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## Minutes of Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016, 6 – 7 pm

### **Present**

Carol Williams (PWTC)  
Helen Fenner  
Katharine Ridger (Brownies and Rainbows)  
Joshua Boyle (Army Cadets)  
Peter Hammerton (New Gen, St Andrew's)  
Amy Fenner (Scouts)  
Emily Mackie (New Gen, St Andrew's)  
Henry Atkins (Explorers and Paddock Wood Athletics Club)

Derek Boyle (PWTC)

### **Apologies**

Sophie Dezechache (Street Cruiser)  
Mollie Dew (Pathfinders, St Andrew's)  
Alicia Thompsett (Pathfinders, St Andrew's)  
Alice Boyle (Guides)

### **YC 1 Welcome & apologies**

Carol welcomed everyone following the summer break.

### **YC 2 Minutes of last meeting & updates:**

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed – some members of the group had not received these/read them.

- The issue about having slogans in the play areas was discussed, with no new ideas in relation to developing these. Carol mentioned that the public had asked if we would do another litter pick. Youth Council expressed concern that the young people of the town were leading on picking the litter up and other people did not respect this and dropped litter immediately afterwards. They would like to see others involved if another litter pick is planned. Carol stated that the athletics club had been involved last time, as well as individual members of the public, but she acknowledged that the majority of the volunteers were children and young people.

### **YC 3 Membership of the group**

Carol reported that group membership will change this year – Mollie and Alisha were standing down at Pathfinders, so someone else would be elected by the group to attend. Henry reported that he will be too old for Explorers in the near future, so Carol will approach the leaders to identify another person to attend.

#### **YC 4 Youth Cafe**

CW reported that the Youth Café had been running at the Pavilion on Memorial Field since late October, with varying levels of activity. YC members stated that they did not know about it, although they had been sent an email. Carol stated that there were a number of Year 6 boys attending and suggested reducing the age to 10 to 18 years. The café has a variety of games, as well as providing toilet facilities, snacks and drinks for young people using the field. It will remain open until half term on a Friday evening between 5 and 7pm – it will then close until the end of March when it will reopen. It is not possible to keep it running over the winter, as the building is not heated or weather proof.

#### **YC 5 Picnic in the Park**

Carol reported that it has not been possible to arrange a picnic in the park due to lack of time and people to help arrange this.

#### **YC 6 Any other business**

Peter asked what should go on the front page of the Youth Council section of the website. Carol said that she had been asked for a brief summary of the work of the Youth Council for this section.

Carol reported that the next stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process was to establish groups to look at issues such as the town centre, transport and sports & leisure. The group was asked how they would like to feed into the groups, as it may be possible to invite young people to each of the working groups or for working group leads to come to the Youth council. The YC thought it would be more practical for the working groups leads to attend the YC Meetings, as it was difficult to attend too many meetings. Carol agreed to organise this.

Carol reported that she had followed up on previous discussions about the skate park, by collecting pictures of other skate parks to gather some ideas for discussion. A range of issues were discussed regarding the current park such as the access, as the gate is not clearly visible and there is no signposting to indicate that the skate park is there. Carol will raise this with Estates.

The group felt it would be a good idea to look at the original skate park plans, as a starting point to thinking about how it could be extended. Carol will ask Nichola Reay for the plans for the next meeting.

#### **YC 7 Next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016.**

#### **Youth Council dates for the remainder of the year:**

14<sup>th</sup> November 2016

12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

13<sup>th</sup> March 2017

10<sup>th</sup> April 2017

8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

10<sup>th</sup> July 2017