

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
Youth Services Delivery Committee
Meeting held at The Grange Youth Centre, Shrewsbury
At 10.00am on 9th November 2018

PRESENT

Councillors A Mosley (Chairman), I Jones, Mrs P Moseley, N Laurens, K Pardy & D Vasmer

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Andy Watkin (Responsible Financial Officer) & Adam Purnell (Youth & Community Development Officer)

11/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillor Mosley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Flaxivity as he was the Chairman of the Friends of Flaxmill at which the Town Council operates a youth session.

All present declared non-pecuniary interests as both Town & Unitary Councillors in any matters relating to agreements between both Councils.

12/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Youth Services Delivery Committee meeting held on 24th July 2018 were submitted as circulated and read.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Youth Services Delivery Committee meeting held on 24th July be approved and signed as a correct record.

13/18 GRANGE YOUTH CENTRE HEADS OF TERMS

Further to Members', concerns about security of tenure discussions have taken place with Estates about the potential of a Community Asset Transfer of the Grange Youth Centre. Members considered the Heads of Terms that had been forwarded for consideration. Members were aware that the site was likely to become surplus to wider school requirement as the Shrewsbury Academy continues with its merger. They would like to see assurances within any agreement that a new facility would be required in the event of any land disposal. Members discussed the need to register this site as an Asset of Community Value and potentially in the event that the land is to be disposed of and the moratorium is triggered they would consider acquisition. Members requested clarification on the annual service charge for cleaning, the level of security of tenure of any sublease and details of any conditions surveys undertaken.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Town Clerk seek further clarification on the terms of a proposed Community Asset Transfer of the Grange;**
- (ii) That the local member promote a Registration of the Grange Youth Centre as a site of Community Value.**

14/18 UPGRADES TO GRANGE YOUTH CENTRE

Members noted the works undertaken by Caterpillar CSR Team during their August visit. Work included painting the majority of rooms in the facility.

Members also discussed the levels of work required to the kitchen to facilitate the building's use as a Community Centre. Members felt that they could not justify any greater works than just replacing the kitchen units as is. It was reported that the initial costs for pure replacement were in the region of £5-6k.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That a letter of thanks be sent to Caterpillar regarding their Community Day of Action**
- (ii) That the kitchen proposals be revisited and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to procure works within the original £5-6k ballpark budget**

15/18 LONG TERM OPTIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF THE SERVICE

Members considered the long-term sustainability and the likelihood of any ongoing funding from Shropshire Council. In considering any future requirements the following comments were made:

- **Monkmoor** Junior Sessions is becoming over-subscribed with upwards of 50 young people coming weekly. 75% of attendees were Year 9 and consideration needs to be given about creating a senior session to reduce the age group. Currently there is no other night available at the centre so it may be necessary to run two separate sessions on the same night. There have been instances of ASB outside of the centre, but this has been controlled of late.
- **Grange** Pre-Junior Sessions are well attended as is the Junior Session. There was a spate of ASB in the locality that affected the attendance figures; this has improved of late.
- **Sundorne** Junior Session is very quiet with on 6-20 young people attending.

- **Hive** Junior Session is well attended but consideration may need to be given to creating a senior session.
- **Flaxivity** Session is reasonably well attended but staff need to be stricter on attendance as this is predominantly a Skating session.
- **Meet Place** at Meole is to be extended following contributions from Trinity Church and Severnside Housing. It was hoped the Town Council might be able to deliver sessions in that location.
- **Detached Team** had been exceptionally busy attending to hotspot areas as and when demand arose. Their aim was predominantly to build relationships with young people and encourage them to go to other youth activities.

Members conclusion was that the Town Council Youth Service was one of the most important services the Town Council operated and it was important to embed youth activity in the core budget. It was reported that the current service was £120k of which £40k was paid for by Shropshire Council.

RESOLVED:

- (i) **That the RFO and Youth & Community Development Officer look at re-profiling activity to address some of the key areas for development;**
- (ii) **That the Town Clerk contact Shropshire Council about any funding for 2019/20;**
- (iii) **That the Committee meet again ahead of Finance & General Purpose Committee's final consideration of the 2019/20 budget**