

EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

EAST DORSET YOUTH FORUM

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th April, 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mrs T. B. Coombs - Chairman

Present: Councillors S. G. Flower and D. Morgan, Mrs N. Aitchison, Ms L. Archer (Connexions), Mr. L. Clark, Mr. V Morley, Mr. G Munson and V. Redpath.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A. N. Skeats (Vice-Chairman), Mr. P. Cox (Youth Leader), Mrs. C. Murray (Youth Leader), Ms. L. Sandford, Mrs. M. Shearing, Ms. K. Skeats, Mr. S. Stevens and Mr. S. Woodcock (Community Development Manager).

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February, 2005 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. Youth Music Festival

An oral report was submitted by the Youth Development Officer.

The following update was given on the Youth Music Festival:-

- Festival date confirmed as 23rd July 2005;
- Big Top Marquee, PA System and security had all been arranged;
- Other Agencies such as CAB, Youth Service and Princes Trust would be in attendance;
- A fairground, army assault course, workshops and a 'Jam' tent would also be provided;
- The Festival budget already contained £4,000, whilst additional external funding had been applied for;
- Several double-decker buses would be hired to provide transport to and from the Festival;
- Entertainment on the Main Stage would be between 6-9pm;
- Band Auditions would be held on 8th and 15th May;
- It would cost £1 to enter the arena; and
- The provision of catering outlets would be offered to local clubs, Youth Centres, etc in East Dorset.

Concern was raised by the Youth TAG representative that there was a lack of security, not enough toilets, concern over the fun fair and that although the music festival was a very good idea it was felt that it was becoming 'too big, too soon'.

The Chairman stated that at other events held in the same location in Verwood there had always been a funfair and that there had previously been no trouble.

The Youth Forum suggested paying the fairground operators a fixed fee for use of their facilities and asking the fair operator to charge 50p per ride, probably via the use of tokens. The monies raised from the sale of tokens would be donated to the festivals chosen charities.

AGREED that a £1 entrance fee would be charged to enter the festival site and tokens would be sold at 50p each for use at the fairground

Voting: Nem Con

5. Verwood Kabin

An oral report was presented updating the Youth Forum on the Verwood Kabin.

It was reported that attendance levels at the recently opened Kabin varied. This was probably due to the facilities only being opened one evening a week at present (Friday), as problems were being encountered in recruiting staff. The people who were visiting the Kabin were young people who had not previously attended youth facilities in Verwood or had been known to local youth leaders.

It was hoped that volunteers would come forward to help at the Kabin and this invitation was extended to Members of East Dorset District Council.

6. Youth TAG

The Chairman of the East Dorset Youth TAG provided an oral update on the progress of the Youth TAG.

The Youth TAG was involved in the following projects:-

- Pilot Bus Scheme;
- Mobile Youth Centre;
- Register of Beds;
- Scooter Scheme;
- Youth Conference;
- Friday-Night facilities - Ferndown Night Café, Friday evenings at the Reef, Colehill and fortnightly discos at Corfe Mullen Youth Centre; and
- Safer Meeting Places – One shelter in Verwood and part funding for a portable shelter.

It was reported that the Youth TAG was meeting its objectives and its £50,000 budget had all been allocated.

7. Any Other Business

Norma Aitchison raised the topic of Green Island in Poole Harbour, which had recently been put up for sale and agreed to investigate whether it would be feasible to raise funding to purchase it as an activity centre for young people in Dorset.

Concern was also raised that the 'Extreme' holiday provision had been reduced to one day per week. The Youth Development Officer informed the Forum that the 'Extreme' provision was now run by QE Leisure Centre, Wimborne and the Council had now adopted a co-ordinating role rather than that of provider. Concern that there had been a decrease in the provision of 'Extreme' had been raised with QE Leisure Centre.

8. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next East Dorset Youth Forum would be held on Tuesday 16th June 2005 at 6.00pm.

The meeting ended at 7.05 p.m.

CHAIRMAN