



Notes of Meeting 8th January 2018, 6 – 7 pm

Day Centre, Dowding House, Commercial Way, Paddock Wood

Attendees

Emily Mackie (New Gen)

Alice Boyle (Guides)

Adam Fleming (New Gen)

Sarah Woodcock (Sunday Groups, St Andrew's Church Youth)

Derek Boyle (Paddock Wood Town Council)

Carol Williams (Paddock Wood Town Council)

YC 1 Apologies

Louise Bale

Caitlin Marks

YC 2 Minutes of last meeting & matters arising

Carol gave a brief overview of issues outlined by Pauline Casbarek from Tunbridge Wells CSU

Posters have been laminated and are ready to go up. The notice board is now in the centre of town outside the public toilets & information for young people will be posted here. Carol has posted the results of the KCYC elections on the noticeboard.

YC 3 Skate Park research – Adam Fleming to feedback findings from research

Adam reported the information he had gleaned from a small number of young people using the skate park: the basketball facilities are unused. The young people gave Adam ideas for extending the park, but the feedback was limited as many older skate park users go to facilities elsewhere in Kent or further away. CW provided diagrams of other skate parks, which provided ideas for expansion.

It was agreed that more information from a wider survey would be required if funds were to be raised to extend the skate park. CW suggested using survey monkey to speak to young people directly at youth activities.

YC 4 Plans for the year

Concerns were raised that YC had not achieved much since it was established nearly two years ago apart from the litter poster. CW suggested that the group had achieved a range of things including:

- Getting established and creating a logo – getting a group established and working together can be difficult and YC has been affected by the older members leaving for University & work. It was agreed that an initial focus for this year would be to increase membership of the group. An invite will be circulated for any young people who are interested in joining the group.
- Initiated the town litter picks, which are now arranged by PWTC Estates Committee
- Created a range of litter posters relevant to the town
- Contributed ideas to the specification for the community centre
- Contributed ideas to the neighbourhood plan in relation to the town centre, sports and recreation, cycling and safety.

CW thinks the group should be proud of their achievements and reminded them that this is the only Youth Council in the Borough.

EM asked the group to consider what they would like to focus on in the following year: it was felt that the skate park should not be a priority for this year, as much more information is required. CW suggested linking in to some of the work of KYCYC who are focusing on mental health, transport and bullying. The group would like to look at transport and discussed some of the issues affecting them following reduction in bus and train services. It was agreed that County Councillor Sarah Hamilton would be invited to the next meeting to discuss the transport issues raised. The group asked to open this meeting to other young people – CW to add to the Facebook page.

Caitlin's ideas for the library were briefly discussed but not in detail, as Caitlin was not present.

CW suggested that YC could take part in some training to help them develop their role and ideas. Eileen Wilson (Town Councillor) has a training pack, which we could use & ask Eileen to help with the training. It was suggested that this should be undertaken in March.

YC 5 Community centre – facilities for young people

CW reported that the council were discussing inviting local groups to the Community Centre Working Group, which would include PWYC. More information to be provided.

YC 6 Any other business

Frequency of meetings was briefly discussed and will remain monthly.

Next meeting: 12th February 2018, 6 pm, Day Centre, Commercial Road