

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the Youth Services Working Group Held at the Grange Youth Centre At 4.00pm on Thursday 23 March 2023

PRESENT

Councillors P Moseley (Chair) and B Bentick.

The meeting was therefore declared inquorate.

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Hall (Youth and Community Manager).

29/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Lemon, Roberts and Vasmer and Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Amanda Spencer (Deputy Town Clerk), Sally Nicholson (Mayoral Secretary) and Andy Watkin (Head of Resources).

30/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Shropshire Councillors	Those twin-hatted members declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Town Council's relationship with Shropshire Council.
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31/22 MINUTES OF THE LAST WORKING GROUP MEETING

To approve the minutes of the Working Group meeting held on 19 January 2023 were submitted as circulated and read.

RESOLVED:

As the meeting was inquorate it was agreed that the minutes of the Youth Working Group held on 19 January 2023 be discussed at the next meeting.

32/22 UPDATE ON YOUTH ACTIVITY DURING THE AUTUMN TERM

The Youth and Community Manager updated the members on the Spring term activities. He advised that all clubs are a little down on numbers, however this is normal for this time of year. He explained that bad weather and anti-social behaviour in the dark evenings had put parents off sending their young people to clubs resulting in a reduction of numbers. Young Shrewsbury had also held a Jump-in excursion last half-term and explained how this had been funded.

The Youth and Community Manager had attended Sundorne School to promote sessions both at the Grange (Monday) and Sundorne (Wednesday) clubs. This was received well by the school. He also mentioned a "Roller Disco" Night to be held at Sundorne on 29 March 2023 which would include all

our club members apart from the Pre-Juniors who had their own Disco recently. Cllr Moseley asked that the poster could be circulated at Full Council for members information.

In April Young Shrewsbury would partner with Shropshire Cricket Board to offer Street Cricket on a Wednesday evening to the Pre-Junior group, this is funded by sports England. In addition, this activity will also be delivered throughout the Easter holidays.

The sessions at Monkmoor had improved after implementing measures to improve the behaviour of a minority of young people.

Monkmoor football continues as normal apart from one week's cancellation due to poor weather.

The spring, wildlife and nature is the theme at the Hive this spring term; activities are as follows.

18 April - World Book Day, free books for young people

18 April - International Haiku poetry day

25 April - Visiting artist Matt Sewell will be drawing birds and holding a workshop

2 May - Hedgehog awareness, with a visit from the Shropshire Wildlife trust

9 May - Bird table making

23 - World Bee Day

Councillor Bentick asked if these activities were being published on the Town Council's website. The Youth and Community Manager replied that they would be shortly.

33/22 ALTERNATIVE CURRICULUM

The Youth & Community Manager confirmed that there were currently five students from Shrewsbury Academy attending and two from Mount Pleasant School. The Town Council is currently recruiting staff to support these AC sessions.

34/22 HOLIDAY ACTIVITY FUND

The Youth & Community Manager informed the meeting that Young Shrewsbury had been successful in being granted funding for both Easter and Summer HAF sessions. There would be two sessions run in the summer, one at the Grange and the other at Monkmoor Recreation Ground. The Youth and Community Manager had been in contact with the Shropshire Council HAF project leader, Alexa Pugh, and agreed a direct booking system for parents and carers with Young Shrewsbury. This will save staff time and improve the delivery of the project.

35/22 OTHER BUSINESS

MONKMOOR

The Youth & Community Manager reminded members of the work taking place at SYA Monkmoor Lodge this year for an undisclosed period, although it is hoped completion would be completed in October. The youth session on a Thursday evening would not be able to operate after 29 May 2023 at this site.

The YCM has looked at many alternative venues with little success but he was still awaiting a response from Crowmoor School. Councillor Moseley informed the meeting that she had also been in touch with Crowmoor School.

The YCM suggested setting up an extension to the Football session from the Monkmoor Rec as an alternative on Thursdays if required, as most of the young people normally attended the Lodge afterwards. The idea would be to work out of pop-ups delivering more sport and interactive activities as the weather will have improved and the Young People will already be in the locality.

The YCM also informed the Committee that, due to a staff resignation he would be leading the two sessions at Monkmoor for the time being.

STAY SAFE EVENT

The YCM informed members that he was partnering with Shropshire Youth and other local stakeholders in staging a “Stay Safe” Event in the Quarry on Saturday 1 April 2023. The YCM is looking to apply for funding from the Activity and Intervention panel via SALC. It is understood there could be up to £150k of funding available this coming financial year.

Councillor Bentick mentioned there may be availability of premises for youth delivery in the south of the town, he will keep the YCM informed of progress although it was appreciated that funding was not currently available for a new session.

36/22 NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Youth Services Working Group would take place on 18 May 2023.