
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of Youth Provision Partnership: Cllr Sheenagh Unwin

MINUTES OF THE YOUTH PROVISION PARTNERSHIP held on 4th September 2023 at 8.00p.m. at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre

PRESENT:

Cllr S Unwin
Cllr S Snell

Cllr C Prescott
Cllr Vaughan-Hodkinson

In Attendance:

Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Glyn Johnson (Wednesday Wizards)
Cllr H Unwin
Cllr P Farrar
Richard Parkes, SYA

YPP23/015 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. It was a pleasure to welcome Richard Parkes from SYA who was asked to introduce himself and the work of SYA in Shropshire.

Richard explained that historically youth provision had been provided by Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council until resources were no longer available and budgets were cut.

The Shropshire Youth Association was then created to work with both Unitary Authorities to provide support and activities for young people across Shropshire as a whole, including T & W. It is now known as SYA and is a charity. Funding is available from Grants and Donations and it can offer not-for-profit help and support to Parish & Town Councils in bespoke agreements depending on the needs of the young people in the areas and based on the requirements of the Parish Councils.

There are various options available which local councils can buy in to and these can provide support, training, equipment etc.

YPP23/016 Apologies

John Olenik, SNAC
Leigh Ricketts

It was proposed by Councillor Snell and seconded by Councillor Prescott that the apologies, as listed by accepted.

YPP23/017 Declarations of Interest relating to any matters on the Agenda

Councillor Vaughan-Hodkinson Youth Provision at SBPC

YPP23/018 Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2023

It was proposed by Councillor Vaughan-Hodkinson and seconded by Councillor Snell that the Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2023 be confirmed. All were in favour and thus it was

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RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2023 be signed as a true record.
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YPP23/019 Matters Arising, not otherwise on the Agenda, for information

None

YPP23/020 Youth Provision in Hollinswood & Randlay Parish

The Clerk gave a short presentation on the commitment of the Parish Council, through its current Strategy to consider youth provision within the Parish and some (albeit limited) funding has been included in the budget to collect the thoughts and ideas of the young people – in particular those aged 14 – 17.

The Parish Council would resist the formation of a 'Youth Club' particularly until the needs and aspirations of the young people have been investigated and we have built a relationship with them. Consideration needs to be given to those who live in both Hollinswood & Randlay and if joint provision would be possible.

The Parish Councillors will continue to consider the needs of our young people and the ways in which support & activities can be provided. Whether or not this is to be direct by the Parish Council, we are going to need professional and experienced support and this can be provided by SYA.

Richard, as CEO of SYA, explained that they have experience of offering various models depending on the needs of the Parish Councils and the aspirations of the young people. This can be by providing support for the voluntary sector, the provision of equipment, assistance with applying for funding or providing a service which can include a paid worker. Whatever the Parish Council decides will be possible and SYA will be able to provide advice, guidance and training – and have Government funding available to do this.

The first step is to engage with some young people and this was possible at the Games Day in August, although there were more younger children and therefore the consultation with the older one, 14 – 17 approx, will continue. The Clerk and SYA have created an initial questionnaire survey, which can be available as a QR code or in hard copy and the results of this will provide a flavour of the needs and a picture of demand. This is currently available on the screens, the website and has been sent out on social media. This will be made available to all Councillors who will also encourage young people and their parents to complete the survey. The questions will also ascertain their confidence, do they go out and if not, why not?

Following the end date of this piece of work, details will be available and Members can consider some initial options for providing sessions, these may be based around music, arts & crafts, games, sports etc. Sessions can be arranged to introduce health and well-being, caring etc. We might consider a bike hub - finding a common theme to get young people together.

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There are many ways of engaging with the young people and the parish council may have to consider Instagram, Tik Tok etc. as well as our current Facebook Page and Website. However, parents like Facebook so hopefully they will share the QR with their families and friends.

The Chairman thanked Richard for attending and for his, and Vanessa's, attendance at the Games Day. The support of SYA through this initial period of consultation is much appreciated. Richard confirmed that he and Vanessa would consider a plan to undertake visits around the Parish to speak with the Young People and also arrange to visit existing User Groups, such as our dance classes, martial arts, scouts, guides etc.

It was agreed that this would continue until the end of the October half term. The Hallowe'en Event may be a good time for engaging with some families. The results will form the basis for discussion as to next steps.

The support of SYA is very much appreciated.

YPP23/021 Partner Reports

a. Wednesday Wizards

Councillor Farrar is a volunteer with Wizards on a Wednesday and supports Glyn with a range of games and activities for the after-school club which is well attended.

A copy of the report had been circulated to members and is available on request.

b. Holiday Activities

The HHAH provision at Randlay Community Centre has been well supported, with capacity numbers at most sessions and have included a number of SEND families.

The funding from TWC has been welcomed and, although reduced, has enabled four hours, four days of four weeks for eligible children.

Having more SEND children resulted in a need for additional trained staff which affected the budget. However, TWC did offer additional support.

The next HHAH sessions will be at Christmas.

Members may wish to consider this at the Strategy Day, as the TW funding may not be available after 2025 and the community may appreciate it continuing in a different format. Consideration will be necessary, regarding funding, staffing, venue etc. However, it will then be possible to offer this to more young people, on a charging basis.

c. SNAC@HARP

Members wished to record their thanks to John as the assistant co-ordinator for SNAC. This is fulfilling an identified need for some harder-to-reach families and the events have become very popular.

The Summer Activity Day was very popular and well attended.

Volunteers would be welcome – please apply to the Clerk

SNAC very much appreciates the support from the Parish Staff and Councillors.

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YPP23/022 Next Meeting

27th November 2023

8pm

Council Chamber

SignedDate

