

Minutes of the Remote YOUTH COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 26 JULY 2022

Present: Councillor Caroline Bettley
 " Roger Davies *
 " Anne Evans
 " Andy Gallanders
 Corin Jarvis
 " Phil Lloyd *
 " Kevin Roberts

* Absent

Also Present: Mr Jon Stumpp, & Andy Watson, Caia Park Partnership
 Mr Gareth Stacey, Jay Davies, Wrexham CBC Play Development Team
 Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Kevin Roberts was appointed Chair of the Youth Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year

(Councillor Kevin Roberts in the Chair)

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Andy Gallanders was appointed Vice Chair of the Youth Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Roger Davies and Philip Lloyd

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations made at this stage of the proceedings

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Youth Committee held on 27 January 2022 as submitted to the Meeting of the Community Council on 15 February 2022 be received and confirmed as a correct record

6. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was noted that the Council had confirmed the Committee's recommendation the savings made to the costs of the 2021/22 Service Level Agreement for the Acton Youth Work Project as result of savings for room hire costs should be used to purchase additional equipment for the Youth Club and to fund the provision of travel opportunities to address the skills shortage identified by this Youth Work Project to enable Young People to be confident and proficient in using public transport

7. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Youth Committee was appointed at the Annual Community Council meeting held in May 2022 and its Terms of Reference were noted.

8. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT –ACTON YOUTH WORK PROJECTS

The Chair Welcomed Jon Stumpp and Andy Watson to the meeting. Members considered the reports and other information provided at the meeting by representatives of the Caia Park Partnership in respect of the 2021/22 Year End and the Quarter 1 performance monitoring to 30 June 2022 on the operation of this Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Open Access Youth Service . in particular the ongoing engagement work throughout the Covid pandemic and the Youth Club sessions restarting in the Resource Centre had seen engagement levels similar to before the enforced closures albeit with a different cohort of Young People. The Senior Group have formed into a well knit group of friends. The report set out in detail updates on the Acton Juniors and Acton Seniors, events planned over the summer and positive outcomes from the quarter. However a negative resulting from the positive achievements require dynamic decisions to be made regarding health and safety and re-planning activities to accommodate higher numbers that may attend.

Members were pleased with the outcomes and noted there will be cost implications if a third member of staff has to be employed to ensure the supervision ratios of staff to Young People are observed. Consideration may need to be given to future needs/ expansion of the Service Level agreement to invest in the successes. The Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance and report

RESOLVED –

- i) to accept the first quarter report as now submitted in accordance with the Service Level Agreement and thank the Caia Park Partnership Officers for enabling the Youth Work project to thrive following resumption of the Service at the Resource Centre after the Covid restrictions; and**
- ii) A further monitoring report after the end of quarter two be submitted by the Caia Park Partnership to the next Youth Committee proposed for Tuesday 25 October 2022; and**

9. PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT – FOCUSED PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Further to Minute 27 June 2022, the Play Development Team representatives were in attendance and the Chair welcomed Gareth Stacey and Jay Davies. A wider discussion ensued about more focussed provision of services for children. It was noted the Play Development Team are completing Wrexham's 2022 Play Sufficiency Assessment as per the Welsh Government Statutory duty placed on Local Authorities.

An early indication of the overall satisfaction levels were presented to the meeting. The Covid pandemic has had a negative impact on children's satisfaction with play opportunities and how they usually play. The results for Acton has enabled focus on Time, Space and Permission. The Team's experience is that where there is year round community play provision, attitudes of adults towards children's play becomes more tolerant and ultimately more permissible. The Committee also considered a letter setting out a proposal for the Community Council to fund one Staffed Play session per week for 48 weeks of the year.

It was noted there was currently a small sum included in the Community Council's Young Persons Budget for Play development work. It was suggested that in order to assess the demand and level of engagement, a Pilot Scheme for 19 Play Sessions at a cost of £2,466 (within the existing budget) commence from mid to late September 2022 continuing existing work at the sunken gardens off Park Avenue, and developing new sessions at Little Acton and Rhosnesni. The Play Development Team will seek to identify other sources of funding for the Pilot to run until March 2023. The Clerk indicated

that an formal exchange of letters should take place to identify key performance indicators and what will be provided, how much will it cost? how long it will be for? what will be provided? how will the Play Development Team promote it? There also needs to be a Questionnaire with responses back from children and parents at the end of the Pilot. Any commitment to fund the Pilot Project will be subject to formal approval from the Community Council at its September 2022 Meeting.

RESOLVED –

- i) to receive and note the Report; and***
- ii) to recommend to the Council that it enters into a Pilot Project with the Wrexham CBC Play Development Team for Staffed Play Provision from September 2022 using the criteria and budget provision as set out in the above Minute***

Councillor Kevin Roberts, Presiding Chair

Signed as a correct record this 25th day of October 2022

Presiding Chair