

**Minutes of Lancing Parish Youth Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday 20th March 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall**

**Present**

**Chair:** YCllr Churchill

**Youth Councillors:** Butler, Roberts and Scott

**Councillors:** Mick Clark and Geoff Patmore

**Officers:** Nick Wiltshire, Assistant Clerk

**Public:** PC Sharon Eppy

**110. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received, and with the reasons outlined, were accepted from Cllr Gloria Eveleigh.

**111. Public Question Time**

None.

**112. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Wednesday 13th February 2019**

**Resolved** – That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

**113. Improving the reputation of young people in Lancing**

Pursuant to Minute 105/Jan/2019 PC Sharon Eppy attended the meeting on behalf of Inspector Allan Lowe to discuss how to improve the reputation of young people in Lancing. She felt that the bad reputation of young people in Lancing was not warranted being based on perception rather than any statistical analysis. To help the youth in the community there needs to be a bigger picture of young people portrayed, such as the Skate Park where Electric Storm Youth is a big influence for good. Trouble mainly resulted from house parties going wrong. She emphasised that all incidents need to be reported. She is involved with about 40 Police Cadets that assemble at Centenary House in Durrington. They have a gazebo & equipment that could be used in conjunction with an event, e.g. stewarding at Beach Green Activity Day. She told the meeting that she would support the Youth Council in whatever it wanted to do. There is the possibility of Police Cadets attending Youth Council meetings & vice-versa to work in conjunction with each other plus having access to their twitter account. The YCllrs were re-energized by her knowledge & extremely helpful suggestions, giving the meeting much food for thought. As Sussex Police give grants (up to £500) derived from the proceeds of crime, applications for equipment, plants & tools could be made, although wages are not allowed. This may be relevant for the Youth Council Community Garden Project & Allotment Project & Monks Rec Improvement Project.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

**114. Finance**

The Youth Council's income and expenditure was presented, and it was **noted** that the Youth Council currently had **£600.75** with £600 being specifically earmarked reserves for the Community Garden and Allotment Project.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

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### 115. Community Garden and Allotment Project

YClIr Scott will contact Cllr Lydia Pope to identify suitable plants that can be grown in the raised beds so that she & her mother, Mrs Scott, can devise a planting plan. YClIr Churchill will liaise with the Beachside Montessori Nursery regarding planting. Members will prepare a press release to be issued once the beds have been planted. On Saturday 23rd March between 10:00 & 11:00 am YClIrs Churchill & Roberts will meet with Cllrs Clark & Patmore to finish filling up the raised beds with a mixture of topsoil & manure. The Assistant Clerk will arrange for the Parish Council's wheelbarrow to be made available for this task.

**Resolved** – That Members

- (a) agree a planting plan & liaise with the Beachside Montessori Nursery
- (b) identify how they can assist in the on-going nature of this Project;
- (c) prepare a press release for when the beds have been planted.

### 116. Local Youth Councils and Recruitment

Trialling the Youth Council as a joint venture with Sompting Parish Council has not occurred, however, recruitment of additional Lancing Parish YClIrs remains on-going.

Updates on actions agreed at the last meeting were provided at this meeting:

- (a) YClIr Scott will contact St Andrew's again & if she gets no response then YClIr Scott will attend an assembly there. YClIr Scott will go with Cllr Eveleigh & YClIrs Churchill & Roberts may also be available. YClIr Scott will contact Bohunt again so as to obtain some dates for a meeting. YClIr Scott will arrange a meeting with Davison's.
- (b) Cllr Baxter (SPC) had spoken with Cllr Eveleigh and agreed to provide an update on her discussions with SRWA but did not attend so was unable to do so.
- (c) YClIr Roberts will provide an update at the next meeting concerning her efforts to approach Northbrook College about recruitment.
- (d) Cllr Eveleigh reported that she was back in contact with Lancing College, however, she is awaiting the outcome of discussions regarding LPYC at a Staff Meeting on 7th March before she was in a position to be able to report back.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

### 117. Training for Youth Councillors

Members are reminded that the second session with Sussex Clubs for Young People is taking place on **Wednesday 3rd April at 6:30pm in the Jubilee Hall Bar Area**, the theme of which is Public Speaking. Everyone has been asked to prepare a minute-long speech.

**Resolved** – That all Members attend the second training session.

### 118. Children and Young People Network

Cllr Eveleigh attended the Children and Young People Network that took place on Tuesday, 5th March at 2:00 pm, facilitated by Community Works. YClIrs were unable to attend so they will give their presentation at a future event. However, Cllr Eveleigh gave an overview of the Youth Council & has had an article about recruitment of new Youth Councillors included in the Community Works Newsletter for the following week.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

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### 119. Promoting *Safe Haven* signs around Lancing

YCllr Churchill tried to contact Donna Gurney of Creations, Crabtree Lane for further information about Lancing Traders Association; she will now try to contact Heidi Rush. While it was deemed positive that the Youth Council initiates a “Safe Haven” scheme details need to be discussed & resolved before such a scheme can be put in place. The Assistant Clerk found details of two schemes that exist locally. One, Safe Havens in Sussex is an initiative aimed at discouraging bullying or intimidating behaviour in towns. Shops & businesses such as coffee shops are invited to display a poster showing they will welcome and assist anyone requesting help. A simple phone call to a parent or friend, or just waiting until the trouble passes, can be enough to reassure vulnerable people. With over 30 businesses in Seaford displaying these signs, and over 100 county-wide, this is a fast-growing scheme. They welcome new members and are happy to send information to schools and colleges in the area. Further details can be obtained from [www.toytownseaford.co.uk/safe-haven.html](http://www.toytownseaford.co.uk/safe-haven.html) or their Facebook Page [Safe Havens In Sussex](#).

Sussex Against Bullying is a youth organisation based in Bognor Regis, which provides a safe, friendly space for young people aged between 11-18 who have been affected by bullying, offering them a safe haven where they can sit down, relax, get support and make friends. They also run a holiday project during school holidays where young people can enjoy activities specifically designed to raise self-confidence. Young people are referred via their website by their parents/guardians. This Project is co-ordinated by their Youth Project Manager who also backs and supports them on a professional capacity. See <https://www.spacehive.com/sussex-against-bullying--a-safe-haven>.

**Resolved** – That Members

- (a) research “Safe Haven” type schemes existing elsewhere.
- (b) consider what difficulties may arise regarding safeguarding so that the viability of such a scheme can be discussed at the next meeting.

### 120. Social Media

Members to consider implementing a social media account.

**Resolved** – That Members’ bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

### 121. Mentoring

Members to consider what framework is needed where potential/new Youth Councillors are mentored by experienced Youth Councillors and the implications for safeguarding.

**Resolved** – That Members’ bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

### 122. Youth Councillors’ Parish Surgery Rota

YCllrs to liaise & check when they are available to attend future Youth Council Parish Surgeries. There is also a need to check who qualifies as a “responsible adult” in the context of the Youth Council for such events.

**Resolved** – That Members check diaries & DBS documentation so they can advise availability at next meeting.

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**123. Future Projects**

Members to have a brainstorming session for identifying appropriate future projects.

**Resolved** – That Members’ bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:29 pm.

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