

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
5 FEBRUARY 2024**

**Officer:** Andy Hall – Youth and Community Manager

**Youth Services**

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**Purpose of Report**

To provide an update of Youth Services activities.

**Youth Activities**

All youth clubs are operating as normal after the Christmas break. All youth groups enjoyed Christmas activities including a Disco & Games at the Grange and a Christmas play at the Hive to mention just two.



**New Youth Club at Ditherington Community Centre**

Young Shrewsbury have planned to open a new regular youth session setting every Wednesday night at the Ditherington Community Centre starting after half-term. Working with George Hounsell from the Marches Academy trust, the YCM is providing more resources to the Community centre such as TVs, games, table tennis, pool table and will continue access more resources for the centre.

This youth provision will replace the Sundorne club which will finish this week Wednesday 7th February. These changes will meet the local needs of our young people locally and maximise STC assets and minimise financial demands.

### HAF (Holiday Activity Fund activities) Spring & Summer 2024

Young Shrewsbury have completed a HAF funding bid for Spring and Summer 2024. This includes Programmes at both the Grange and Monkmoor Recreation Ground, looking at providing more resources to the Community centre such as TVs, game, pool table Shrewsbury Town Council's Young Shrewsbury Youth work team, supported by external sports workers, intend to deliver multi-activities in an informal learning setting at The Grange Centre. Activities will include but not exclusively: dance & disco, various art classes, cooking, organisation visits/talks, indoor multi-sports in the sports hall, table tennis, Pool, soft ball as well as outside sports (weather dependant).

As with all the values of youth work, Young Shrewsbury will promote E&Q giving every young person the opportunity to participate and be valued in all activities provided. Our staff already support special needs groups, and we welcome SEN.

### Young Refugees

The YCM has recently met with Amanda Jones to plan how Young Shrewsbury can work with young refugees helping their integration into the local community, breaking down barriers to accessing free youth provision. It was a very positive meeting enabling some great ideas to evolve/flow.

### Alternative Curriculum

The Alternative Curriculum (AC) delivery has continued this term with all attendees from Shrewsbury Academy. We currently have eight young people on programme attending on various days, with a waiting list of up to three young people.

### Stay Safe Event

To support our Stay Safe Campaign, Young Shrewsbury has produced a Flyer and posters to put up in Schools, Colleges and to be sent out in newsletters. Stay safe day has now been confirmed for Saturday 18th May 2024 3-6pm in the Quarry.

**RISKY BUSINESS**  
NEVER LEAVE YOUR... drink unattended and look out for your friends' drinks too.  
IF IT LOOKS STRANGE... or tastes strange don't drink it.  
ASK FOR A CAP... or cover for your drink which many bars now offer.  
Contaminated drugs are being sold in Shrewsbury and have been linked to several young people being hospitalised. These events with alcohol or taken in excess could prove fatal.  
**BE DRUG AWARE AND TAKE CARE**

**DON'T DRINK AND DROWN**  
**STAY SAFE**  
DON'T WALK HOME NEAR WATER... after a night out, you might feel fit.  
MAKE SURE YOUR FRIENDS... get home safely after a night out, don't let them walk home on their own.  
COLD WATER KILLS... and can take the life of even the strongest swimmer.  
DON'T ENTER THE WATER... if you've been drinking alcohol, seriously affects your ability to get out.  
Source: Royal Life Saving Society UK  
[www.rlss.org.uk/about-dont-drink-and-drown](http://www.rlss.org.uk/about-dont-drink-and-drown)

**ARE YOU OFF THE RAILS?**

**THE FACTS**

**HOW YOU CAN STAY SAFE**  
JUMPING ELECTRICITY  
25,000 volts of electricity is carried in overhead lines which can jolt or zap 3 metres if you don't have to touch them to risk your life.  
THE THIRD RAIL  
Probably the hardest danger to see it looks just like an ordinary rail but carries 750V.  
WIDE LOAD  
Trains are wider than the rails. Don't think that keeping to one side of the track will keep you safe.  
Every time someone strays onto the railway, they are putting themselves at risk of a serious life-threatening injury.

**USEFUL INFO**  
[www.youvestrain.co.uk](http://www.youvestrain.co.uk)  
**61016 TEXT SERVICE**  
The 61016 text service offers the travelling public a means to contact British Transport Police directly and discreetly, in order to report non-emergency crime.  
Texts may incur a charge from your network provider.  
**Download Railway Guardian** **Lawrhytho Railway Guardian**  
The free Railway Guardian app is an all-in-one safety app from BTP. The app allows you to report crimes or concerns on the rail network, share your journeys with contacts, and get access to news, guides or support.  
Texts may incur a charge from your network provider.  
In an emergency always call 999

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) The report be noted.