

EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

EAST DORSET YOUTH FORUM

Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd April, 2003 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mrs S. E. Laird - Chairman
Councillor S. G. Flower - Vice-Chairman

Present: Councillor J. P. Holland and Mrs P. Godfrey, Mr N. Farmer (Head of Leisure and Tourism Service, Mr J. Fortescue (Leisure Development Officer), Mr J. Houldey, Mr V. Morley (Youth Leader), Mrs C. Murray (Senior Area Youth Leader), Councillor V. Redpath (Verwood Town Council), Ms Mo Shearing (West Moors Youth Leader), Mr J. Bell, Ms M. Broughton, Mr R. Watts, Mr B. Blainey, Mr R. Faulkener, Mr C. Rowden, Mr M. Pattern, Mr A. Skeats, Mr S. Hunt, Mr M. Benwell, Ms K. Jaggs (Community Facilitator) and Ms L. Ellis (Committee Officer)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G. P. Humphrey and Mr G. Munson.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January, 2003 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. **Local Groups**

Representatives of local groups provided an oral update on their on-going projects.

Three Legged Cross:-

- The local Mayor had recently opened the first stage of the BMX/Skateboard project.
- Volunteers had worked very hard to complete the first phase of the project and were currently working on the next phase.
- Work was progressing at a reasonable rate.
- East Dorset District Council were thanked for supporting the young people of Three Legged Cross to achieve their need for skate and BMX facilities.

West Moors:-

- West Moors Parish Council had been contacted regarding a designated area for skate board facilities, close to the Youth Centre but away from residents.
- There had been a recent trip to the new skate facilities at Blandford to evaluate its set up and the type of equipment used there.
- Identification of areas for fundraising projects.
- Attended the Ferndown Skate Fair, which helped to raise the profile of West Moors Skate Committee and its aims.
- A competition was being held for West Moors schools to design a logo for the Skate Committee, a newsletter was being developed and the Skate Committee would be entering the Ferndown Carnival.

5. Community Strategy

The Head of Leisure Services orally reported that the Youth Issues group had now met on two occasions and the main issues raised concerned Friday nights and the problems of rural isolation.

The Forum were informed that the Youth Issues group was open to anyone to attend and if people anyone was unable to attend their names could be added to the Community Strategy database and information would then be sent to them.

At present the Youth Issues group had representatives from Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne but none from Ferndown Upper School, Ferndown. The Head of Leisure Services asked if it would be possible to also have representatives on the group from Ferndown Upper School, Ferndown.

6. Leisure Development in East Dorset

The Leisure Development Officer provided an oral report to Members of the Youth Forum, with Members updated on activities for young people in East Dorset.

It was announced that Youth Disco's would be held at Ferndown Youth Centre in the future and once suitable premises had been located it was envisaged that Youth Disco's would also be held in Wimborne and Verwood. As well as disco's it was envisaged that other types of entertainment would be held such as concerts, sports festivals and other music nights, such as punk, rock, etc, and not just dance music.

To accommodate any transport problems that may arise, a minibus service provided by East Dorset District Council and/or the Youth Centre's.. The Police would also be informed as to when these evenings would be and officers would be in the area at the close of the evening to make sure that young people would be safe. Future evenings would be publicised in Youth Centres and Youth Information

Centres in the East Dorset area.

It was emphasised by the Leisure Development Officer that many different activities could be organised for young people in East Dorset, however it was important that young people expressed the types of activities they required and made those ideas known to the Leisure Development Officer.

7. Youth Members of Parliament

The Forum received an oral update from Joe Bell on the recent elections for Youth Members Of Parliament. Joe was pleased to announce that he had been re- elected as a member of the Youth Parliament for Dorset, along with Ian Bags, Chris Stotton and Jasmine Ruth.

8. The Euro

Julian Houldey provided the Forum with oral feedback on the recent debate on the Euro, organised by East Dorset and Christchurch Youth Council's. The debate was organised to inform young people of the different perspectives of the ongoing Euro debate. Speakers included Christopher Chope MP and local business leaders.

9. Dates of Future Meetings

The Forum confirmed that the future dates of the East Dorset Youth Forum would be 22nd July 2003, 21st October 2003, 20th January 2004 and 27th April 2004. All meetings would commence at 6.00 pm at The Council Offices, Furzehill.

The meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN