

Youth Council Steering Group

22 October, 2020

5:00pm

Notes

Present:

Cllr Gill Cleeve (GC)
Lisa Cowley (LC)
Cllr Tony Jackson (TJ) – Mayor
Cllr Kate Rolfe (KR)
Sarah Summers (SS)

Youth Members:

Kerry Alcock (KA)
Danielle Cleeve (DC)
Aiden Drinkwater (AD)
Oliver Hughes (OH)
Eva Key (EK)
Bianka Pawlowska (BP)
Alfie Walker (AW)
William Winter (WW)

All members attended the meeting via Zoom

1. Apologies

Cllrs Victoria Alcock (VA) and Cllr Philip How (PH) gave their apologies.

Amelia Betts (AB), Hope French (HF), Saul McDougall (SM) and Oliver Lines (OL) were absent from the meeting.

2. Budgeting

SS began by stating that budgeting is going to be difficult for all Councils going forward due to the current climate. She advised that when budgeting, it is best to prioritise the most important requirements and that everything that is put in the budget has to be justified.

KR reported that she had received an update regarding Stratford Skatepark from Stratford Town Trust (STT). This update specified that work on the park had hit a lull, but STT are happy to attend a future meeting discuss ways forward.

The following improvements have been made so far:

- Upgraded lighting;
- Some dangerous edges filled.

The following improvements still need to be made:

- Wi-Fi installation;
- A provision for a water fountain;
- Tidying up of some jumps and slides.

STT's Sara Apsley and Lifespace's Rachel Key would be happy to attend a meeting, but it is thought that meeting on-site could also be a good opportunity. GC suggested this could also be a good location for a socially distanced group photograph.

GC reported that at a meeting with STT, they did express their wish to put more money into youth provisions. Finding a building for the youth to meet is a top priority.

The awareness event suggested at the last meeting was discussed again, with thoughts that this could be held at the Town Hall when it is fully reopened.

TJ suggested that the three following items should possibly feature in the first year's budget:

- Use of the Town Hall – the Youth Town Council will be able to apply for free use of the Town Hall, but would have to go through the usual procedure to do this;
- Any paid-for publicity or marketing;
- Polls or surveys to ascertain the views of other youths.

AW noted that the budget for the Stratford Youth Forum is mainly used for advertising and promotion which includes the printing of leaflets etc. He also mentioned that there is a £100.00 accessibility fund to assist with transport to and from meetings.

AW also stated that he would be happy to help establish more of a link between Stratford Youth Forum and Stratford Youth

Town Council, so that they can update each other on what they are working on, and their progress with projects.

It was agreed that publicity should feature on the agenda for the first meeting with AD commented that we need to get the word out, to promote the Youth Town Council, in order to get the word in, to receive suggestion and ideas from other youths.

AW agreed with this but thought that the focus should be on promoting the Youth Town Council first, by publishing a clear statement. He believed that if we got a following first, it would be easier to gather people's ideas and views. He also believed that opinions should be sought via casual comments instead of large surveys, such as polls on Instagram, Facebook etc.

3. Youth Town Council Roles

- Chair

All members were happy with the way this role had been defined and a few members expressed interest in this role, explaining why they thought they would make a good Chair.

TJ advised that letting people express their opinions is a vital part of being Chair. He specified that the Chair would need to be a confident public speaking but that listening is the key role.

Willing candidates can prepare a speech of no more than two minutes for the first official meeting, and all youth member will be able to vote.

- Deputy Chair

The Deputy Chair will need to have the capacity to take on all the Chair's roles in necessary.

KA expressed interest in this role and explained why she thought she would be good in the role of Deputy Chair.

- Treasurer

AW and DC expressed interest in this role and explained why they thought they should be considered for Treasurer. It was

agreed that appointing a Deputy Treasurer may also be a good idea.

TJ assured members that if they do not get the role they are hoping for, they are still an extremely important member of the Youth Town Council.

- Clerk

SS asked members whether they would like to appoint a Youth Council Clerk, who would be assisted by LC. LC gave an outline on the requirements for clerking a meeting and SS elaborated that the Clerk would have to be up to date with all legislation and terms of reference etc.

AW expressed that he may be interested in this role.

LC has written a role description for all the above positions and this is attached as **Appendix 'A'**.

4. Date of the Next Meeting

The first official Youth Town Council meeting will take place at 5:00pm on 12 November. This will be livestreamed on the Town Council's YouTube channel and Facebook page.

This meeting closed at 6:10pm.