

Minutes from Youth Council Meeting 26th April 2004

Apologies: Danielle, Sigourney

Absent: Kylie

Present: Elliot, Alex (Chair), Jodie, Ashley, Martyn, Johnathan, Ali, Stacy, Stephen, Sophie, Kay, Jenna, Tiffany, Ash, Andrew

Workers: Clare (Youth Council Support Worker), Andy (V&I team leader)

Observers: Cllr Terry Dixon, Shaun Cartledge, Sam

Matters Arising: Tiffany asked about support from Youth Forum Support Workers and when would staff be recruited in her area. Clare and Andy fed back on the staffing situation and explained interviews would be taking place to recruit at the end of May. Until staff are recruited the remainder of the team will offer support as much as possible and look at areas working together on events.

Update: Clare explained that the Youth Councillor elected in the recent elections to Area 8, Barrie Tattershall, had failed to respond to the letter sent to him as a result of non attendance to any of the meetings or the residential, therefore, as the letter stated, we take this as his resignation from the position of Youth Councillor, Clare would be contacting the reserve, an update would be given at the next meeting.

Dates for meetings: At the residential days and times of full Youth Council meetings were discussed, a day that was identified was Monday. All agreed meetings should be on the last Monday of every month 6-8pm at Barnsley Town Hall. Jenna proposed and Martyn seconded this decision, vote was unanimous. Date for next meeting was agreed as Monday 24th May 2004.

Invites to future meetings: Clare read through and explained requests from various people to attend future Youth Council meetings. After discussion took place on each, it was agreed that; Sally Sagar would be invited to the next meeting regarding the Skate park initiative; Paula Davie would be invited to the next meeting regarding the Sustainability strategy; Chris Marshall would be invited to meeting in June to discuss LPT's and improve communication between police and young people; Graham Riding and the new Community Arts worker would be invited to a meeting in the Autumn to discuss involvement of young people in arts initiatives. All members agreed although demand was high that different agencies wanting to get involved with the Youth Council was positive and a good way to promote the work of the Youth Council.

All Barnsley Cultural Diversity Festival: Clare explained she had been to a meeting with Graham Riding the Arts Development Manager to discuss Youth Councils involvement with the festival which is all about celebrating cultural diversity in Barnsley. It was suggested at the meeting that a way for the Youth Council to get involved would be through working together with QDOS drama company to produce a positive piece around different cultures in Barnsley. Ashley proposed for the Youth Council to get involved, Andrew seconded this and vote was unanimous. Clare agreed to contact QDOS to discuss further.

At the meeting also Graham requested that Clare put to the Youth council the offer of two Youth Council representatives sitting on the Strengthening the Arts steering group to oversee the project from a young persons perspective, Clare put this to the Youth Council who agreed that they would be interested in this and would elect representatives nearer the time.

Mayors Parade/Summer Carnival: Clare received an invitation for the Youth Council to get involved in the carnival which is on the 10th July 2004. Ali proposed we get involved and Jenna seconded this, all members agreed that the youth Council should have some involvement in order to promote the Youth Council. It was agreed that Clare would set up a meeting with the organisers and the Youth Council in the next two weeks to discuss further.

Feedback on German visit: Andy explained to members that if we were serious about visiting Europe then we would have to think about some of the Youth Council Budget being set a side to pay for us. Members agreed that they would support a visit as long as it was meaningful to the young people they represent. The German Youth Council had suggested August 2004 for a visit Andy explained that dates were to be confirmed.

Training Needs: It was discussed on the residential about members identifying their training needs. These were discussed further and suggestions were made for training on: facilitating groups, setting up and running workshops, public speaking, mentoring, chairing a meeting, how council meetings run.

Website: Clare feedback on progress with the website, all the new information had been given to the company responsible for updates, all that was needed to send were new speeches from members and new pictures of people who had already been in office for a year. Members completed these tasks at the end of the meeting. Clare would pass these on to the website company.

Advert Oakwell: The company who produce the large advertising boards for Oakwell Football Ground had approached Clare and Andy. It would cost approx £1,000 to have a large advert promoting how to get involved with the Youth Council and Voice and Influence work. After looking at the stats to see how many 13-19 year olds go through the gates of Oakwell it was agreed that this would be a cost effective way of advertising how to get involved with the work to other young people. The vote was unanimous.

A.O.B: The United Kingdom Youth Parliament Elections would take place at the next meeting on the 24th May 2004, so anyone interested would have to prepare a speech to deliver to members stating why they should be voted to the UKYP.