

Monday, 10 November 2025

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Youth Services Committee** to be held in the **Council Chambers** on **Wednesday 19 November 2025 which commences at 19:00 pm**. Town Councillors are reminded that they have a duty to state a Declaration of Interest prior to the appropriate agenda item and to consider the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 s.17 when reaching a decision.

Please note, proceedings of this meeting will be streamed live to YouTube for the public to watch via the following link: https://www.youtube.com/live/6MNWDpZpfFg?si=Ao32dkxdhePpCK_K and may be recorded in line with regulations set out in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. A copy of Sevenoaks Town Council's procedure for the recording of meetings is available online at sevenoakstown.gov.uk or by request.

Members of the public wishing to address the Council Meeting should notify the Town Council by 12 noon on the day of the meeting. Members of the public not wishing to be recorded should put this request to the Clerk at the earliest possible opportunity.



Town Clerk

To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, members wishing to obtain factual information on items included on the agenda are asked to enquire of the Town Clerk prior to the day of the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To enable any questions previously submitted by members of the public on any matter to be draw to the attention of the Town Council.

Committee Members:

Cllr Chloe Gustard (Chair)	Cllr Catherine Daniell (Vice-Chair, Deputy Leader)
Cllr Libby Ancrum	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet
Cllr Gareth Willis	Cllr Tony Clayton (Mayor)

Co-opted Members:

Sevenoaks Youth Council: Harry King Madeleine Politzer	Sevenoaks District Council: Kelly Webb Maxine Quinton
Kent County Council: Vacant	West Kent Communities: Richard Dowling
Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust: Peter Robinson	National Trust: Amy Sabine
House in the Basement: Daren Mountain Holly Brazier	

AGENDA

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive and note apologies for absence.
2	REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS To consider written requests from Members which have previously been submitted to the Town Clerk to enable participation in discussion and voting on items for which the Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. (s.31 & s.33 of the Localism Act 2011).
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest from members in respect of items of business included in the agenda for this meeting.
4 (pages 5-9 & 10-13)	MINUTES OF THE YOUTH SERVICES WORKING GROUP HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th JULY & WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2025 To receive, adopt and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Services Working Group held on Wednesday, 9th July and Wednesday, 10th September 2025.
5 (pages 14-24 & 23-35)	MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th JULY & WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2025 To receive and adopt the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on Wednesday, 9th July and Wednesday, 10th September 2025.
6	TALK ON SEXUAL ABUSE, RAPE, AND GANG VIOLENCE To receive a talk from Family Matters on Sexual Abuse, Rape and Gang Violence.
7	HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE To receive and discuss the following report:
7.1 (pages 36-41)	HiTB Manager's Update Report
7.2 (pages 42-45)	Finance Cost Centre Reports August-September 2025
8	Increase of SEN provision at HitB A request has been received from HITB to revisit previous discussions around the lack of Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision for young adults aged 18–25. Historically, this age group was recognised by government as part of “young people’s provision,” but implementation has been limited. Current government guidance on the issue is unclear. HITB has noted that, in recent years, several young people have had to leave the service upon turning 18. While a small number have continued as volunteers,

	outcomes have been mixed. Staff believe there remains a clear local gap in provision for this age group. The committee have been asked to consider the following: • To explore the feasibility of providing SEN provision for 18–25s through HitB. • Whether a funding bid could be made to support this initiative. • Indicative costs include: ○ Two staff members for 3 hours per week ○ Utilities (heating, lighting, etc.) ○ Associated employment costs (NI, pension contributions).
9	Youth Debating Club at House in the Basement To consider the request from a resident who wishes to set up a Youth Debating Club at House in the Basement. They are looking to host around once a month for 1.5-2 hours on a weekday with around 10-15 young people taking part.
10	REPORTS FROM CO-OPTED PARTNERS
10.1	SDC- Community Safety Team
10.2	SAYT
11 (pages 46-47)	RAIL SAFE FRIENDLY END OF CONTRACT REPORT To receive and note the end of contract report from Rail Safe Friendly. To note, we have received funding from the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership to help support 10 more schools with the scheme.
12 (pages 48-58)	THURSDAY SUMMER BANDSTAND REPORT To receive and note the report on the delivery of Family Fun activities during the Summer bandstand events.
13 (pages 59-62)	SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL'S FAMILY FUN DAY REPORT To receive and note the report from Sevenoaks District Council on the Family Fun Days held across the summer.
14	DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE-BASED YOUTH SERVICES REPORT AND YOUTH SURVEY To explore the creation of an evidence-based report outlining the need for youth services in Sevenoaks, and to discuss commissioning the Youth Council to design and conduct a survey of young people on the types of clubs and youth services they use and the impact these services have on them. To consider:

	• Agreement in principle to produce an evidence-based report on youth service needs • Approval for the Youth Council to create and distribute a youth survey • Identification of resources, timeline, and next steps
15	PRESS RELEASE To consider any agenda item, which would be appropriate for a press release. All reports attached.

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Services Committee Held on Wednesday 09 July 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, TN13 3QG

Livestreamed and available to view on YouTube until approved by Council:
<https://www.youtube.com/live/WRePWBqEYBg?si=wuh4uy2Mzv4QWC7g>

Meeting commenced: 19:00

Meeting Concluded: 20:03

present:

Cllr Chloe Gustard (Chair)	Present	Cllr Catherine Daniell (Vice-Chair, Deputy Leader)	Apologies
Cllr Libby Ancrum	Present	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet	Present
Cllr Gareth Willis	Present	Cllr Tony Clayton (Mayor)	Apologies

Co-opted Members:

Sevenoaks Youth Council: Harry King Madeleine Politzer	Apologies Apologies	Sevenoaks District Council: Maxine Quinton	Apologies
Kent County Council: Vacant		West Kent Communities: Richard Dowling	Apologies
Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust: Peter Robinson	Present	National Trust: Amy Sabine	Apologies
House in the Basement: Daren Mountain	Present		

In attendance: Georgina Jackson- Deputy Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer, Ieuan Chandler-Wilson- Youth Committee Clerk.

188 - CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Noted that at the Annual Town Council meeting held on 12th May 2025, the following appointments were made:

Chair: Cllr Chloe Gustard

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Vice-Chair: Cllr Catherine Daniell

189 - TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was noted that at the Annual Council meeting held on the 12th of May 2025 the Terms of reference had not been fully updated.

RESOLVED: To amend the Terms of Reference at the Council meeting.

190 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and noted as above.

191 - REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensation

192 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

193 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH SERVICES WORKING GROUP HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7th MAY 2025

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes as a true record.

194 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7th MAY 2025

It was noted that there were not many Youth Councillors present at this meeting, it was thought this might be due to the exam session. The Councillors suggested that the meetings should be arranged for after the April break.

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes as a true record.

195 - HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE

195.1 - HiTB Manager's Update Report

Daren Mountain, Manager of House in the Basement, reported that they are still seeing large numbers of young people attending. It was noted that many of the Duke of Edinburgh young people have helped with the preparations at House in the Basement for the In Bloom Judging, which has included cleaning areas and planting plants.

Daren noted that there was a series of events happening over the summer holiday, including:

- Three Open Mic Nights- 11th July at House in the Basement, 14th August on the Vine Bandstand, 12th Sept at House in the Basement.
- A free BBQ facilitated by Perfect Cuisine for the 12th of July.
- Skate Park event at Greatness on the 25th of July.
- Broadstairs trip on the 20th of August.

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Daren reported that during the summer holidays, House in the Basement will be open from 2 pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. However, the SEN sessions will continue to be on a Tuesday from 5 pm to 8 pm throughout the summer holidays.

It was noted that a few members of the SEN club were reaching 18 and were unsure of the next steps regarding whether they could still attend House in the Basement. There was a discussion on how to provide SEN provision for those aged 18-25.

195.2 - Finance Cost Centre Reports

It was noted that House in the Basement had come in under budget at the end of the last financial year (2024/25) due to grants received.

The Finance Cost Centre Reports for House in the Basement Youth Café for March, April and May were received and noted.

196 - REPORTS FROM CO-OPTED PARTNERS

196.1 - SDC- Community Safety Team

Although Maxine Quinton was unable to attend this meeting, she had forwarded a report from the District Council Community Safety about events in Sevenoaks Town.

"I can report that there have not been any ASB hot spots noted since the last meeting involving young people.

There has been a reduction in nuisance motor bike activity in the littlewood location after a CPW was served on a resident there.

The Family Fun Days 2025 Leaflet is available now and is going out to all schools before the end of term.

The Family Fun Day for Sevenoaks will be on Monday 4th August 10.30 – 13.30 at Greatness Recreation Ground."

196.3 - SAYT

Peter reported that they are preparing to take 8 young people and 2 adults away on a Christian retreat in Stafford. They are currently working on their summer holiday plans for their Tuesday and Thursday groups. Peter noted that they are unsure what they will do during the winter, but did note that they are considering looking into the use of the Sevenoaks Town Council's electric bus when it becomes available.

197 - CURRENT & COMPLETED MATTERS REPORTS

It was agreed to note and accept the Current and Completed matters report.

198 - CHILDREN'S DESIGN A CHRISTMAS LIGHT 2025

The Youth Services Committee received a report detailing the continuation of the Children's Design a Christmas Light for a 4th year. It was noted that within minutes of

Sevenoaks Town Council

the request for sponsorship going live to businesses, Klocker and Fosket agreed to part-fund the project, pledging £400 to sponsor the competition.

RESOLVED: For the competition to run for a 4th year, and for £400 from the Youth Services Outreach budget to be pledged towards the manufacture of the children's Christmas light.

199 - SKATEBOARDING SESSIONS

The Youth Services Committee received a report that Sevenoaks District Council have agreed to part-fund Skateboarding sessions from June 26th to July 17th. It was noted that these sessions have been well attended. The committee requested a report detailing the number of Young people who attended each of the sessions for the next meeting. It was noted that the Committee was interested to see if there was a difference in the number of Females and males since holding the sessions for girls in April 2024.

RESOLVED: To match fund SDC from the Youth Outreach Budget for £537.50,

To request a report at the next committee meeting on the number of young people who had attended the sessions.

200 - RAIL SAFETY PROJECT

The Youth Services Committee received a report outlining the number of schools that have taken part in a joint project between Sevenoaks Town Council, the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership and Rail Safe Friendly. The project is aimed at promoting rail safety to primary school young people. It was noted that five schools had completed the project with the Rail Safe friendly team, only one of these schools had received a silver award, with the others receiving Bronze. The Committee heard that Daren had delivered two sessions to primary schools at the Bat and Ball Station. These sessions were comprised of a short true or false historical quiz, a short video on rail safety, designing rail safety posters and a tour of the rail platform. It was noted that both of the schools that attended these sessions have received their gold award.

201 - UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

The Youth Services Committee noted there were a number of free events occurring over the summer holidays.

202 - SUMMER MUSIC ON THE BANDSTAND- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The Youth Services Committee received a report outlining the idea for adding children's activities in the form of a bouncy castle to supplement the summer Music on the Bandstand over the course of every Thursday. It was noted that in the meeting on the 12th of March, the Youth Services had recommended that this be put to businesses for sponsorship, but had been unsuccessful.

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It was noted that the Youth Services Committee felt unsure whether the addition of a bouncy castle might create a distraction from the Music on the Bandstand. Cllrs suggested that a trial run of one or two of the bouncy castle and Music sessions might be beneficial to see how much of an impact this would have on the event.

It was noted that to fully fund the bouncy castle for the 6 sessions across the summer would be 20% of the overall Youth Outreach Budget for the 2025/26 financial year. The Committee also noted that they have not yet received Grant Applications from this financial year and would limit the amount of support they may be able to give to the wider community.

RESOLVED: To refuse funding for this on the grounds that it would limit the amount of funds available for grants to come in the new financial year.

To revisit this next year for the Music on the Bandstand events, looking at holding one or two sessions to gauge the overall impact of the events.

203 - PRESS RELEASE

To publish a press release highlighting all the free events for young people over the summer holiday, along with the funding for the Skateboarding Sessions and the Children's Design a Christmas Light Competition.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the Meeting

Signed
Chair

Dated

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Services Committee Held on Wednesday 10 September 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, TN13 3QG

Livestreamed and available to view on YouTube until approved by Council:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rr0MSOzd8Aw&t=2796s>

Meeting commenced: 19:00

Meeting Concluded: 20:10

Present:

Committee Members:

Cllr Chloe Gustard (Chair)	Present (Arrived at 19:08)	Cllr Catherine Daniell (Vice-Chair, Deputy Leader)	Present (Left at 19:27)
Cllr Libby Ancrum	Apologies	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet	Present
Cllr Gareth Willis	Present	Cllr Tony Clayton (Mayor)	Present

Co-opted Members:

Sevenoaks Youth Council: Harry King Madeleine Politzer	Apologies Apologies	Sevenoaks District Council: Maxine Quinton	Apologies
Kent County Council: Vacant		West Kent Communities: Richard Dowling	Present
Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust: Peter Robinson	Apologies	National Trust: Amy Sabine	Apologies
House in the Basement: Daren Mountain	Present		

In attendance: Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, Youth Committee Clerk.

324 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Received and accepted as noted above

325 - REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS: There were no requests for dispensations.

326 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of Interest.

327 - TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Youth Services Committee received the amended terms of reference that were amended by Council on the 21st July 2025.

RESOLVED: To adopt the amended terms of reference for the Youth Services Committee.

328 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY

It was noted that the date on the top of the minutes was incorrect, as it was dated the 7th of May and needed to be corrected.

RESOLVED: For the amended minutes to be agreed and signed at the next meeting of the Youth Services Committee on Wednesday, 19th of November.

329 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY

It was noted that the date on the top of the minutes was incorrect, as it was dated the 7th of May and needed to be corrected.

RESOLVED: For the amended minutes to be agreed and signed at the next meeting of the Youth Services Committee on Wednesday, 19th of November.

330 - GRANT REPORTS

The Committee received and noted that the balance of the 2025/26 Youth Outreach budget was £7,262

RESOLVED: That grant requests be awarded under the General Power of Competence (Localism Act 2011 Sections 1-8 refers) as follows:

Grant Ref No	Organisation Name & Charity Reg	Purpose of award	Grant Application	Grant approved
6	Sevenoaks Three Arts, Young Musician of the Year	Towards the cost of hiring a venue that has a piano of competition standard.	£650	£650
Total awarded				£650

331 - SUMMER EVENTS REPORT 2025

The Youth Services Committee noted there had been a large number of events over the summer and that the feedback around the Bouncy Castle for the Thursday Bandstand performances had been mixed.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the Summer Events Report.

332 - HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE

332.1 - HiTB Manager's Update Report

The Youth Services Committee received the House in the Basement Managers' report.

It was noted that over the Summer holidays, they had also held an Open Mic Night at the Vine Gardens as well as a Photography workshop. (Wednesday, 27th of August) at the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve. It was also reported that over 35 young people

attended the House in the Basement Summer trip to Broadstairs. Despite this, Daren reported that August had been one of the quieter months, seeing fewer young people over the course of the month, noting that businesses in the town had said that they saw fewer people over August.

Daren also noted that House in the Basement held a Celebration for Paula to celebrate 40 years of Youth Work, with the mayor attending to present Paula with a certificate and a gift. It was also noted that two new volunteers have started at House in the Basement, one of whom was a former SEN young person from House in the Basement.

Daren reported that over the Summer holidays, there had not been a high uptake of the food vouchers, despite a large interest from schools, food banks, youth Groups, Housing authorities, Sevenoaks District Council and other groups, all promoting the project to their contacts, and over 300 vouchers had been given out to these groups. Only a small handful of vouchers were redeemed at House in the Basement. It was noted that Councillors wondered if the money could be used in another way to ensure the food got to the intended people. It was noted that this could be due to the stigma around asking for help, or possibly could be linked to the fewer young people attending.

RESOLVED: for the Free meal deal for Children facing food poverty to continue over the October Half Term to see if there is any further uptake. Officers to investigate any other ways in which the money can be used to provide food for Children, should there be a lack of uptake.

332.2 - Finance Cost Centre Reports

It was noted that the House in the Basement year-to-date actual costs were higher than the predicted costs.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the June and July cost centre reports.

333 - REPORTS FROM CO-OPTED PARTNERS

333.1 - West Kent Communities

Richard reported that this would be his last Youth Services Committee meeting, during which the Councillors all thanked him for his years of service and help with Youth Work across the town. It was noted that while West Kent will not be doing any youth work, they are still happy to appear at events and run stalls. It was noted that it was a great loss with the Young Adventures club, which was run by West Kent for 8–12-year-olds, had ended after 25 years. He reported that West Kent had been able to help many of the young people get into other clubs such as Cubs and Brownies, and with some donations, they were able to help pay for uniforms for those who needed them.

The Councillors asked if Richard could comment on whether he felt there was a need for more Youth Work in the Northern Ward. It was noted that the age gap from 8-12 that was catered to through young adventurers would become a need in the near future.

RESOLVED: 1) For a future agenda item to explore the creation of an evidence-based report on the need for Youth services report and for a Survey on the types of clubs and youth services that are used by young people and the impact they have on the young people in Sevenoaks to be created by the Youth Council.

2) Summary of other youth Services in other districts such as Tonbridge, Tonbridge Wells and Maidstone.

3) Audit of what sports clubs provide for low-income families and of the number of people who use the Tennis Courts/ MUGA at Bat and Ball centre, for this to be brought to the Community Assets Committee.

334 - PRESS RELEASE

- 1) For a press release to be issued thanking Richard for all of his hard work over 4 years of being on the Youth Services Committee.
- 2) For a press release to be issued on the Successful Grant Applications.
- 3) For a press release to be issued on all of the events that the Town Council has put on over the Summer Holidays.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the Meeting.

Signed Dated
Chair

Sevenoaks Town Council



Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Council

Held on Wednesday 09 July 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, TN13 3QG

Meeting commenced: 18:00

Meeting Concluded: 18:48

Sevenoaks Youth Councillors:

Simba Li- Chair	Apologies	Ishwar Sharma	Present
Rosie Blackmore- Vice-Chair	Present	Sahej Kandhari	Absent
Harry King- Treasurer	Present	Esme Lefevre	Apologies
Bianca Agarwal	Apologies	Joshua Marelane	
Aryanna Mahdavi Ardestani	Present	Riddley McDermott	Present
Catherine Barden De Leon	Apologies	Sofia Moschini	Present
Jasper Barnes	Present	Ayaan Motwani	Apologies
Dexter Buhmann	Absent	John Ng	Absent
Lily Blackburn	Apologies	Errol Okundi	Apologies
Catherine Campbell-Pitt	Absent	Jaxon Pang	Apologies
Charlotte Doe	Absent	Madeleine Politzer	Absent
Elena-Teodora Dragoi	Present	Elif Sabanci	Absent
Ayush Gautam	Absent	Drago Schwalber-Janaway	Absent
Maya Goodrich	Apologies	Jospeh Soanes	Absent
Bea Hayward	Absent	James Tang	Absent
Lizzie Hunt	Present	Ines wang	Present
Christian Hunter-Garcia	Present	Aditya Vara	Absent

1 – In the absence of the Chair, Rosie Blackmore, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting.

2 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and accepted as noted above.

3 - THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF SEVENOAKS

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Victoria Granville, attended the Youth Council meeting and thanked all the Youth Councillors for their amazing two-year service, spanning 2023-25, noting that they are the largest Youth Council post-COVID, with more youth councillors than Town Councillors. All of the Youth Councillors present received a certificate signed by the Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Tony Clayton.



4 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 07TH MAY

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes as a true record.

5 - FINANCE REPORT

The Youth Council noted that they had received a £500 increase in the budget

RESOLVED: To note the current Youth Council Budget for 2025/2026 was £1,500.37

6 - HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE

Daren Mountain, Manager of House in the Basement, reported that they are still seeing large numbers of young people attending. It was noted that many of the Duke of Edinburgh young people have helped with the preparations at House in the Basement for the In Bloom Judging, which has included cleaning areas and planting plants.

Daren noted that there was a series of events happening over the summer holiday, including:

- Three Open Mic Nights- 11th July at House in the Basement, 14th August on the Vine Bandstand, 12th Sept at House in the Basement.
- A free BBQ facilitated by Perfect Cuisine for the 12th of July.
- Skate Park event at Greatness on the 25th of July.
- Broadstairs trip on the 20th of August.

Daren reported that during the summer holidays, House in the Basement will be open from 2 pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. However, the SEN sessions will continue to be on a Tuesday from 5 pm to 8 pm throughout the summer holidays.

7 - EVERY CAN COUNTS

The Youth Council heard that STC are currently exploring different ways to help with recycling. The Youth Council were asked if they wanted to partner with Every Can Counts, which supplies free can collection bin packs for organisations to use. It was thought this might be of use at House in the Basement.

It was noted that while Every Can Counts supplies the bins, they do not collect them and leave this for standard collection. The Youth Councillors also heard that the waste collection laws for businesses have changed, meaning the businesses are now



obligated to separate their waste. As such STC are currently looking at different providers to facilitate this.

8 - DJ EQUIPMENT FOR HITB

The Youth Council received a request from House in the basement to help fund DJ equipment for young people to use to help them learn how to DJ.

RESOLVED: To fund the purchase of DJ equipment for House in the Basement for £172.59

9 - SEVENOAKS TOWN CENTRE DRAFT MASTER PLAN

The Youth Council received a talk on the Sevenoaks Town Centre Draft Master Plan from the Sevenoaks Town Council, Planning Committee Clerk. They explained the importance of having a Masterplan as it helps create a coherent picture of what people might want the town to look like, which helps developers add and improve the town, as without this, you could end up with one or two developers duplicating what has already been provided. The Youth Council did a short exercise where they each drew either a head, torso, legs or feet (please see the appendix for the image of the outcome of the exercise).

One of the Youth Councillors asked if the local residents would be consulted on the master plan. The Planning Committee Clerk mentioned that the Surveys for the Sevenoaks Town Centre Draft Master Plan are already out and offered the Youth councillors to take one and fill it out.

10 - YOUTH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Youth Councillors noted that the Youth Council election process will start in September. They were informed that if they would like to continue on the Youth Council, they just had to send in a completed form before Wednesday, the 1st of October 2025.

11 - UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

The Youth Council noted there was a large range of free Youth Events happening over the summer, including Skateboarding Sessions, the Skate Jam event and Open Mic nights at House in the Basement and on the Vine Gardens.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the Meeting.

Sevenoaks Town Council's Draft Town Centre Masterplan

What is a Masterplan?

What does the Masterplan want to achieve?

Who will fund and deliver the improvements
that are proposed?

What is a Masterplan?

- ▶ A visual Plan for how to make the town centre better in the future - like a design your “dream town” but for the whole town to agree. E.g:
- ▶ Where should new buildings go?
- ▶ How can we make it easier and safer to walk or cycle here?
- ▶ Are pavements wide enough for two people to walk next to each other?
- ▶ Can we plant more trees or add benches to make the area more pleasant?



Guiding principles:

1



TRANSFORM THE SENSE OF ARRIVAL

2



RESPECT AND CELEBRATE SEVENOAKS' UNIQUE HERITAGE

3



BE ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE

4



ENHANCE THE TOWN CENTRE OFFER

5



STRENGTHEN THE CULTURAL OFFER

6



ENCOURAGE ACTIVE MODES OF TRANSPORT AND REDUCE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

7



CREATE A PEOPLE-FOCUSED PUBLIC REALM

8



GREEN THE TOWN CENTRE

9



PROVIDE A RANGE OF NEW HOMES

10

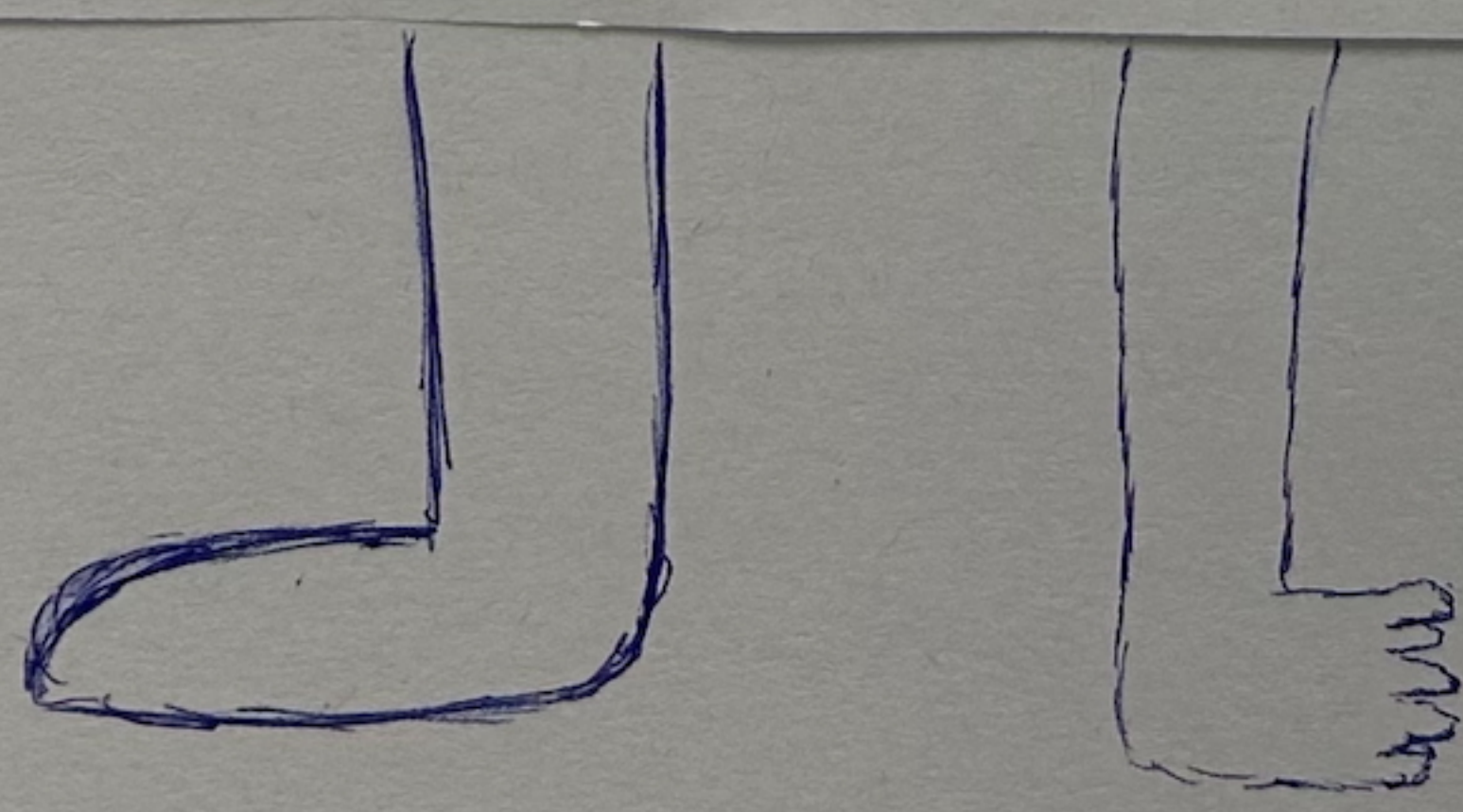
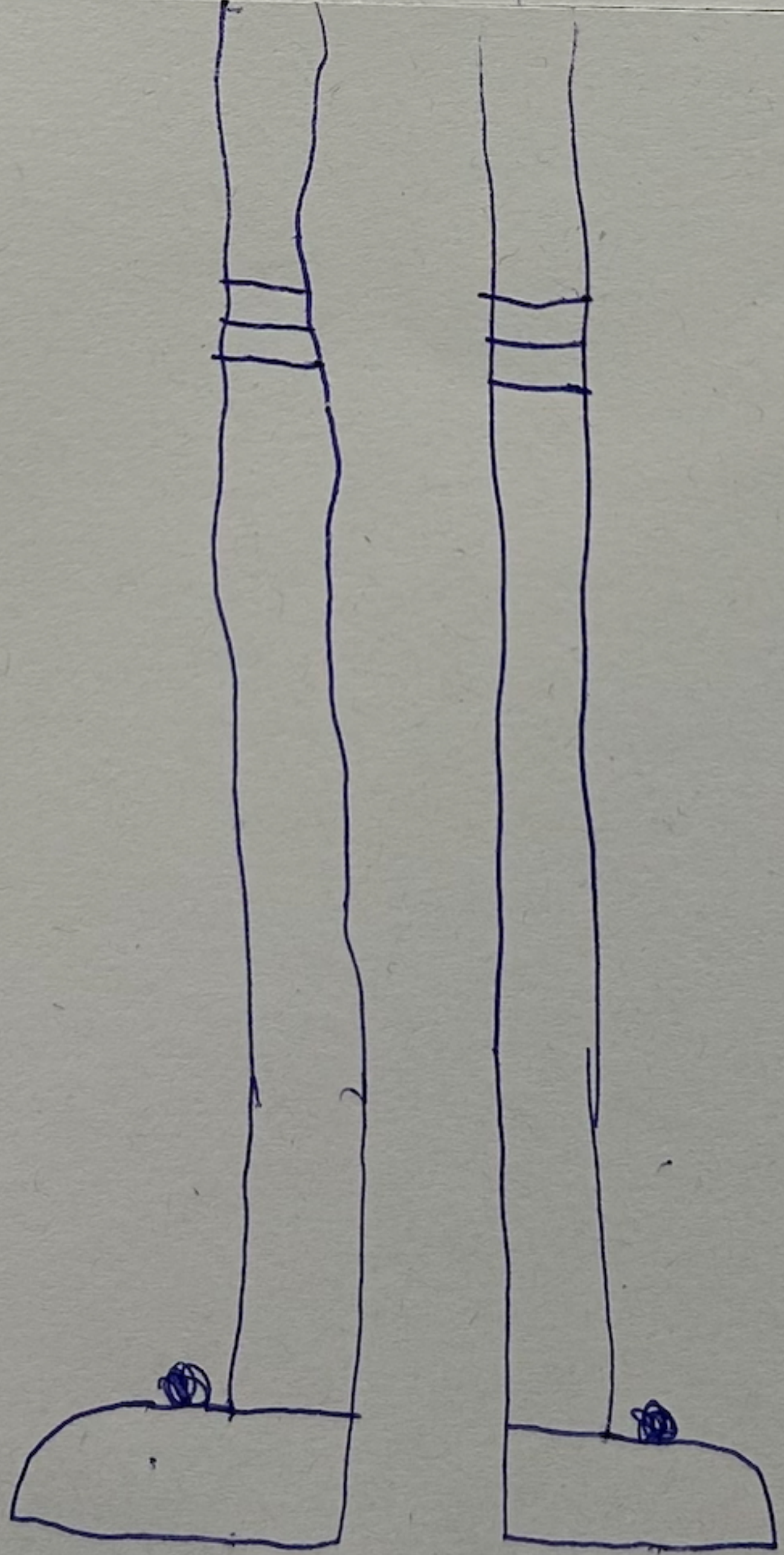
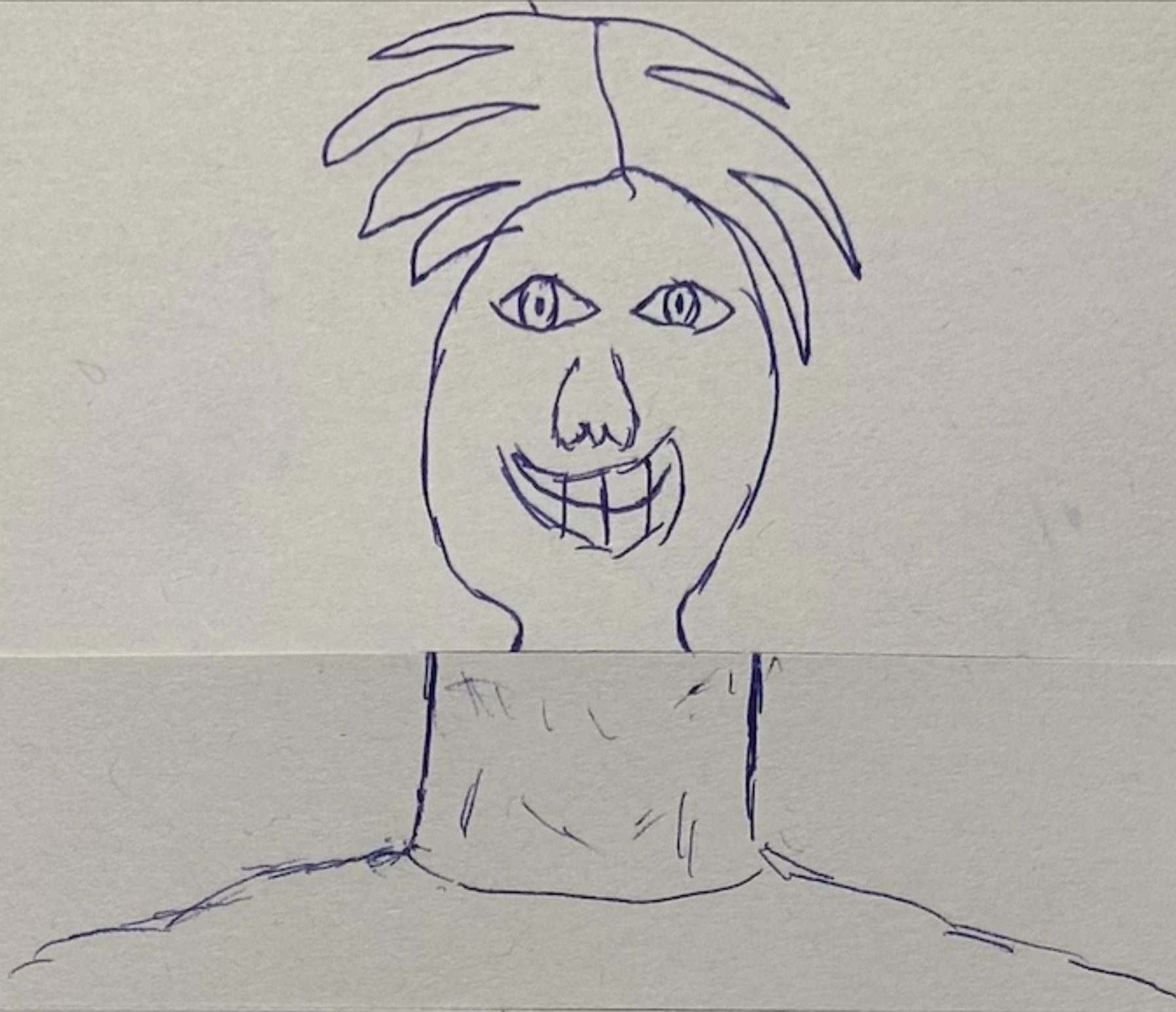


DELIVER SMALL INTERVENTIONS, EVENTS AND EARLY WINS

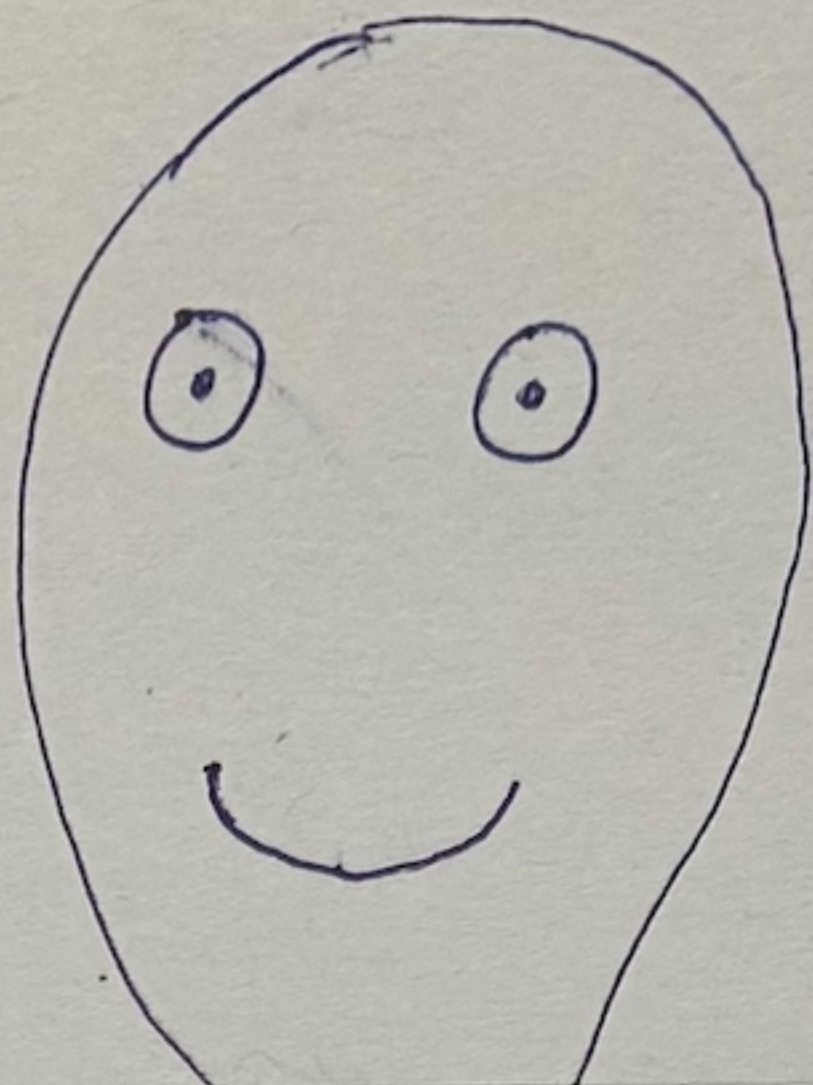
Who will pay for or provide these improvements?

- ▶ Local landowners / developers
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ Councils
- ▶ Groups, Organisations, Clubs

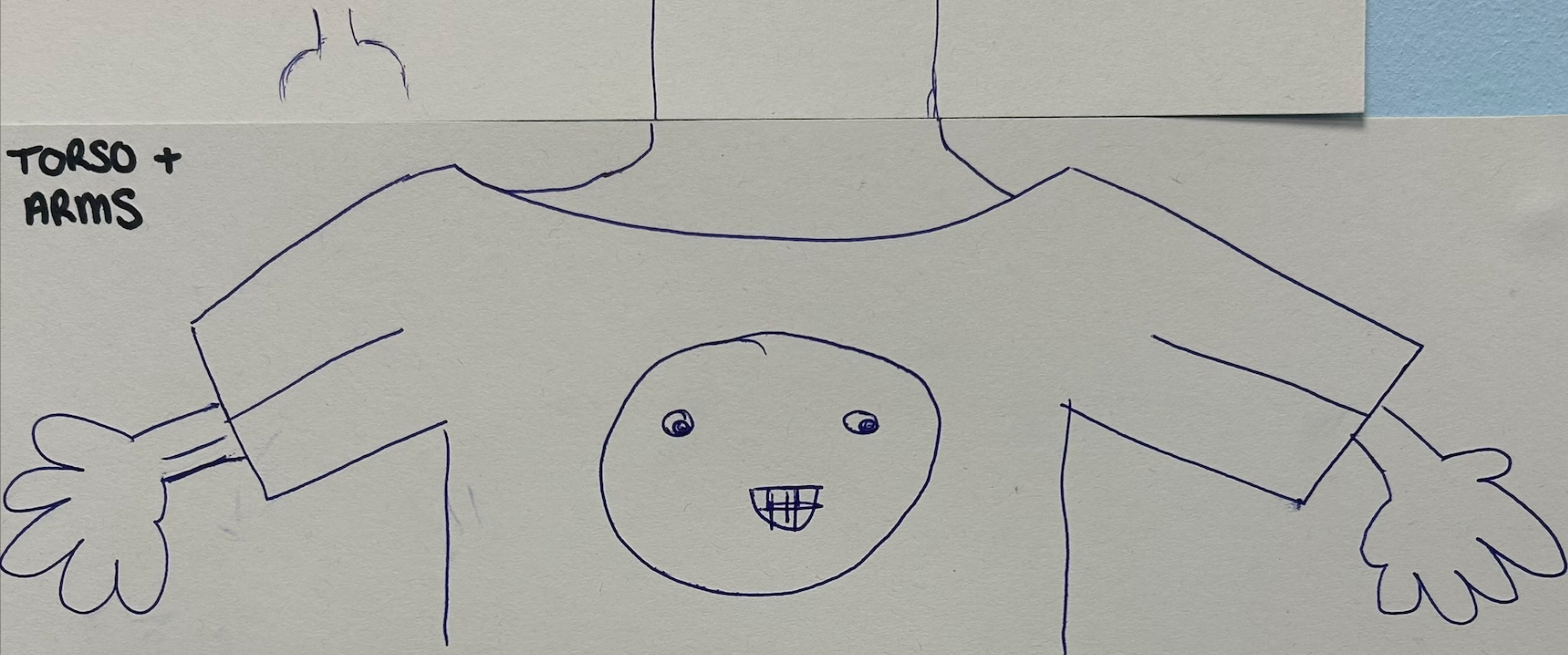




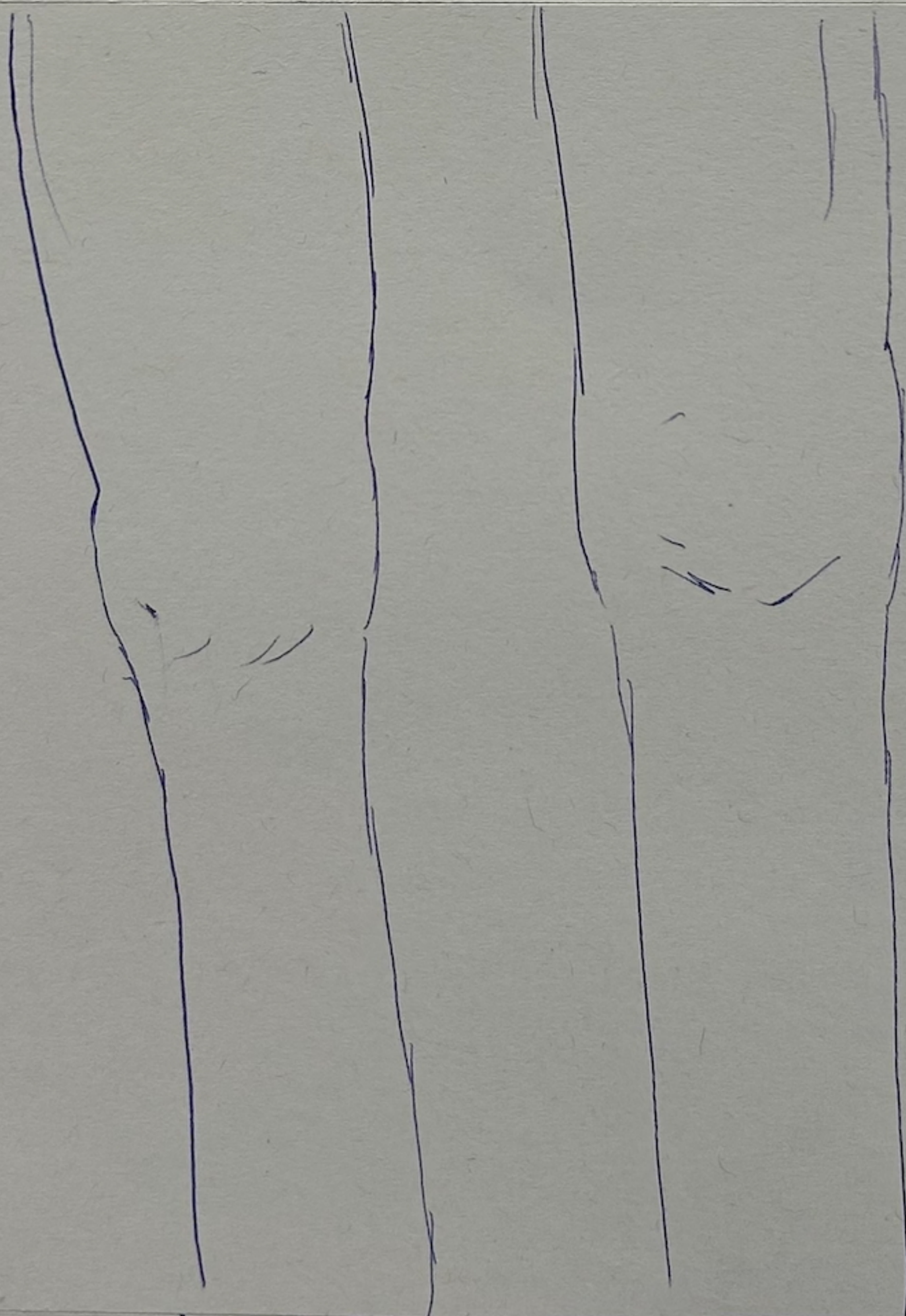
1. HEAD



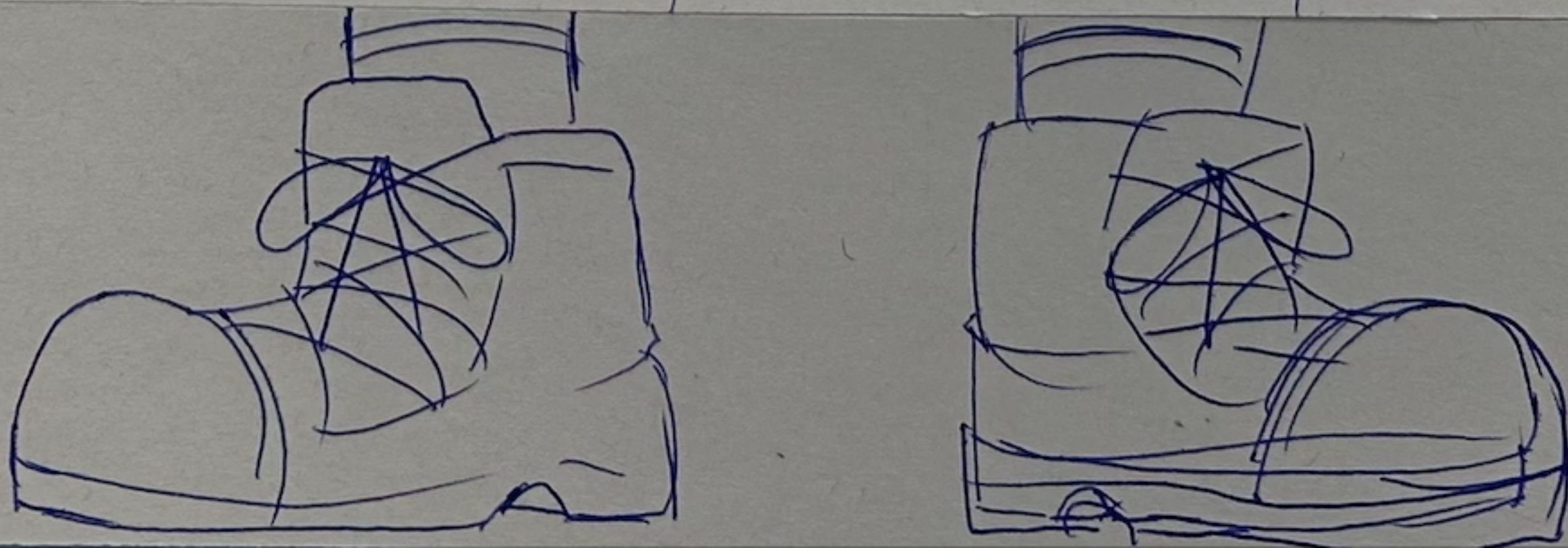
TORSO +
ARMS



3. LEGS



5. FEET



Sevenoaks Town Council

Sevenoaks Youth Council



Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Council

Held on Wednesday 10th September 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices,
TN13 3QG

Meeting commenced: 18:00

Meeting Concluded: 18:41

Present:

Simba Li- Chair	Apologies	Sahej Kandhari	Absent
Rosie Blackmore- Vice-Chair	Absent	Esme Lefevre	Present
Harry King- Treasurer	Apologies	Joshua Marelane	Apologies
Bianca Agarwal	Absent	Riddley McDermott	Present
Aryanna Mahdavi Ardestani	Present	Sofia Moschini	Present
Catherine Barden De Leon	Absent	Ayaan Motwani	Present
Jasper Barnes	Absent	John Ng	Present
Dexter Buhmann	Absent	Errol Okundi	Absent
Lily Blackburn	Absent	Jaxon Pang	Absent
Catherine Campbell-Pitt	Apologies	Madeleine Politzer	Absent
Charlotte Doe	Absent	Elif Sabanci	Absent
Ayush Gautam	Absent	Drago Schwalber-Janaway	Absent
Maya Goodrich	Apologies	Jospeh Soanes	Absent
Bea Hayward	Absent	James Tang	Absent
Lizzie Hunt	Present	Ines wang	Present
Christian Hunter-Garcia	Absent	Aditya Vara	Absent
Ishwar Sharma	Apologies		

In attendance: The Deputy Town Clerk/ Responsible Finance Officer, Youth Committee Clerk and The Manager of the House in the Basement Youth Café.

1 – In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair and the Treasurer, Aryanna chaired the Meeting.

2 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and accepted as noted above.

3 - MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on Wednesday, 9th July 2025.



4 - FINANCE REPORT

It was noted that the DJ Kit had been purchased for House in the Basement for £148.67. The Youth Council noted that during the Climate Fair, some had been given Youth Council t-shirts and proposed that the New Youth Council could purchase new t-shirts for Youth Councillors to wear at events.

RESOLVED: To note the current Youth Council budget for 2025-2026 was £ 1,351.70.

5 – CURRENT & COMPLETED MATTERS REPORTS

The Youth Council received and noted the Current Matters Report,
The Youth Council received and noted the Completed Matters Report.

6 - SUMMER EVENTS REPORT

The Youth Council received the summer events report.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the summer events report.

7 - HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HiTB) YOUTH CAFE

The Youth Council received the House in the Basement Managers' report.

It was noted that over the Summer holidays, there was an Open Mic Night held at the Vine Gardens and a Photography workshop (Wednesday, 27th of August) held at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve. It was also reported that over 35 young people attended the House in the Basement Summer trip to Broadstairs. The Youth Council also heard that House in the Basement held a Celebration for Paula to celebrate 40 years of Youth Work.

8 - FUNDING HITB BROADSTAIRS TRIP

The Youth Council noted that in the future, they could hold fundraising events to help pay for items such as the Coach for the House in the Basement trips. It was noted that they would like to have a stall at future events like the Christmas Lights Switch-on to do this.

RESOLVED: To fund £250 for the coach fare for young people to attend the Broadstairs Trip.

Sevenoaks Youth Council



9 - WEST KENT BADGER GROUP

The Youth Council received a presentation from the West Kent Badger Group, who outlined that they are primarily a volunteer-based organisation that helps to monitor, rescue and relocate badgers after they have been reported to them

. It was noted that they work with the Folly Wildlife Rescue Centre in Tonbridge Wells, to help house and look after the badgers. The Youth Council heard that Badgers are a protected species and are protected by Law under the Badger Protection Act 1992.

It was noted that the West Kent Badger Group also record the deaths of Badgers from Road Traffic Accidents (RTA) and may at times be asked to investigate the death of a badger if it is thought to be suspicious due to the protection of badgers. They reported that the number of Badgers reported dead from RTAs has increased in the last couple of years.

They reported that if any of the Youth Council members are interested in helping with the protection of badgers, they are more than welcome to either sign up to volunteer with the West Kent Badger Group or to volunteer with the Folly Wildlife Trust.

10 - YOUTH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted that the Youth Council Elections had started and were running until the 1st of October. Any Youth Councillors who wish to continue for another two years need to resubmit their entry forms if they have not done so already.

There being no further business the Chair closed the Meeting.

Signed
Chair

Dated

West Kent Badger Group

By Kathie Foster



What we do

- Rescue and rehabilitation
- Badger protection
- Badger advice
- Badger talks and events
- Badger sett surveying and monitoring
- National support

Rescues and rehabilitations

- Work closely with Folly Wildlife Rescue
- Have a network of volunteer rescuers
- Undertake training & provide equipment
- Assist with badger releases



What happens to a rescued cub?

- Hand reared until weaned – 12 weeks
- Kept at Folly in small group – 5/6
- Sometimes swapped with other rescue centers
- Released late August September
- Supported in the wild until independent



Badger Protection

- Badger are protected under the Badger Protection Act 1992
- Report badger crime to the police
- Monitor setts at risk – gather evidence
- Assist with investigations
- Review developments, ensure badgers, their setts and habitats are protected



Badger advice and Talks

- Badgers in gardens
- Talks
- Events



Sett surveys and monitoring

- Keep records of RTA's
- Conduct surveys
- Empower people



National Support

- Badger Cull
- Changings in planning law
- Writing to MP's
- Protesting
- Increasing public awareness



What can you do to help badgers?

- Find out more about badgers
- Report any badger crime
- Report any dead badgers
- Volunteer with Folly Wildlife Rescue
- Join the West Kent Badger Group!





THE END

Sevenoaks Town Council
Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025



House in the Basement Youth Café Manager:

August Figures:

Over the course of August, we saw 155 young people, 24 of whom were new and were open for 18 Sessions. We also saw 30 young people attend the Tuesday SEN Club, which was held over 4 evenings.

We also attended the SDC family fun day, handing out flyers and raising awareness about the House in the Basement to families and young people in the town.

we had an open mic night on the vine, which was well attended & well received. We also took 35 Young people & staff to Broadstairs for the day for a beach trip. At the end of August, we had a second photography workshop at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve.



September Figures:

We saw 205 young people, with 19 of them being new. We were open on 17 occasions throughout the month and also saw 42 SEN Young people attend the 5 Tuesday sessions.

September saw another in-house open mic night with several new faces & acts, we also started on Fridays peer mentoring from sixth formers on the youth council, offering subject tutoring to the young people attending HitB.

Sevenoaks Town Council Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025

Local youth workers from various organisations & churches met at VEC one lunchtime as a follow up to previous meetings earlier in the year, allowing youth workers to exchange ideas & look at projects we can work on together in partnership with one another.



HELP IN ALL SUBJECTS WITH
HOMEWORK AND EXAMS

October Figures:

October was slightly busier than September, with 209 young people attending over 18 sessions; 23 of these were new to HitB. It did, however, see a busier SEN club with 63 young people attending over 4 Sessions, making this one of the busiest months post-COVID.

HitB hosted a girls' pizza & pamper evening one Friday, which was then followed by another open mic night on the next Friday.

At the end of the month, Perfect Cuisine provided a BBQ for us all at HitB on a Saturday afternoon.

Some of our staff have completed training in various areas over the last 3 months.

We also won Outstanding in the "It's your Neighbourhood award" for South and Southeast in bloom. A huge thank you to all of the House in the Basement Staff, Volunteers and Young People who helped get us In Bloom ready. From deadheading and weeding to decorating the insides of House in the Basement and putting together all of the Lego Flowers.



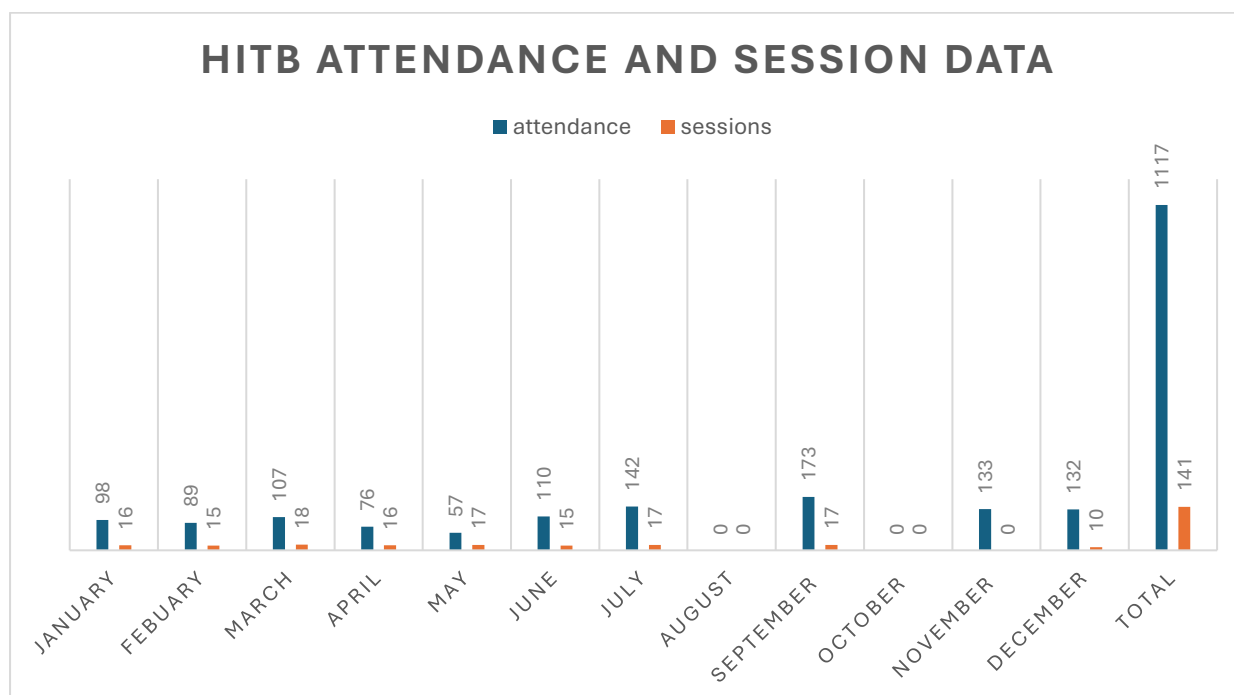
Sevenoaks Town Council
Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025

It should also be noted that House in the Basement has seen more young people this year in comparison to last year, as well as more young people who have not engaged with HitB before. Please see a list below of the recorded figures over the last four years:

Year	Total Footfall over the course of the year	Total no. of new young people that year	The total no. of Sessions held that year
2022:	1117	N/A	141
2022 SEN:	149 (to note only 6 months of data recorded)	N/A	N/A
2023:	2155	171	180
2023 SEN:	362	N/A	49
2024:	1867	156	166
2024 SEN:	268	N/A	51
2025:	1901 (total up to October 2025)	192 (total up to October 2025)	168
2025 SEN:	368 (total up to October 2025)	N/A	42 (total up to October 2025)

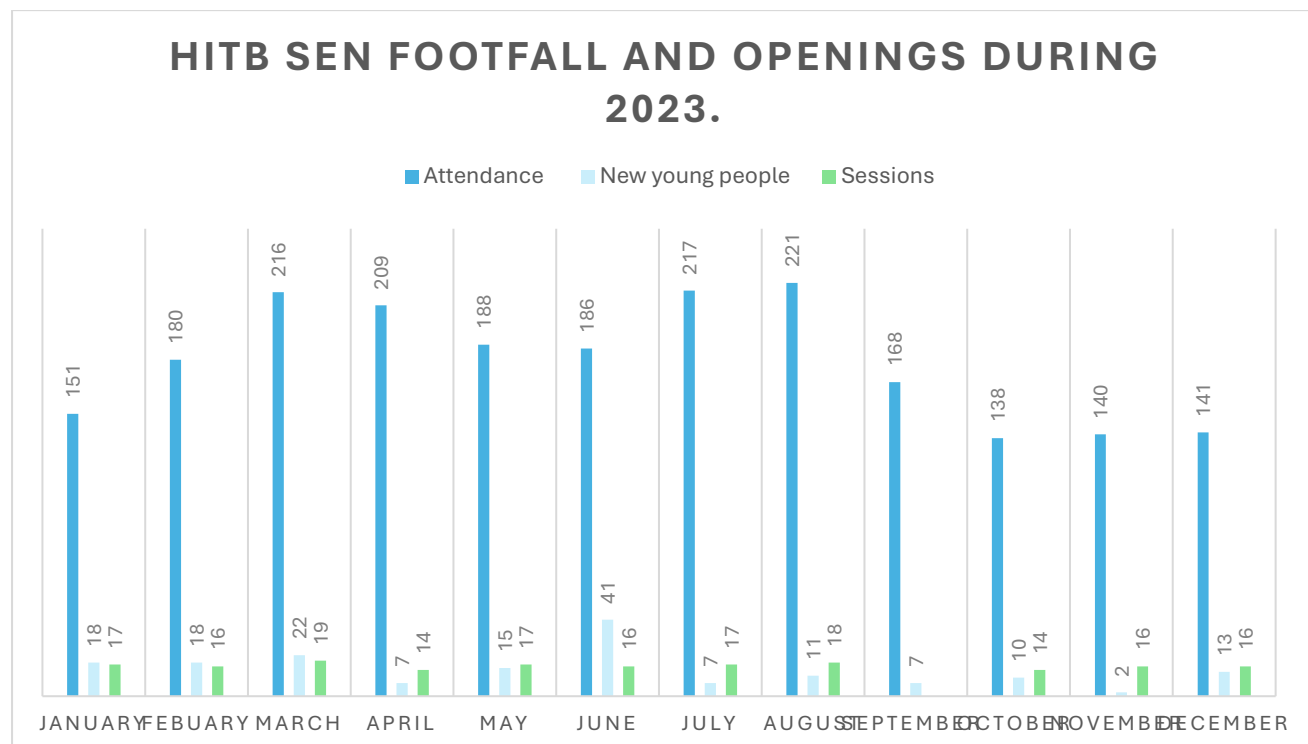
Below is a breakdown of the monthly footfall for each year.:

2022:

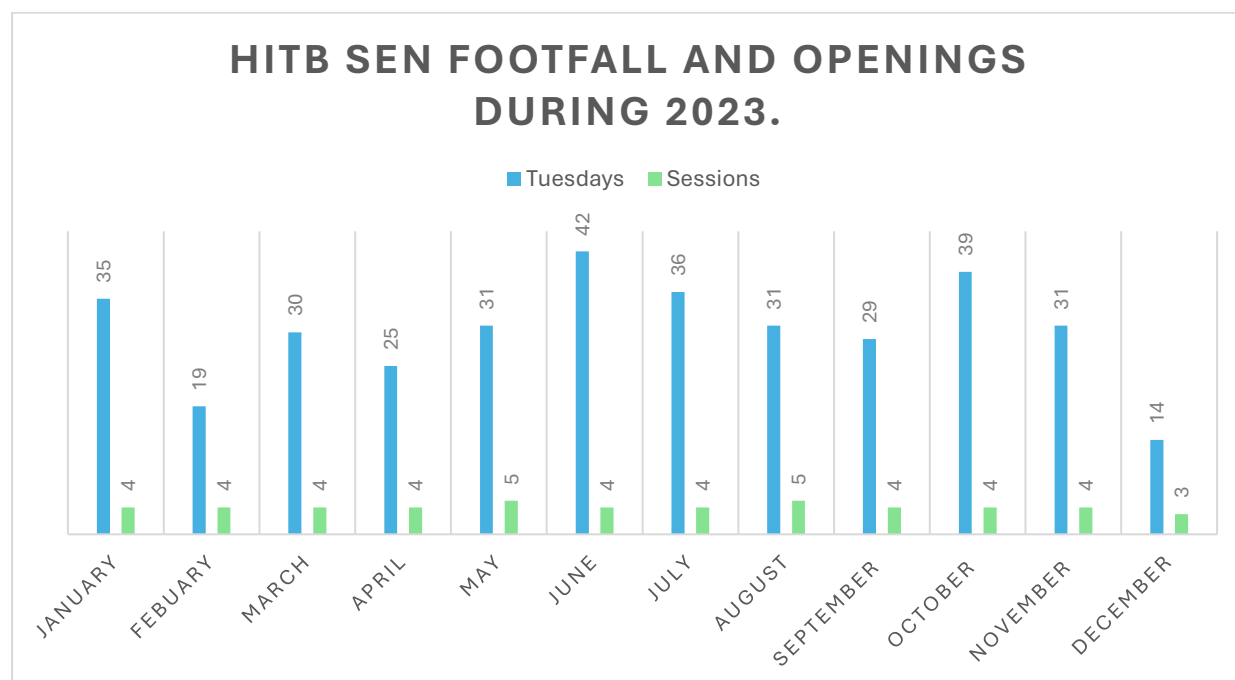


Sevenoaks Town Council
Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025

2023:

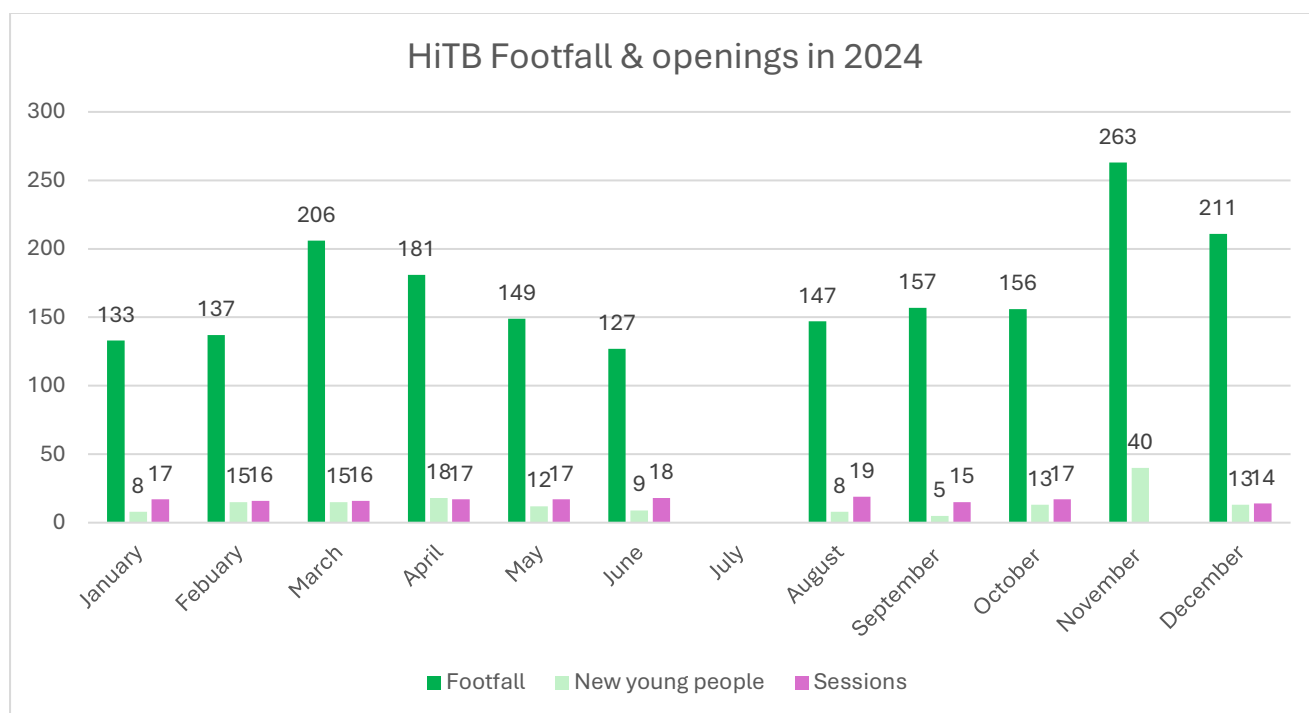


2023 SEN:

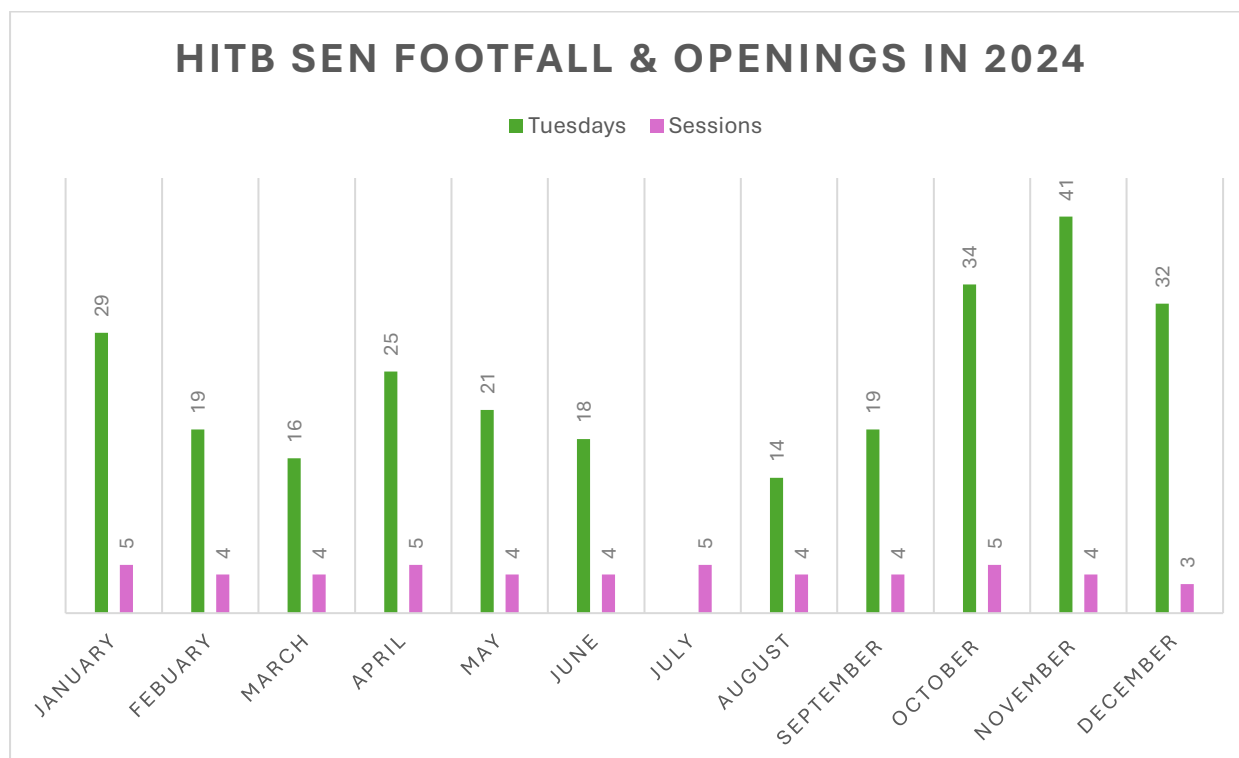


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Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025

2024:

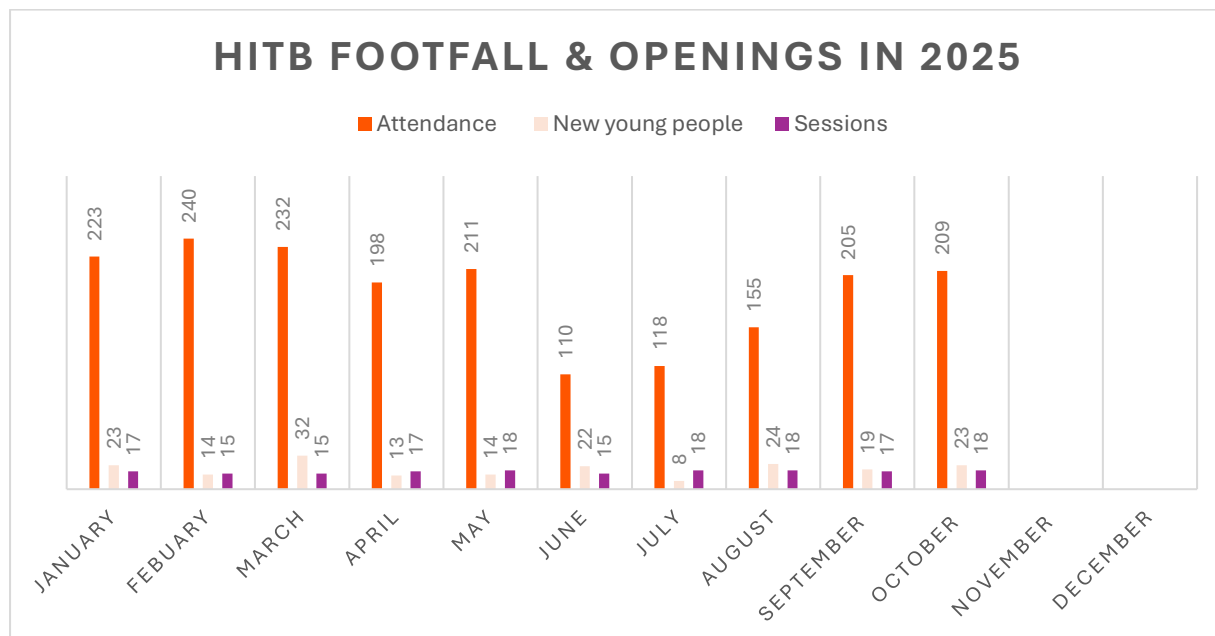


2024 SEN:

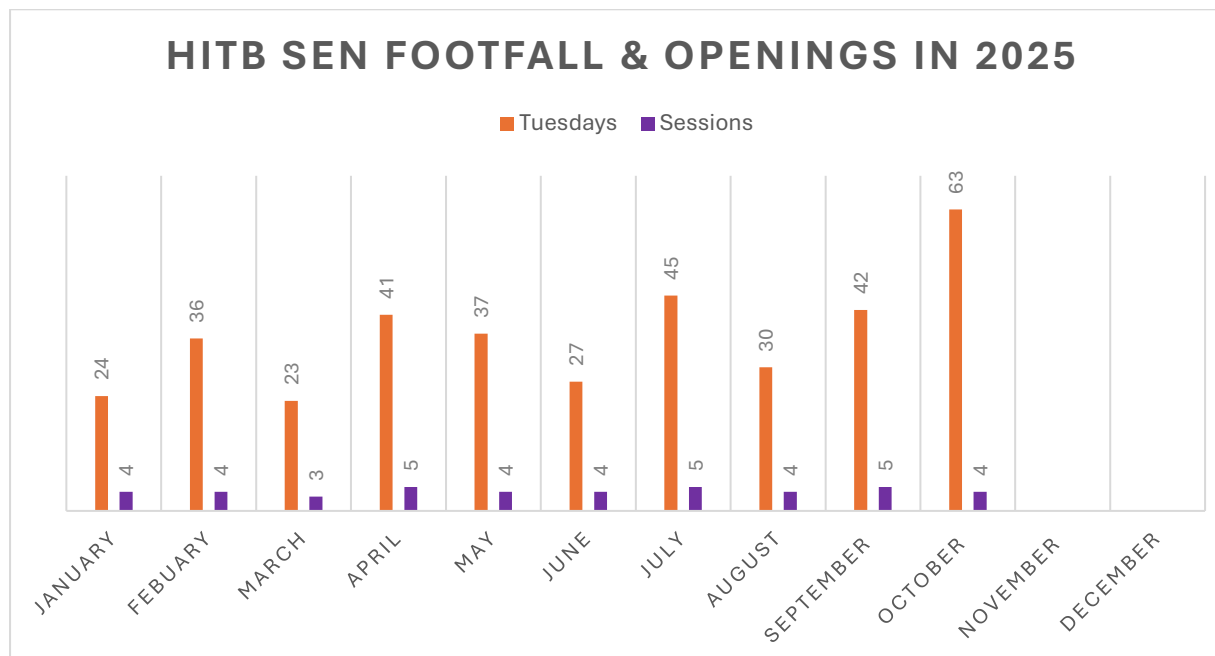


Sevenoaks Town Council
Youth Services Committee- Wednesday 19th November 2025

2025:



2025 SEN:



Detailed Income & Expenditure by Phased Budget Heading 03/11/2025

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance	Total Annual Budget	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
50	<u>Youth Cafe</u>											
1022	Letting & Hire of Facilities	521	333	(188)	2,231	1,665	(566)	4,000			55.8%	
1211	Sale of Goods	69	167	98	1,245	835	(410)	2,000			62.3%	
1350	Revenue Grant income	0	0	0	1,125	0	(1,125)	0			0.0%	
	Youth Cafe :- Income	590	500	(90)	4,601	2,500	(2,101)	6,000			76.7%	0
4010	Gross Pay	6,135	5,167	(968)	30,884	25,835	(5,049)	62,000		31,116	49.8%	
4270	Employers Pension Contribution	220	174	(46)	1,257	870	(387)	2,090		833	60.2%	
5410	Repairs & General Maintenance	8	85	78	763	425	(338)	1,025		262	74.4%	
5500	Equipment Hired and New	17	44	27	1,162	220	(942)	520		(642)	223.5%	149
6010	Light Heat & Cleaning	14	17	3	145	85	(60)	205		60	70.5%	
6101	Telephone	51	60	9	255	300	45	717		462	35.6%	
6105	Broadband wi-fi service	0	0	0	131	0	(131)	400		269	32.8%	
6200	Printing & Stationery	0	17	17	21	85	64	205		184	10.4%	
6240	Computer/ Data Base/WP's	0	42	42	645	210	(435)	500		(145)	128.9%	
6241	Website Costs	12	50	38	60	100	40	205		145	29.3%	
6281	Furnishings,Furniture/Eqpt	0	0	0	0	129	129	515		515	0.0%	
6320	Staff Training	0	0	0	180	0	(180)	100		(80)	180.2%	
6330	Welfare/Hospitality	9	0	(9)	40	0	(40)	0		(40)	0.0%	
6340	Staff Uniforms	0	0	0	44	51	7	205		161	21.6%	
6460	Publicity & Democratic notices	50	0	(50)	50	0	(50)	0		(50)	0.0%	
6500	Goods for Resale	139	171	32	1,247	855	(392)	2,050		803	60.8%	
6505	Cafe consumables	0	0	0	1	0	(1)	0		(1)	0.0%	
6635	Professional Fees Licensing	0	0	0	672	230	(442)	461		(211)	145.8%	

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Phased Budget Heading 03/11/2025

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance	Total Annual Budget	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
6900 Sundry Expenses	0	33	33	22	165	143	400		378	5.5%	
6922 Health&Safety/Risk Assessments	94	139	45	527	695	168	1,250		723	42.1%	
6952 Protective Clothing	0	0	0	103	0	(103)	0		(103)	0.0%	
Youth Cafe :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>6,747</u>	<u>5,999</u>	<u>(748)</u>	<u>38,209</u>	<u>30,255</u>	<u>(7,954)</u>	<u>72,848</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,639</u>	<u>52.5%</u>	<u>149</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(6,157)</u>	<u>(5,499)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>(33,609)</u>	<u>(27,755)</u>	<u>5,854</u>	<u>(66,848)</u>				
8001 plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0	149	0	(149)	0				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(6,157)</u>	<u>(5,499)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>(33,460)</u>	<u>(27,755)</u>	<u>5,705</u>	<u>(66,848)</u>				
Grand Totals:- Income	590	500	(90)	4,601	2,500	(2,101)	6,000			76.7%	
Expenditure	6,747	5,999	(748)	38,209	30,255	(7,954)	72,848	0	34,639	52.5%	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(6,157)</u>	<u>(5,499)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>(33,609)</u>	<u>(27,755)</u>	<u>5,854</u>	<u>(66,848)</u>				
plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0	149	0	(149)	0				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(6,157)</u>	<u>(5,499)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>(33,460)</u>	<u>(27,755)</u>	<u>5,705</u>	<u>(66,848)</u>				

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Phased Budget Heading 22/10/2025

Month No: 6

Cost Centre Report

		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance	Total Annual Budget	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
50	<u>Youth Cafe</u>											
1022	Letting & Hire of Facilities	510	333	(177)	2,741	1,998	(743)	4,000			68.5%	
1211	Sale of Goods	213	167	(46)	1,458	1,002	(456)	2,000			72.9%	
1350	Revenue Grant income	250	0	(250)	1,375	0	(1,375)	0			0.0%	
	Youth Cafe :- Income	973	500	(473)	5,574	3,000	(2,574)	6,000			92.9%	0
4010	Gross Pay	6,411	5,167	(1,244)	37,295	31,002	(6,293)	62,000		24,705	60.2%	
4270	Employers Pension Contribution	281	174	(107)	1,538	1,044	(494)	2,090		552	73.6%	
5410	Repairs & General Maintenance	0	85	85	763	510	(253)	1,025		262	74.4%	
5500	Equipment Hired and New	181	44	(137)	1,343	264	(1,079)	520		(823)	258.3%	149
6010	Light Heat & Cleaning	14	17	3	159	102	(57)	205		46	77.4%	
6101	Telephone	51	60	9	306	360	54	717		411	42.7%	
6105	Broadband wi-fi service	66	400	334	197	400	203	400		203	49.2%	
6200	Printing & Stationery	32	17	(15)	53	102	49	205		152	26.0%	
6240	Computer/ Data Base/WP's	0	42	42	645	252	(393)	500		(145)	128.9%	
6241	Website Costs	12	50	38	72	150	78	205		133	35.1%	
6281	Furnishings,Furniture/Eqpt	0	129	129	0	258	258	515		515	0.0%	
6320	Staff Training	0	100	100	180	100	(80)	100		(80)	180.2%	
6330	Welfare/Hospitality	0	0	0	40	0	(40)	0		(40)	0.0%	
6340	Staff Uniforms	0	51	51	44	102	58	205		161	21.6%	
6460	Publicity & Democratic notices	431	0	(431)	481	0	(481)	0		(481)	0.0%	
6500	Goods for Resale	429	171	(258)	1,676	1,026	(650)	2,050		374	81.8%	
6505	Cafe consumables	3	0	(3)	5	0	(5)	0		(5)	0.0%	
6635	Professional Fees Licensing	0	0	0	672	230	(442)	461		(211)	145.8%	

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Phased Budget Heading 22/10/2025

Month No: 6

Cost Centre Report

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance	Total Annual Budget	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
6900 Sundry Expenses	0	33	33	22	198	176	400		378	5.5%	
6922 Health&Safety/Risk Assessments	94	556	462	620	1,251	631	1,250		630	49.6%	
6952 Protective Clothing	0	0	0	103	0	(103)	0		(103)	0.0%	
6976 Credit card charges	4	0	(4)	4	0	(4)	0		(4)	0.0%	
9029 Youth Cafe toilet refurb	200	0	(200)	200	0	(200)	0		(200)	0.0%	
Youth Cafe :- Indirect Expenditure	8,209	7,096	(1,113)	46,418	37,351	(9,067)	72,848	0	26,430	63.7%	149
Net Income over Expenditure	(7,236)	(6,596)	640	(40,845)	(34,351)	6,494	(66,848)				
8001 plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0	149	0	(149)	0				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(7,236)	(6,596)	640	(40,696)	(34,351)	6,345	(66,848)				
Grand Totals:- Income	973	500	(473)	5,574	3,000	(2,574)	6,000			92.9%	
Expenditure	8,209	7,096	(1,113)	46,418	37,351	(9,067)	72,848	0	26,430	63.7%	
Net Income over Expenditure	(7,236)	(6,596)	640	(40,845)	(34,351)	6,494	(66,848)				
plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0	149	0	(149)	0				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(7,236)	(6,596)	640	(40,696)	(34,351)	6,345	(66,848)				

Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee
Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

Rail Safety Programme Report

Summary

This final year report provides an overview of the Rail Safe Friendly Programme's achievements across our sponsored schools. The project has reached thousands of young people, extended its impact into the wider community, and delivered measurable social value. The project itself was funded by the Darrent Valley Rail Partnership for House in the Basement and STC to supply Rail Safety workshops and videos to Schools along the Darrent Valley Line.

Reach and Engagement

A total of **5,758 young people** have taken part in the programme across **thirteen sponsored schools** this year.

Three sponsored schools achieved Silver Certification by extending the programme's resources to parents and carers, ensuring the learning reached beyond the classroom into the wider community.

Two sponsored schools achieved Gold Certification by hosting a safety talk at the *House in the Basement* Youth Café, creating opportunities for further youth engagement outside school settings.

Social Value

Based on virtual delivery, the programme has generated **£162,836.24 in social value** for our organisation and community. This figure reflects both the educational impact on young people and the wider benefits of safety awareness within families and community spaces.

Conclusion

The Rail Safe Friendly Programme has been a highly successful initiative this year, combining strong direct engagement with young people and meaningful contributions to community safety. The attainment of Silver and Gold Certifications demonstrates the commitment of our schools to embedding rail safety education both within and beyond the classroom. The project has delivered significant educational and social value and provides a strong foundation for further impact in the year ahead.

Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee
Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

RAIL SAFE FRIENDLY,
DARENT VALLEY CRP,
SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL



Our mission is to provide rail safety education to all UK schools to keep your people and their families safe near the railway.



END OF CONTRACT REPORT

SEPT 2024 – SEPT 2025



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT
“Every single child
deserves the knowledge
to keep themselves
safe”
Liz Ballantyne,
Harrison’s Mum



Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee
Wednesday 19th Nov 2025
Thursday Bandstand Report 2025

Over the course of the Summer Holidays in 2025, Sevenoaks Town Council hosted a series of free live music events on the Vine Bandstand in Sevenoaks, spanning from the 20th of July to the 7th of September. It was noted that the Thursday evenings at Folking at Stonepit Farm were very popular, however often sold out and not all families could afford them.

In an effort to make the Town Council's Thursday Band Evenings more family-friendly, the Council partnered with **Play Place** to provide a bouncy castle at each of the six Thursday events, offering free entertainment for families.

The intention was for the bouncy castle to be fully staffed by Play Place, allowing parents and guardians to enjoy the live music while children engaged safely with the activity.

The following report contains reports from Play Place, STC staff, the Vine Café, and comments from the bands, as well as those received from members of the public.

Scheduled Event Dates:

The bouncy castles were scheduled to operate on the following dates:

- 24th July
- 31st July
- 7th August
- 14th August
- 21st August
- 28th August

Event Challenges and Adaptations

- Adverse weather conditions prevented the bouncy castle from operating on **24th and 31st July**.
- Power supply issues on **14th August** also led to the cancellation of the bouncy castle for that day. Play Place addressed this by bringing a generator, which presented additional challenges, particularly with the sound generated.

Attendance Estimates

The following estimates reflect attendance during the first half of each performance, along with photographs taken by STC staff (*It should be noted these were only taken in the first hour of each of the performances*).

These figures are approximate:

Date	Band	Approx. Attendance	Bouncy Castle Status	Notes
24th July	Rock Choir	100–120	Cancelled	Cancelled due to adverse weather.
31st July	Soprano Fiona Henry & Mezzo	30–40	Cancelled	Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee

Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

Thursday Bandstand Report 2025

	Soprano Aria Henry (<i>Opera</i>)			
7th August	Mainly Sax	30–40	Available	The generator used caused sound issues.
14th August	Open Mic Night (<i>HitB</i>)	25–30	Cancelled	Cancelled due to power supply issues.
21st August	Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Concert Band (<i>Classical Brass Band</i>)	60–70	Available	The generator used caused sound issues.
28th August	West Kent Concert Band (<i>Classical Wind and Brass Band</i>)	20–30	Available	The generator used caused sound issues.

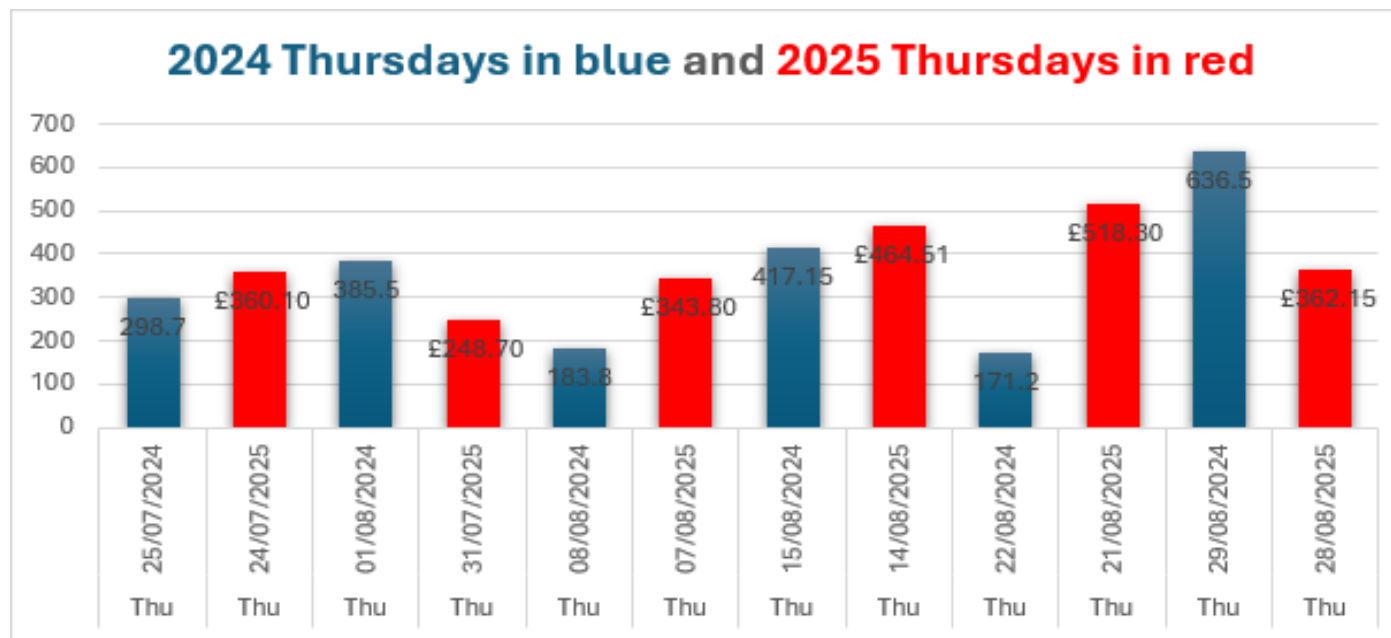


Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee
Wednesday 19th Nov 2025
Thursday Bandstand Report 2025
Vine Café Takings 2025

Please see below the Vine Café takings for Thursdays in 2025 (in red), which have been compared with the 2024 figures (in blue).

(It should be noted that, during many of the Thursday performances in 2024, there was heavy rainfall. except for the final Thursday performance (29/08/2024)).

Date:	25/07/2024	24/07/2025	01/08/2024	31/07/2025	08/08/2024	07/08/2025	15/08/2024	14/08/2025	22/08/2024	21/08/2025	29/08/2024	28/08/2025
Band:	Soul Train Choir	Rock Choir	Il Quartetto Classical Quartet	Fiona & Aria Henry	Mainly Sax	Mainly Sax	Rock Choir	Open Mic Night	Paul Malsom	Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Concert Band	Jonah's Wail	West Kent Concert Band
Bouncy Castle: (Yes/No)	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Money Taken:	£298.70	£ 360.10	£385.50	£ 248.70	£183.80	£ 343.80	£417.15	£ 464.51	£171.20	£ 518.30	£636.50	£ 362.15

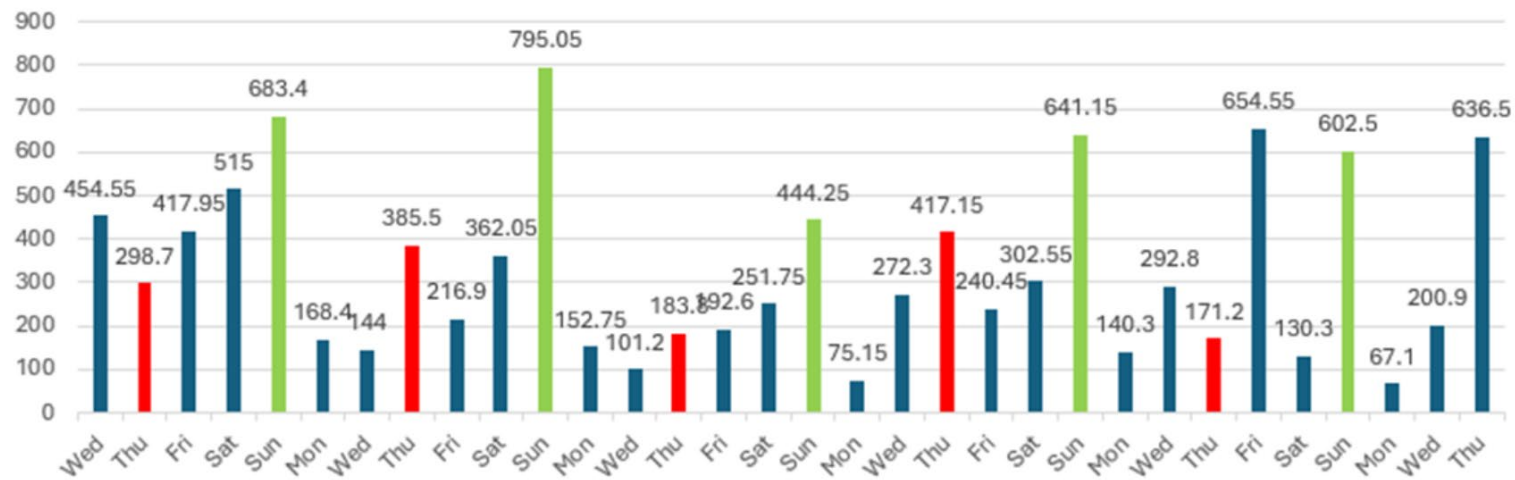


Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee

Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

Thursday Bandstand Report 2025

Vine Café Takings July-August 2024 - **Thursday** and **Sunday** Band evenings review



Vine Café Takings July-August 2025 - **Thursday** and **Sunday** Band evenings review



Sevenoaks Youth Services Committee
Wednesday 19th Nov 2025
Thursday Bandstand Report 2025

Music on the Bandstand – Summer 2025 (20th July-7th Sept) – Concert Feedback from Social Media

20th July 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Sevenoaks Sings*

- Annette Stevens: A very enjoyable afternoon.
- Sandie Johnston: It was brilliant!
- Sevenoaks Sings: Thank you so much for having us! We had a blast! 💜

24th July 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Rock Choir*

- Victoria Granville: Brilliant singing

31st July 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Fiona Henry and Aria Henry*

- Malika Geintjes: That would be amazing to see! Have fun!
- Glenys Murray: Wow, how wonderful - I wish I could attend 🥰❤️🎵
- Denise Cunningham: Very pleasant evening, thank you
- Fiona Henry: Thank you, Sevenoaks Town Council. It was a pleasure to perform to such a supportive crowd. Thank you to everyone who came out in support. A special shout out to our wonderful pianist, Simon Palmer!
- Ryan Smith: 🧒

3rd August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra*

No Comments Received.

7th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Mainly Sax*

No Comments Received.

10th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Miss D & The Loop*

No Comments Received.

14th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Open Mic*

- Holly Braizer: Such an incredible event with some extremely talented young people. Well done to all who performed.

17th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Ian Fox*

- Barbera Rizza: Sounds good
- Roy Hollister: Ian Fox is always great.

21st August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Concert Band*

No Comments Received.

24th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Kent Police Band*

- Roy Hollister: They were great.

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28th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *West Kent Concert Band*

- Bluebird Care Sevenoaks (Sevenoaks): Thank you to the West Kent Concert Band for such a wonderful performance!
- Martin Forward: [Bluebird Care Sevenoaks](#) Thank you for your kind comments. We were so pleased that the weather just about held up for us to perform.
- Martin Forward: We were so lucky with the rain holding off and allowing us to perform our final Summer 2025 concert.

7th September 2025 3 pm- 5pm *Oxted Band*

- Roy Hollister: Great afternoon. It has been a great season. A couple of small points. Could those speaking be given a microphone. Also, it was a great idea for the kids bouncy castle to be at some of the concerts, but could it be sighted at the other end of the park as it's generator did drown out the music for some spectators.
- Kathy Walsh: Thanks to all. It was a really lovely afternoon 😊

Comments received via emails from Bands/ Members of the public

20th July 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Sevenoaks Sings*: Just wanted to let you know we had a great afternoon on Sunday. We had a sizeable audience, and the weather played ball.

Thanks again for thinking of us and including us in the programme.

24th July 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Rock Choir*: Thanks so much for the pics! They are amazing. 😊 I will share them with the choir and thanks so much again for popping down.

Thanks again and hope that you are enjoying the weather.

31st July 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Fiona Henry*: Thank you for the opportunity to perform on Thursday to a wonderfully supportive crowd.

31st July 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Fiona Henry*: I know members of the crowd made particular mention of the enjoyment they felt being part of a live event.

Thanks again - a lovely initiative from Sevenoaks Town council to offer these music events!

3rd August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra*: No comment received.

7th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Mainly Sax*: No comment received.

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10th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Miss D & The Loop*: Thanks so much for the pics! They are amazing. 😊
I will share them with the choir and thanks so much again for popping down.

Thanks again and hope that you are enjoying the weather.

14th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Open Mic*: No comment received.

17th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Ian Fox*: Hope all is well, the gig on the Vine 17/8/25, went well, good weather, good crowd.

21st August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Concert Band*: We enjoyed it too!

Looking forward to next year!

Complaint from a member of the Public received by the Café on the Vine 21st of August 2025, reported to the Youth Committee Clerk 9:00 am 22nd of August 2025: A resident mentioned the Bouncy Castle was too noisy, and they had to move closer to the bandstand to hear, due to screaming children. Due to this, they will not be coming to these events in the future.

24th August 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Kent Police Band*: We had lovely weather and a sizeable audience; all seemed to go well.

28th August 2025 6 pm- 8 pm *West Kent Concert Band*: No comment received.

7th September 2025 3 pm- 5 pm *Oxted Band*: Thank you for the opportunity to play at the Vine Bandstand at Sevenoaks again this year.

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The Vine Music Festival 2025 – Play Place Engagement Report

Introduction

Play Place was delighted to participate in the Sevenoaks Vine Music Festival 2025, marking our first involvement in this vibrant community event. Our contribution focused on delivering a free, inclusive activity for children and young people through the provision of a bouncy castle. This initiative aimed to enhance the festival experience for families while creating meaningful engagement opportunities with local children and young people.

Our team thoroughly enjoyed the experience and appreciated the opportunity to connect with the community in a dynamic and celebratory setting. This report outlines the outcomes of our involvement, key learnings, and attendance data across the summer sessions.

Outcomes and Impact

1. Youth Engagement

One of the most rewarding aspects of our involvement was the opportunity to engage with older young people aged 12–17. These interactions extended beyond recreational fun and opened up valuable conversations around topics such as education, college choices, and personal development. The bouncy castle served as a light-hearted entry point for deeper engagement, allowing our youth team to build rapport and trust with attendees.

2. Family Inclusion and Accessibility

Families expressed significant appreciation for the presence of the bouncy castle, particularly noting its accessibility as a free activity. In the context of ongoing financial pressures due to the cost-of-living crisis, the availability of no-cost entertainment was seen as a meaningful gesture. Many parents shared that the inclusion of such activities made the festival more enjoyable and inclusive for children, contributing to a positive overall experience.

3. Attendance and Participation

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During the sessions that were able to run, we observed strong participation from children and young people. The bouncy castle attracted consistent interest, and the surrounding area became a lively hub for families enjoying both the music and the activities. This dual engagement entertainment for children and cultural enrichment for adults helped foster a welcoming and family-friendly atmosphere.

Key Learnings and Recommendations

1. Power Supply Challenges

We encountered technical difficulties related to the power supply on-site, which impacted our ability to operate the inflatable on certain days. This highlighted the importance of conducting thorough pre-event checks and confirming access to reliable power sources. In future events, we recommend seeing the power supply with the site manager to ensure uninterrupted service delivery.

2. Generator Use and Noise Management

While we were able to mitigate power issues by using a generator, this solution introduced noise that potentially could have disrupted the ambiance of the festival. To preserve the quality of the experience for attendees, we suggest securing a quieter or more integrated power solution in advance.

3. Weather Contingency Planning

Adverse weather conditions led to the cancellation of several sessions. As Play Place prioritises health and safety, we were unable to operate the inflatable during unsafe conditions. For future events, we propose the inclusion of alternative weather-resistant activities to ensure continuous engagement regardless of whether disruptions.

Session Attendance Overview

Date	Young People Attendance	Session Summary
24th July 2025	0	Session cancelled due to poor weather conditions.
31st July 2025	0	Session cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

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Date	Young People Attendance	Session Summary
7th August 2025	20	Successful session with excellent weather and strong participation.
14th August 2025	0	Session cancelled due to power supply issues; no generator available on-site.
21st August 2025	23	Highly engaging session with older youth; meaningful conversations took place.
28th August 2025	20	Well-run session, though overall family attendance at the festival was quieter.

Conclusion

Play Place’s involvement in the Vine Music Festival 2025 was a valuable and enriching experience. Despite some operational challenges, the sessions we were able to deliver had a positive impact on both young people and families. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this community event and look forward to future collaborations where we can continue to support inclusive, engaging, and accessible activities for all.

Should you require any further details or wish to discuss future partnership opportunities, we would be pleased to connect.

STC Summary of the report:

The 2025 Thursday Bandstand programme combined live music with additional family activities, running from July to September. While some sessions were affected by weather and power issues, those that went ahead drew varied audience numbers and made use of the bouncy castle provided by Play Place. Feedback included both positive comments on the performances and activities, as well as concerns around noise from the generator and children’s play. Café takings were generally higher than in 2024, though differences could have been influenced by weather conditions across both years.

Recommendations for 2026:

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- Continue with bouncy castle/ family entertainment
- Confirm access to electrical supply from café to avoid need for generator.
- Site bouncy castle at end of Vine Gardens
- Seek sponsor for Thursday Bands / Family Entertainment

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Play Place report on SDC Summer Family Fun Days



Introduction

Play Place is once again pleased to have had the opportunity to deliver the Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) 2025 Family Fun Days. This annual initiative continues to be a cornerstone of community engagement, offering families across the district a vibrant, welcoming, and fun environment to come together and enjoy three hours of free, high-quality activities in their local area.

This year's programme was supported by an enthusiastic and dedicated team, led by the Chris and Ethan. Their leadership, energy, and understanding of community dynamics played a pivotal role in ensuring that each session was not only safe and well-organised but also genuinely enjoyable for all attendees. Chris and Ethan's ability to foster a positive atmosphere was evident across every site, and their contribution was instrumental in the overall success of the programme.

The 2025 Family Fun Days were hosted across a wide range of locations, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for families throughout the Sevenoaks District. The sites included:

West Kingsdown, Shoreham, Dunton Green, Westerham, Edenbridge, Chiddingstone, Greatness (Sevenoaks), Hextable, Crockenhill, Swanley, Chipstead (Chevening), Horton Kirby, Hartley, Eynsford, Leigh, Four Elms, New Ash Green, Farningham, and Knockholt.

Play Place took the lead in delivering the sessions, with support from a variety of external providers who added further diversity to the offering. Our core activities included:

- Arts and Crafts: Creative stations for children to explore their imagination
- Bouncy Castle: Always a favourite, providing safe physical play
- Sports Fun: Structured games and free play to encourage movement and teamwork

In addition, we were delighted to welcome a range of external contributors who enhanced the experience for families:

- Magicians: Bringing wonder and laughter to children of all ages
- Large Inflatable Slide: A thrilling addition that drew enthusiastic participation
- Face Painters: Adding colour and excitement to the day

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- Local Policing Team: Engaging with families and promoting community safety
- African Drumming Workshops: Offering cultural enrichment and hands-on musical fun
- Guide Dogs Charity (Chevening): Educating families on the role of guide dogs
- Kent Youth Services: Providing information and support for young people
- Ice Cream Vans: A sweet treat to round off the day

Outcomes and Impact

The 2025 Family Fun Days offered a range of positive outcomes, reinforcing the value of this initiative for the Sevenoaks community:

- **Increased Family Engagement:** Attendance figures rose significantly compared to previous years, reflecting the growing popularity and relevance of the programme.
- **Favourable Weather Conditions:** The summer weather was consistently pleasant, contributing to higher turnout and a more relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere at each event.
- **Enhanced Community Connections:** Families appreciated the opportunity to engage with both Play Place and external providers, fostering stronger ties within the community and exposing children to new experiences.

Key Learnings

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, the Play Place team engaged in reflective practice throughout the summer. Through conversations with families and internal debriefs, we identified several key learnings:

- **Inflatable Equipment Challenges:** While the inflatable was a highlight for many children, we experienced occasional issues with the generator due to high temperatures. These interruptions, though brief, highlighted the need for more robust contingency planning in extreme weather.
- **Site Access Coordination:** On two occasions, access to venues was delayed due to key collection logistics. In future, we will ensure keys are obtained the day prior to each session and maintain proactive communication with parish clerks to avoid disruptions.
- **Arts and Crafts Improvements:** Some parents suggested providing overalls for children during messy activities. We will explore options to enhance this area, ensuring children can fully enjoy creative play while staying clean and comfortable.

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Conclusion

The success of the 2025 Family Fun Days was a testament to the dedication and passion of the Play Place team, from directors to frontline staff. The presence of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Parish Clerks at several events was appreciated and provided a valuable opportunity to showcase the positive outcomes of SDC's investment in community wellbeing. In a time when the cost of living continues to place pressure on families, offering free, high-quality entertainment and engagement opportunities is more important than ever. The joy, laughter, and sense of connection witnessed across all sites reaffirm our belief in the power of community-led initiatives.

We are committed to applying our learnings to further enhance the programmes. We hope to continue to work in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council in 2026 and beyond. Play Place remains deeply invested in supporting Kent's communities.

Attendance

Date	Location	Children	Adults	Percentage gain on last year figures	Weather
Monday 28 th July	West Kingsdown	100	65	Up by 59%	Sunshine
Tuesday 29 th July	Shoreham	77	50	New site this year	Sunshine
Wednesday 30 th July	Dunton Green	117	79	Up by 63%	Light rain and Sunshine
Thursday 31 st July	Westerham and Edenbridge	17 17	7 14	Stats compared to this session	Rained all day
Friday 1 st August	Chiddingstone	77	49	Up by 80%	Sunshine
Monday 4 th August	Greatness Rec (Sevenoaks)	140	92	Up BY 33.33%	Rain & Dry
Tuesday 5 th August	Hextable	75	39	Up by 0.884%	Sunshine
Wednesday 6 th August	Crockenhill	77	39	Up by 26%	Dry
Thursday 7 th August	Swanley	116	96	Up by 70%	High winds and rain
Thursday 7 th August	Westerham and	55	28	223.5%	High winds and rain

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	Edenbridge	30	21	76.5%	
Friday 8 th August	Chipstead	128	119	Up by 85.5%	Sunshine
Monday 11 th August	Horton Kirby	50	42	Up by 30%	Sunshine
Tuesday 12 th August	Hartley	135	74	Up by 106%	Sunshine
Wednesday 13 th August	Eynsford	148	90	Up by 33%	Sunshine & rain
Thursday 14 th August	Westerham and Edenbridge	78 60	47 44	Up by 50.6% Up by 103.9%	Sunshine
Friday 15 th August	Leigh	64	49	Up by 30%	Sunshine
Monday 18 th August	Four Elms	28	15	Down by 15%	Dry
Tuesday 19 th August	New Ash Green	117	67	Down by 8%	Sunshine
Wednesday 20 th August	Farningham	63	41	Up by 108%	Dry/high winds
Thursday 21 st August	Westerham and Edenbridge	73 50	50 26	Down by 1.6% Down by 36.92%	Sunshine
Friday 22 nd August	Knockholt	112	93	New site this year	Sunshine