

**Minutes of the meeting of the Sevenoaks Youth Council
Held on 22nd March 2023**

at Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN133QG

Meeting Commenced: 6.00 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Youth Council Members:

Henry Barden de Leon	Present	Valentina Groves	Absent
Mahedy Basher	Absent	Max Pound	Absent
Emilia Britain, Vice-Chairman	Present	Vince Rands-Webb	Absent
Dexter Buhmann	Absent	Elena Rozo-Navarro	Apologies
Leah Campbell-Sergeant	Absent	Aanya Sidhu	Apologies
Von Ming Fung Chu	Present	Mia Stack	Absent
Phoebe Critchlow, Treasurer	Present	Billy Thajudeen	Absent
Lauren Foster	Absent	Katie Willis, Chairman	Present
Neil Gandhi	Absent	Torsa Younus	Absent
Jasmine Geer	Absent		
Maya Goodrich	Absent		

In attendance: Linda Larter, Town Clerk; Daren Mountain, Manager of House in the Basement Youth Café; Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet; Ieuan Chandler-Wilson, Committee Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Received as shown above.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Youth Council held on 02nd November 2022

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Council held on 18th January 2023.

3. Finance Report

It was noted that the £752.65 for the Design a Christmas light should have been allocated to the youth outreach budget.

RESOLVED: To note that the current balance was £967.45

4. House in the Basement Youth Café (HiTB), Managers report:

Daren reported that Youth Councillor Aanya Sidhu had attend an SEN night at House in the Basement giving a coding session for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math's).

It was also noted that the hats coats and scarves that were gathered and delivered to House in the Basement by members of the Youth Council have been very popular.

5. HiTB Youth Café- 10 Year Celebrations

It was noted that on Saturday 1st of April 2023 House in the Basement would be celebrating their 10th year with a formal event of the adults starting at 3pm till 4pm with a party for young people starting at 4pm.

It was noted that the Youth Council are invited to attend both events.

RESOLVED: That the Youth Council donate £200 from its funds towards the celebration event.

6. West Kent Mediation

The Youth Council noted the work that is being carried out by West Kent Mediation and schools to help support young people.

7. Anti-Social Behavior at the vine

The Youth Council noted that in the recent weeks there had been large gatherings of young people at the Vine that are causing Anti-Social Behavior and Criminal damage to the site.

It was noted that police have sent a message to schools as well as social media asking parents to be aware of these gatherings and asking “do you know where your young person is?”. It was also noted that the police have been given a dispersal order to be able to move on large groups that gather over a period of 48 hours.

The Youth Council heard from Linda Larter the Town Clerk about plans to put a permanent Public Spaces Protection order in place in case of any future instances so that the police have the power to diffuse the situation.

The Youth Council agreed with the idea of putting the order in place.

8. Feedback on the Youth Council Website

The Youth Council noted the website had been updated to include a list of local companies and organisations that offer work experience and volunteering opportunities for young people though there has not been much foot traffic to the site. The Youth Council suggested contacting local schools and Duke of Edinburgh coordinators to ensure they know about the resource and perhaps promotion of the website through the use of flyers and QR codes may help to boost the foot fall to the site.

It was noted that the Youth Council would like the following items to be added to the website:

- A Discussion board
- Ask a Youth Councilor- a place where young people can submit questions to the youth council.
- Tips for obtaining work experience

9. Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: To note the next meeting of the Youth Council would be held on Zoom.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.