



Harlow Youth Council meeting
Monday 7th July 2008
Civic Centre

Present

Charlie Berry
Georgina Collins
Jack Gregory
Daniel Leach
Joshua Power

Megan Boddy
Kinjal Dave
Doris Hayford
Danielle McAuley

Hannah Clare
Sean Farrell
Bridget Hutchings
Chloe O'Donnell

Guests in Attendance:

Cllr Emmanuel Doko
Maggie Lawlor, Rainer
Terry, Rainer

Daniel – Rainer
Ruth Morton, ECC Int Youth Support
Alan Webb, Harlow Council

Cllr Murial Jolles

Apologies

Diane Butler Harlow Council
Matt Parry

Cllr Joel Charles
Lynn Seward Harlow Council

Zoe Ireland

Minutes agreed from last meeting

1. Feedback and Questions for Adult Councillors

Cllr Johnson did not attend therefore the Youth Councillor's questions will be emailed to him: see attached.

2. Feedback from Harlow Council

Apologies from Lynn Seward, Head of Community services.

3. Publicity. Bridget raised the issue of publicity for the youth council. A discussion was held around the type of publicity that the Youth Council receives, and which issues it should be associated with in the forthcoming year. It was suggested that a poster might be produced giving details of dates and times of full Council meetings. Also suggested was a poster with details of all ongoing youth activities showing costs, dates and times.

4. Healthy Lifestyles and Sexual Health. Bridget reported that the Young Essex Assembly is making a DVD around sexual health.

Cllr Jolles reported that a campaign between the police, HDC and Trading Standards had been set up to combat underage drinking.

Action: It was agreed to defer a decision until the next meeting when it will be proposed that Youth Council campaign on Healthy Lifestyles in the coming year.

5. Self Esteem Group. Hannah reminded youth councillors of a Self Esteem Project in which Youth Councilors could provide Self Esteem sessions and advice for young people at the youth cafe. £800 has been secured to move this project forward.

Action: Hannah collected names of those interested in setting up and running a Self Esteem Group. Doris, Charlie, Megan, Jack, Josh and Danielle expressed an interest the first meeting will be on 17th July.

6. Project & Community Groups:

i) Jack Petchey. Alison, Jack, Josh and Leroy are the winners of the Jack Petchey award. Action: All winners to confirm what they wish to spend their award money on by the next meeting.

ii) Young Essex Assembly. The YEA met on 5th July. Bridget's team won the carrot and condom relay, which was part of an S.R.E. lesson delivered by Sheila Woodward. Green Pledge has been accepted and is being taken to regional level. Youth Parliament has removed the Byte card because of lack of funding and a new scheme is being considered. The Environment subgroup's 'Clean a Bus' event has been accepted by UKYP. The Youth Parliament debate at the House of Lords was very successful and is available on line to view.

www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk

Action. Ruth to contact Sheila Woodward to provide a workshop for the HYC. The Youth Parliament meets in two weeks There is no YEA sub-group this month.

iii) Ward Meetings. There was a discussion around ward meetings, as there appears to be confusion around dates, times and venues. Youth Councilors were given vague directions for the Netteswell ward meeting.

Cllr Jolles informed the meeting that Old Harlow Ward Surgeries are held on the first Saturday of each month in St John's ARC between 10 – 11 am and the 1st Tuesday of each month in St Andrews church, Churchgate Street between 10.30 – 11.30 am. Cllr Jolles has also started meeting with the users at ABC.

Hannah suggested that surgery dates are advertised in the local free press. Bridget suggested that the publicity group could run regular youth surgeries. Cllr Jolles suggested that the HYC could run a youth surgery in the marquee at the Town Show this year. Ruth suggested that we may be able to use the MiPod by 31st August and that it could be used for a Youth surgery.

Cllr Jolles also spoke about a possible new funding source from ECC. She will investigate and send her findings to Ruth.

Action. YC's need to ask for clearer directions for ward meetings. The Harlow Common Ward meetings are not advertised enough. Cllr Muriel Jolles will raise this at her next team meeting and will report back to YC Book town show for Mi Pod or marquee for youth surgery

iv) C Card Project. Only four people were able to attend the meeting with Ben Adams. Ben wanted youth councillors to take part in a mystery shopper project to check whether the providers were performing as they are meant to. They have been given 4 C Cards each plus questionnaires. They will visit C Card outlets and request condoms, and will then report back to Ben on the service that they received. The Square is no longer a part of the scheme.

Action: Youth Cllrs to conduct the survey and Ruth to ask Ben for feedback.

v) Rock School. Essex County Council are providing funding to run 3 Rock Schools per year but an additional £30,000 per year has to be raised to provide the full service.

vi) Rainer Services. Bridget attended a Rainer information day and found it very interesting. She reported that the Young Concern Trust and Rainer provide a wide range of services that she was not aware of and felt that Youth Councillors should become familiar with these services. Bridget invited Terry and Daniel along to the meeting to talk about their work. Bridget suggested setting up an advisory group from HYC, YEA and YB.

7. Diary updates.

Café meeting. Doris asked about this coming Wednesday's meeting in Café Youth. Will it still go ahead as Diane won't be here?

Action Alan to investigate.

Participation training. Tara and Sam to re-run training at Café Youth on Wednesday 23rd for HYC, YEA and YB.

Speak Out event on Thursday 10th July. We will all meet at Harlow Station at 5.15pm. Could YC's please try to arrange their own transport home beforehand, if necessary Alan will arrange for taxis at the station?

Any Other Business.

i) Transport. Charlie asked about the signs in the bus station, which are very small.

Action. Hannah to enquire with Arriva.

ii) Art Project. Ruth has been asked to arrange an art project for 11th and 12th August about young people in Essex and asked if YC could assist.

Action: Doris, Charlie and Danielle expressed an interest.

iii) Dutch Youth Council. Charlie has been in contact with some of the Dutch YC's. Apparently they have received an email from somebody informing them that we are going to visit them in Holland. Can somebody please throw some light on this? It is possible that there is a misunderstanding in either communication or translation. Tara may have sent the email, as she would like to set up a sub-group to raise funding for a visit.

iv) Fund raising. Bridget introduced a leaflet that she had received promoting fund raising activities at home and abroad for young people. She will leave it in the member's room for those interested to have a look at it.

v) Olympic Flag arrives in Harlow. Alan informed everyone of the Olympic Flag ceremony. HDC has applied for a flag and will be holding an event on Sunday 24th August 2008. He asked YC's to consider if they would like to be involved in the ceremony, and if so to come up with some ideas on what form it should take. Hannah suggested Mark hall running track with members running 2012 yards around the track carrying the flag. Charlie suggested 2012 laps.

vi) I.D. badges. Hannah asked about new ID badges with updated logos. Please arrange collection from Diane

vii) Personal safety. A Youth Councilor was assaulted outside Occasio House whilst waiting for the cab home after a recent HYC meeting. This has raised the issue of personal safety following meetings. Youth Councillors are requested to wait for the cab inside the Civic Centre. The cab company will call you once when they have arrived outside. If meetings are held at other locations, arrangements will be made so that an adult is present with the Youth Cllr and will stay with them until they are collected. It is important the all youth councilors inform the office of any community meetings that you

are attending on your own. It is advisable to always travel in two's and to report any incidents to the police.

viii) Sexual health awareness. Charlie has had a conversation with Cllr Charles who said that he wanted to promote sexual health awareness among young people. He suggested using some form of shock tactic to increase awareness. Charlie suggested having a graffiti wall where sexual health could be promoted in an appropriate format.

ix) Agenda items for next meeting. Please send them to diane.butler@harlow.gov.uk by Monday 10 August.

Next meeting:

Date Monday 1 September

Time: 18.30 – 20.00

Venue: CR2A & B Civic Centre