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WISBECH YOUTH COUNCIL

Notes of the meeting of the Wisbech Youth Council held on Thursday 17 February 2011 in the Council Chamber of Wisbech Town Council at 5.00 pm.

PRESENT: Stuart Murat (Chairman), Zoey Taylor, Reece Barr, Charlotte Johnson and Elliott Johnson.

Adult Advisor: Jess Oliver.

In attendance: Susanah Farmer (Deputy Town Clerk and Acting Clerk to Wisbech Youth Council).

17. Welcome and introductions

Everyone introduced themselves. Susanah Farmer introduced herself as acting as Clerk to this meeting.

18. Apologies

Apologies were received from Roger Almond (Chairman of the Youth Committee for Wisbech Rotary), David Oliver (Leader of Wisbech Town Council), Nick Hammond (Headmaster at Wisbech Grammar School), Maxine Connor (Adult Advisor), Michelle Connor and Danielle Kirk.

19. Minutes of the Youth Council Meeting held on 22 July 2010

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2010 and circulated previously for comments were noted.

The Chairman stated that he thought there were too few members in attendance to make a decision of agenda matters. The Deputy Clerk was asked to refer to the Terms of Reference.

Post meeting note:

The Terms of Reference referred to at the meeting were out of date. According to Section 2.1 of the Wisbech Youth Council Terms of Reference as agreed and signed on 11 November 2008:

There will be a minimum of six voting Members, with no maximum. This is to be reviewed if the membership exceeds thirty.

Therefore this meeting was not quorate and members could only note information, not make decisions.

20. Heritage Lottery

Members NOTED that Wisbech Town Council staff will be attending a workshop about Heritage and Young People. Any useful information gained will be reported at the next meeting.

Items to be discussed are:

Why is heritage important for young people

What is heritage and how are young people encouraged to get involved.

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Members were asked that if they had any specific questions or issues to be raised they are asked to make them known to Susanah Farmer.

Elliott Johnson asked what emphasis would be put on local history as opposed to national history, or the position of local heritage within the national framework. Susanah would take this enquiry to the workshop.

21. Wisbech Town Matters newsletter and website

Members were asked to suggest items for inclusion in the Newsletter or Website and noted that items should be in electronic format and can include pictures.

Elliott had previously offered to send in information but apologised that he had done nothing about it. Susanah Farmer stressed that any information for the newsletter and website could be made known to her at any time; members did not have to wait until they attended a meeting. Members were encouraged to send in details of events and activities that they attended or would recommend for others.

22. Wisbech for kids – ideas for a tourism/activity ‘to see and do’ leaflet

Members were asked to think about items for inclusion in a Wisbech local directory. This had been an original request from the Youth Council in producing a ‘Pink Directory’ for kids.

Several members agreed to forward information about groups they were involved with. In light of what was said in the previous agenda item; members were again encouraged to send in details of events and activities that they attended or would recommend for others. They may be regular meetings: Guides, Sea Cadets, Youth Club etc, as well as summer/holiday attractions to visit of interest to children/young people.

23. Charitable Status

Susanah Farmer gave a presentation on the options and possibilities for Wisbech Youth Council obtaining charitable status and become an independent organisation.

Members were reminded that the application for £4,500 from ‘Awards for All’ for the Bring & Share festival had been made by the Wisbech Youth Council. However, the application had to be taken over by Wisbech Town Council because the Youth Council could not apply in its own right.

One solution to this would be for Wisbech Youth Council to apply to be a charitable organisation and to have its own bank account and its own trustees. The trustees would oversee the financial aspect of the organisation as it was necessary for those maintaining the bank account to be adults. The Youth Council would still originate ideas and help to organise events. Members were asked to note that the function of the Youth Council itself would not be affected.

Members decided that they would like more information before making a decision and that they wished for more members to be involved in the decision.

Susanah would circulate Charity Commission information regarding trustees.

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Information:

Following from the last agenda item members wished that the next meeting be the AGM and that more members would be in attendance.

In order to make it easier for some members to attend it was agreed that the meeting to be held on 14 April would start at 5.30pm, with members being welcome to come to the Chamber at 5pm.

Information:

Stuart would check on the current status of the Wisbech Youth Council Facebook site. If this was acceptable, members would be encouraged to use it and gain 'Friends'.

Leaflets and Stuff

Members noted that the Wisbech Mart Fair would be opened by the Mayor at 6pm on 4 March and all Youth Council members were welcome to attend.

Information postcards for Atelier East and Shape Your Place were available to take away as well as copies of Art & Soul Magazine with an article on the Wisbech Rock Festival.

The meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....