

EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

EAST DORSET YOUTH FORUM

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th October, 2001 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor S. G. Flower – Chairman

Councillor Mrs S.E. Laird – Vice-Chairman

Present: Councillors J. P. Holland and G. P. Humphrey

Mr. J Bell (Corfe Hills School), Ms E Burrows (Queen Elizabeth School), Ms H Gibson (Ferndown Upper School), Mr M Hirsh (Assistant District Planning Officer – Development Control,) Mr J Houldey (East Dorset Youth Council Co-ordinator), Mr J Hussey (Queen Elizabeth School), Mr W Joyce (Queen Elizabeth School), Mrs C Murray (Senior Area Youth Leader), Mr T Oliver (Trainee Youth Leader) and Ms L Small (Queen Elizabeth School),

Also in Attendance: Ms L Ellis (Committee Officer) and Mr D Stone (Senior Committee Officer)

1. Election of Chairman for 2001/2002

RESOLVED that Councillor S. G. Flower be elected Chairman of the Forum for the 2001/2002 Municipal Year.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman for 2001/2002

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs S. E. Laird be elected Vice-Chairman of the Forum for the 2001/2002 Municipal Year.

3. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence received on this occasion.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received on this occasion.

Minutes

5.

The minutes of the Meeting held on 24th April 2001 were confirmed as a correct record.

DELEGATED BUSINESS

6. Tour of Youth Facilities

The East Dorset Youth Co-ordinator suggested a tour of youth facilities in the East Dorset area. The previous tour had given Members a valuable insight into available facilities. Since the last tour, two and a half years ago, facilities had developed considerably. Members felt they would benefit from re-visiting these locations. Additionally, Members felt that they would like to visit the facilities when they were in use and consequently asked for a tour to be arranged either in the

afternoon or in the early evening.

RESOLVED that a tour of youth facilities be arranged for Members and that the Youth Council Co-ordinator compile a suitable programme for the tour in liaison with the Senior Committee Officer regarding the preparations.

7. Planning Process

A presentation was made by the Assistant District Planning Officer – Development Control, giving a brief overview of the planning process in East Dorset. Topics covered included the Local Plan, the manner in which planning is devolved from national and regional levels to district authorities, the different stakeholders and local issues. He then responded to various queries raised by the Youth Forum, topics raised covered town development (including the problems of expansion at Verwood), retail development, youth facilities, education and housing in particular for single people.

The Youth Forum representatives felt strongly that they were not sufficiently represented in the planning process.

8. Reading Festival – Feedback

A presentation was made by the Trainee Youth Leader on the attendance at the Reading Festival on August Bank Holiday weekend of five youth club members, plus youth workers. It was reported that the visit had further developed the on-going relationship between youth club members and youth workers. The weekend was judged to be very successful.

9. Youth Meeting with the Police Partnership Trust, Verwood

A Report on the Police Partnership Trust was received by the Forum and discussed.

The Youth members felt strongly that young peoples' views on recreational facilities in the Verwood area were not listened to and this was an example of the lack of communication and delays in providing facilities for young people. Concerns were raised that young peoples' needs were not being acknowledged or those that were acknowledged were not being communicated back to them. Recreational and housing facilities were strongly sited as being key issues for the youth.

RESOLVED:-

- (a) that the Head of Leisure and Tourism Services be asked to report on recreational facilities in East Dorset to an early meeting of the Forum and report thereon to the Community Services Committee;**
- (b) that the Head of Legal Services be asked to report on provision of accommodation assistance for young people in East Dorset to an early meeting of the Forum and report thereon to the Community Services Committee.**

10. Future Meeting Dates for the remainder of the Municipal Year
The Forum was reminded of the dates for the following meetings;
Tuesday, 15 January 2001 and Tuesday, 19 March 2002.

The meeting ended at 7.15 p.m.