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WISBECH YOUTH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Wisbech Youth Council held on Monday 22 February 2010 in the Council Chamber of Wisbech Town Council at 5.00 pm.

PRESENT Stuart Murat (Chairman); Elliott Johnson; Jess Oliver; Zoey Taylor; Maxine Connor; Danii Kirk; Michelle Connor; Alex Rose Good; Vicky Wright; Salewudin Ibrahim; Jamie Tilley; Jessica Parsons; Hannah Reynolds; Callum Brown; Jade Kelly; Daniel Emmington; Ian Mattless; Robert Hurst; and Leanne Tompkins.

In attendance Cllr David Oliver (Leader of Wisbech Town Council); Erbie Murat (Town Clerk and Clerk to Wisbech Youth Council); Tony Davies (President of Wisbech Rotary Club); Ross McGivern (Community Development Officer, Fenland District Council).

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman called for everyone to be upstanding for one minutes silence in honour of Cllr Leslie Sims who had recently died.

It was noted by the chairman that the numbering on the agenda should have started at – **7. Welcome and introductions** to follow sequentially from the last full meeting of the Youth Council. He asked that this be remedied on the minutes.

7. Welcome and Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves briefly.

8. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Roger Almond, Chairman of the Youth Committee for Wisbech Rotary.

9. Minutes of the Youth Council Meetings since the Annual General Meeting of Wisbech Youth Council in September

Members AGREED the minutes of the meetings of the Youth Council held on 21 September 2009; and the working parties held on 23 October 2009; and 27 November 2009.

10. Report back about Christmas

Members noted the minutes of meetings attached - Lots of members of Wisbech Youth Council helped with the Christmas Lights Switch-on, and special thanks should go to Jess, Maxine and Michelle who were also Stewards. The Youth Council also had a static display about the Youth Council for the Switch-on and for the Wisbech Christmas Market, supported by Stuart; Zoey; Danii; and Elliott. Members involved with the sweet-wrap were: Stuart; Jess; Lauren M; Kirsty; Maxine; Michelle; Salewudin; Lizzi and Erbie. They (mainly Jess and Maxine) also decorated the Christmas tree in the Council Chamber. The Lions (who supplied Santa) paid special tribute to the Youth Council for their sweet wrap, having been

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given over 200 bags of sweets to distribute to the children. Contributors to the cost of the sweets for Christmas included: Rotary, Tesco; ALDI; and Asda.

11. Report back from the Aspirations Workshop

Stuart attended a workshop for Head Teachers of Infants and Junior schools, and education staff to look at how children may be encouraged through schools to take more interest in what's going on around them, particularly where careers aspirations are concerned.

Stuart has volunteered to be on the Steering Group that will meet periodically to take this initiative forward.

12. Report back from Connexions meeting about Rose Fair float.

Stuart, Alex, and Zoey attended a meeting at the Connexions office with other young people and two officers from connexions to discuss options and opportunities for a float for Rosefair.

They have a grant from Fenland District Council of £800.00. The theme this year is Famous Places, and they are considering a float about Las Vegas. Rosefair will be on 3 July, which is the day before American Independence Day. Members AGREED that Wisbech Youth Council would join with NACRO and Centre 4 to have a Float at Rosefair and AGREED to recommend Las Vegas to the Rosefair Float Group, and to suggest that it be called Young People Wisbech. Members also AGREED that the Clerk is asked to contact Alconbury Airbase to see if the American air force can help in any way.

13. Report back from the new library

Stuart and Zoey attended the formal opening of the new library. £2.7 million has been spent on gutting and remodelling the old library, creating an extra 73% space for community rooms, and other spaces. There are 16 new pc's and a small area for adolescents to sit and chill out – get a cup of coffee etc.

14. Rock Festival Sunday 6 June 2010 and Multicultural Festival Sunday 1 August

Members thanked Wisbech Town Council for agreeing to put in £2,500 (half of £5,000 for festivals for Wisbech) towards the running of the Rock Festival, and £2,500 for the running of a Multi-cultural festival. Members noted that Stuart had applied for a further applied for £5,000 from Fenland District Council to match-fund the £5,000 from the Town Council. Fenland have promised £2,000, but have imposed conditions.

The Clerk read out the email correspondence, and the Youth Council AGREED to accept the £2,000, but was disappointed that FDC had not match-funded WTC's contribution. They were also concerned at the conditions imposed and noted that the decision was made by the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Management Board, and a member of the Fenland Youth Council as the two remaining voting members of the board after the County Council, District Council, Town Council, and Wisbech Youth Council representatives were asked to leave the room.

Members also noted that Fenland District Council were considering waiving the hire cost of the park, but that the use of the park would attract a great deal of additional expense such as: licenses, staging, electricity; lighting; sound; security; toilets and so on – all of which would have to be paid out of the limited resources available – as well as pay for the bands

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and promotions. Members AGREED to divert as much of the available resources to the Rock Festival in the first instance and then apply for additional funding for the Multi-cultural festival, and if necessary due to cost constraints, find an alternative venue for the Multi-cultural festival.

15. Mini Olympics May 2011

At an initial meeting the following have committed themselves to providing facilities and staff to put on up to thirty events: Hudson Leisure Centre; Thomas Clarkson Community College; Wisbech Grammar School; Centre4 Youth Centre. The list of commitments so far is:

Provision at Centre4 - Children & Young Peoples Services will provide the gymnasium in C4

- Full toilet facilities (including disabled)
- Use of coffee bar and foyer at Queen Mary Centre for fundraising, stalls, refreshments, press interviews etc
- Youth support workers, volunteers and senior members for the events at C4 and Queen Mary Centre.
- Youth support worker for the youth council in planning and preparation of the event.
- Taekwon-do tasters (pre-Mini Olympics tasters and competition during)

Provision at the Hudson - All the facilities at the Hudson Leisure + following competitions:

- Basketball
- Boxing
- Bowls
- Cycling
- Fencing
- Gymnastics
- Handball
- Hockey
- Judo
- Rowing (using four or five rowing machine)
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Weight lifting
- Wrestling

Provision at Wisbech Grammar School

- Rugby
- Rounders
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Hockey
- Track Athletics
- Long Jump / Triple Jump

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Provision at Thomas Clarkson Community College

- Football
- Rugby
- Athletics after Easter (Track, discus, shot, javelin)
- Rounders
- Softball
- Netball
- Tennis
- Indoor throwing/discuss, javelin, shot

There has also been a request to include equestrian sports.

16. Feedback from the Hudson

Fenland District Council were successful in getting over half a million pounds in total to improve the Hudson Leisure Centre. One of the new things will be an ultra-violet filter system for the swimming pool, which should substantially cut down on chlorine levels. Work is almost finished, and it is fantastic.

17. New Play area for Waterlees

Fenland District Council has transferred the ownership of some land to Cambridgeshire County Council so they can go ahead and build a new play area for £850,000. Last year six members of the Youth Council went to London to see two similar play areas: Kelsey; Matt; Elliott; Stuart; Zoey and Lauren. They had great fun and thought the play areas were excellent.

18. Leaflets & Stuff

Members were referred to the leaflets - and were asked to take a copy of the cyber bullying leaflet, Town Guide, and to sign membership forms if they had not already done so. New members who were not on the attendance register were asked to put their contact details on the bottom of the attendance sheet.

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm and members were able to network for ten minutes.

Signed.....

Dated.....