . **Action: Anyone interested in becoming a member should apply using the application form in the booklet handed out. Michael and Charlie to look at website.**

**4. Café Youth.** Mina congratulated Alicia for choosing the winning name in the youth café competition. The name is officially Café Youth and Alicia agreed the logo for the café project.

Mina said that the money allocated to pay for Carole's work has run out and another grant has been applied for. Diane said that building work had started on the Youth Café. Bridget advised the meeting that the Youth Opportunity Fund had awarded the café almost £5000 to cover additional kitchen costs and a neon sign. All of the YOF money must be spent by the 31 March 2008, otherwise it will have to be repaid. Diane asked Youth Councillors to do some research for other funding opportunities. **Action: Bharat to investigate Jack Petchey and Princes Trust funding for the café.**

**5. Young Essex Assembly** – The last sitting was 17<sup>th</sup> November. Bridget reported that Harlow YEA members had the most to feedback in the locality reports, as Harlow has the strongest youth council in the Eastern region. She spoke about her *Sex, Relationship & Education campaign* and she wants to make a training pack that can be sent to schools. She has been granted £5,500 from the Youth opportunity fund to complete this work.

**6. Jack Petchey** - Katie handed out nomination forms for the Jack Petchey award.

Bridget purchased engraved USB memory sticks with her Jack Petchey grant and gave them out at the meeting.

**7. The Square** – Cllr Mike Danvers informed the youth council that a petition of 2000 signatures was taken to County Hall to save The Square. Essex County Council will no longer run The Square; Square One will be taking control of the centre until May/June 2009. He said that Essex and Harlow are looking for another venue for when the lease ends in 2009. Ruth said that she had heard the housing association may be planning to provide a new building.

## **8. Project Group Feedback**

**Chief Executive meeting.** As the PC's in the members' room are not networked, Lynn Seward suggested that each youth councillor is given a USB memory stick to save work. **Action: Diane to purchase a communal HYC USB pen that will stay in the member's room to be used by everyone.**

Mina. Michael and Stephen met with Malcolm Morley but as he was running 40 minutes late and transport home had been booked, they only had 20 minutes left to meet. **Action: Mina requested that youth councillors are contacted in advance if adults are going to be late so that the meeting can be rescheduled.**

**Education.** Hannah attended a school meeting and met Jon O'Connor from the Harlow Education Consortium. He expressed his interest in working with the Youth Council and asked whether members of the youth council could review their website [www.harlowkidz.biz](http://www.harlowkidz.biz). Feedback and ideas about what else could be included would be most welcome. Hannah also spoke about how Steward's school requested their school youth councillors to be more active in the school, possibly do school assemblies to keep the pupils informed of the youth council work? **Action: Diane and Ruth will contact Stewards School and the Harlow Education Consortium.**

**Staple Tye.** Michael reported about the Staple Tye meetings and said that there is going to be a new sports area near Berecroft with Astro turf, football, basketball, tennis courts and will be open 07.00 – 22.00. Michael attends the Staple Tye Neighbourhood police meetings and said that they were very informative as they cover local issues. The Chair of the Berecroft Youth Council has moved so meetings have ceased until further notice. Sophie requested that Berecroft Youth Council keep their members informed as its all gone quiet.

**Communities of Interest Forum.** Michael and Charlie attended a meeting about community cohesion.

**Young Concern A.G.M.** Bridget attended the Young Concern annual general meeting. She said that Young Concern wants to involve young people in their work. They are currently seeking new premises.

**YouthBank.** Bridget said there is a presentation evening coming up. Ruth gave a provisional date of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February.

**Mi-Pod.** Diane updated the youth councillors about the Mi-Pod equipment purchased in August. The supplier, Youth Innovations, is being taken to court by Harlow Council for not providing all the equipment as agreed in the contract.

**Remembrance Sunday.** Charlie, Michael, Doris and Mina attended the service and laid two wreaths of poppies on behalf of the Youth Parliament and Harlow Youth Council.

**9. Election week.** Concerns were expressed about how schools encourage pupils to vote for the students at their school. Ruby asked if the schools could complete evaluation sheets. **Action: Youth councillors to monitor how things go in their schools.**

#### **10. Any Other Business.**

**HYC revised agreement** was circulated for discussion. **Action: Comments to Diane by 10<sup>th</sup> January.**

**The transport survey** is now complete and copies were circulated. Well done Hannah.

**Chairman's Aspiration Project.** Cllr Spenceley sent notes of the meeting held on 26 November.

**Rainer information morning.** Maggie invited the Youth Councillors to either of the two Information days on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 10.00 at Shield House. As it was during school time, they all gave their apologies and requested that the inconvenient time be fed back to Rainer.

**Trident Gold.** Ruth asked if anyone wanted to complete their Trident section certificates or Trident Gold Certificate and suggested meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 at the Civic Centre.

**Last HYC meeting for 2007** will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December with Peter Christmas on the green space consultation. The meeting will be followed by the Christmas social.

**Dick Whittington Pantomime** is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Reminder to book seat.

#### **Next meeting: Monday 14 January**

Civic centre tour for newly elected youth councillors 17.00 – 18.30

Meeting starts at 18.30 – 20.00

Venue: CR2AB Civic Centre