

Wotton Youth Partnership
Minutes of Bi-monthly committee meeting
Tuesday 5th September 2017
Civic Centre 7.30 pm

Present: Katie Elliott, Sarah Watt, June Cordwell, Rich Hale, Chris Young, Martin Clarke, Catherine Braun, Steve Miles, Paul Hemming, Sharron Bates

1. Apologies: Paul Barton, Terry Luker, Karen Dover, Ali Lidbetter, Rob Axford, Ken Tucker

2. Minutes of the meeting of 6th June 2017 and matters arising: The minutes were agreed.

Shelter: The report for the High Sheriff has been submitted and photos will follow once parental agreement received.

Heritage Project: Interviews have begun and previous work is being incorporated. Ellie, the young interviewer, is being trained to use the equipment by Jeff and a pleasant tone is being set for the project. Also year 9 KLB pupils are involved with their project to connect to the community, as are the History Department and the Film maker students.

Steve is happy to receive regular updates until the project ends and a final report is required

ACTION - Katie to ensure report is written after her resignation.

Sharron described the National Citizens Scheme – a 3 week residential course with training, projects and presentations – 60 pupils from KLB currently involved.

Steve asked how these young people would be followed up and guided further and **ACTION** Sharron to liaise with Steve on this.

Mental Health Project: Simon has submitted a grant application to Stroud Development Fund to further develop this project. Jess has brought all the current information together and Paul Hemming has put it onto WYLG website. Updates will be on-going.

Future consideration is to be given to changing name of website to Wotton Youth Partnership.

Bearlands – ACTION – Catherine to follow up our offer of funds.

3. Funding bids

ACTION – June to apply to Renishaw for general funds

No further bids are being prepared.

4. Financial Report

Current bank balance: £9082.58. We have promised £250 to Under the Edge Arts to support the upcoming graffiti project. We have offered a further £500 to the Bearlands Playground Group. There has also been a recent payment of £150 to Y&CS for work on the Mental Health project. This means that we currently have £1938.66 earmarked for projects (£850 for mental health, £106 for sport/activity and £982.66 for the Heritage project), £750 promised to UTEA and Bearlands playground and a remaining £6243.92 of unrestricted funds.

5. Youth Forum, Youth Club and Outreach update

Youth Forum - Edgefest – Steve thanked everyone involved in the sessions. The young people had taken a lot of responsibility for the organisation and all sessions had been very successful. Martin suggested that Sunday was not ideal for future events from a sound level point of view.

YF general – young people are involved in representation on District Youth Council, Young Researchers Project (a film project with collaboration of Claire Levy – Lecturer at Goldsmiths – What is life like for young people in rural areas?) and British Youth Council. Subjects raised and discussed at BYC were the Tampon Tax and Gender Equality

ACTION – Rich Hale to liaise with Katie on an article for the Gazette.

Young people now looking at problem of lighting the OK path. Suggestions from WYP – solar lighting, tall hedge cut, talk to Town Council, talk to Wotton Youth Partnership and WCSF, help with bid preparation, having a stand at Party in the PARC.

6. Activity in the Town

Under the Edge Arts are concerned that there is a group of young people congregating in the Coop car park and Rope Walk. Currently not a problem, but concerned for darker evenings. **ACTION** - Steve is to contact Rachel Pratt.

7. Reports from other youth providers in town

Sharron – The Fitness Suite at Wotton Sports Centre was available for years 10, 11 and 12 over the summer holidays for £1 per week, including an instructor, with an average of 15 at each session. This followed on from the work WYP did on the summer programme in 2016.

The Door – written report from Karen Dover - *Friday group was busy up to the last day of term but there was no provision for over the summer holidays.*

Looking forward to starting up again on Friday and welcoming the existing young people back and hopefully some new ones (including new Year 7s). As far as I am concerned, The Door will continue to be present at KLB on Friday lunchtimes.

UTEA –

+ We continue to support Wotton's young people as much as we can within a very challenging financial environment.

+Our EdgeFest series of 6 [2 of which were cancelled] Friday night live music sessions for 14-18s ended with a special one-off Sunday 6.5 hour music and DJ event last weekend with a disappointing attendance. Organisation by the Wotton Youth Forum and The Participation People/SDC project was good. We provided funding from the proceeds of last year's Youth Band Fundraiser. A new EdgeFest series may be possible after this year's YBF on Friday 13 October. It is up to WYF to decide.

+This Saturday morning we are providing a free taster session to promote our Arts and Wellbeing classes covering art, dance, writing and songwriting with four specialist teachers Judy Collins, Emma Dickson, Maggie How and Matthew Hemson. We hope for support from social prescribing by local GP practices. Young people are welcome.

Judy Collins is also starting Art House a wellbeing session on Thursday mornings and an after school Art Box session on Thursday 4-5

+UTEA is now kite marked by the Gloucestershire Voluntary & Community Sector Alliance

+We are providing four free workshops at the Wotton Blues Festival on Sat 23 September plus a couple of youth blues sessions. Details still in progress.

+We have a new series of six Children's Drama Workshops for ages 8+ on Sunday mornings starting 1 October led by Jackie Tolfree £20 for the series plus £3 for the kickoff taster session

+We have another Graffiti Workshop on Monday 23 October at £10 for three hours. Bookings are invited now.

- +Our annual talent show The Edge Factor has auditions on Saturday November 4th and the grand final at Bluecoat School on Saturday 25 November. Entry is free.
- +We will be showcasing young talent at Christmas at UTEA from 7pm on Saturday 2 December. This date is confirmed despite today's cancellation of the late shopping evening Christmas Under The Edge.
- +The Junior section of Wotton Dramatic Society are performing A Christmas Carol at UTEA on Sunday 17 December.
- +UTEA is organising a survey of local organisations and enthusiasts to develop a Culture Strategy for Wotton in line with the 2016 WTC Community Plan. A meeting to debate and decide will be held on 28 September and we hope for input from WYF and WYP.
- +Our Spring into Summer arts marathon will be held on Saturday 24 March 2018 from 6am to midnight. Again we encourage young people to take part. Any ideas to martin@clarkeconsult.org please
- +Wotton Walking Festival will be held May 11/12/13. UTEA is offering an art-producing walk and all ages are encouraged to take part

8. Any other business.

Graffiti workshop – To be held at UTEA on Saturday 23rd October. WYP's contribution agreed to increase to £250 this year and Martin thanked the committee for the sponsorship which will mean this event can now take place. **ACTION** – Martin to send details to Sharron for schools.

AGM arrangements and vacant posts

Katie sent an article to Directory explaining what we do and requesting more volunteers to join the committee. **ACTION** - Paul to put the article on website and on Wotton Youth Fb page. **ACTION** – Katie to write both Chairman and Treasurer Reports. Need for new committee members to be discussed with KLB Friends (Sharron), British School (Catherine), Blue Coat School (Rich), Wotton Town Council (June), Kingswood Parish Council (Paul H).

Date of next meetings:

Informal – 3rd October in The Star 7.30 pm

Formal – AGM with meeting to follow – 7th November in Civic Centre 7.30 pm