

Minutes of a meeting of
Children and Young Adults Committee
Held on Tuesday 9th July 2024
At School Green Centre commencing at 19:30

Present: Cllrs Fernandes, Grimes, Matic, Montgomery (Chair) and Tatla

Attending: S Herring (Deputy Clerk)

24/CYA/30

Election of Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee

30.1 The following nominations had been received

Cllr Montgomery was nominated

30.2 Cllr Montgomery was elected as Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee for 2024/25

30.3 Cllr Montgomery accepted the position of Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee and duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office

Proposed: Cllr Grimes
Seconded: Cllr Matic
Approved: Unanimously

24/CYA/31

Election of Vice-Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee

31.1 The following nominations had been received

Cllr Fernandes was nominated

31.2 Cllr Fernandes was elected as Vice-Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee for 2024/25

31.3 Cllr Fernandes accepted the position of Vice Chair of the Children and Young Adults Committee and duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office

Proposed: Cllr Matic
Seconded: Cllr Grimes
Approved: Unanimously

24/CYA/32**Public Questions**

- 32.1 There were no public questions

24/CYA/33**Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

- 33.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Johnson and B Winton (Clerk)

It was **NOTED** that Councillors Fernandes, Johnson and Matic have children of school age

- 33.2 There were no declarations of members' interests

24/CYA/34**Minutes of the previous meeting**

- 34.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

Proposed: Cllr Matic
Seconded: Cllr Grimes
Approved: Unanimously

- 34.2 Matters arising from the minutes

- 24/CYA/14.1 Clerk to write again to Department for Education (DfE) Regional Director

This will be done.

- 24/CYA/14.2 Clerk to follow up Shinfield Parish Council (SPC) messaging on tables in the School Green Café

Signage is available and will be displayed on columns in the café area.

- 24/CYA/18.1 Clerk to ensure that future plans for Primary Schools in the parish are followed up at the next meeting of the Education Working Party involving Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) members and officers

This will be done.

- 24/CYA/23.2 Clerk to arrange the next meeting of Education Working Party

This had been delayed due to the local and national elections. The next proposed date clashed with a meeting of the Liberal Democrats at WBC and needed to be rescheduled.

This would be arranged at an appropriate time.

24/CYA/26.2 Cllr Montgomery to follow up with contact regarding potential joint financial support for activities at St Barnabas Church

Cllr Montgomery had met with the Curate of St Barnabas Church. The Deputy Clerk reported that they had subsequently submitted a grant request for £5,000 to set up a food pantry.

24/CYA/26.3 Clerk to keep youth event on the agenda for future meetings

This was on the agenda.

24/CYA/27.1 Clerk to circulate revised version of user-friendly agenda to members of the committee

Due to time pressures this had not been carried out this month.

24/CYA/35

Education

35.1 Oakbank School

Cllr Grimes reported that a meeting with parents and WBC had been facilitated by SPC on 8th July 2024 to discuss school transport. The process had started approximately one month earlier than the previous year, which was a slight improvement.

Currently there were six vehicles, of which there was sufficient to transport students to Emmbrook School and The Holt School. There was a shortage of 20 spaces on the service to The Forest School. Currently there were 20 spaces available on the 224 service (pick up point from 'Wood' car park on B3270). The main problems this year were in Spencers Wood, Three Mile Cross and Swallowfield.

The key points raised were:-

- Parents not happy they had to go through the process every year
- Parents were willing to pay for over-provision of buses, with larger capacity, to ensure sufficient capacity
- Consideration should be given to current bus services serving more than one school
- Recognition of difficulties with dropping off at The Forest School due to hold up at traffic lights
- 244 service was not popular

Currently there appeared to be no cohesive strategy to improve Oakbank School.

Parents were advised to write to the Regional Director at the Department for Education (DfE) and involve the newly elected Member of Parliament (MP) – Yuan.yang.mp@parliament.uk

ACTION –

- Cllr Grimes to write to the local MP and invite her to the next parents meeting to be held at the SGC
- Cllr Grimes to contact Reading Buses to ascertain what provision could be offered to help alleviate the situation

35.2 Education Working Party

The Education Working Party had not met recently. Oakbank School had requested to be included on the Education Working Party.

ACTION –

- Clerk to arrange the next meeting of Education Working Party
- Clerk to invite a representative of Oakbank School to the Education Working Party

24/CYA/36

Anti-Social Behaviour

36.1 The Deputy Clerk reported on the following:-

- The Clerk had moved on a rough sleeper outside School Green Centre
- A group of youths broke into the cricket club containers and were breaking bottles at Millworth Lane
- A resident in Shorthorn Close had raised concerns with BClr Glover regarding youths gathering in the park between 6pm and 8pm, now escalating to 11pm, damaging the area, smoking weed, shouting, throwing mud and grass. BClr Glover had reported this to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team (ASB) at WBC and had asked the resident to report all incidents to the ASB Team.

It was recognised that youths needed a space away from residential areas to avoid impacting on local residents.

ACTION - Members to investigate ideas of places on SPC land where a shelter for teenagers could be placed

24/CYA/37

Youth Club & Youth Services

37.1 Youth Club

The Youth Club at the SGC was well attended and working well.

Clr Montgomery had discussed the proposed 'sleep-out' with the Cub Scouts leader at Millworth Lane. He was not keen to hold overnight meetings outside of the ground around the Scout Hut due to ease of drying wet tents and security concerns.

37.2 Youth Event

The Clerk had spoken with the local Scout Master who was potentially interested in being involved with such an event in the summer 2025. There was nothing significant to report on this event at the current time.

Clr Grimes suggested that the Army Cadet Force (ACF) in Whitley and Arborfield be approached.

ACTION –

- Clerk to contact ACF to see if they would be interested in participating in an event in 2025
- Youth Council to be added to the agenda in September

37.3 SPC Website

Members felt that links to Youth Groups and activities should be prominently displayed on the website so this group of the community could easily find activities.

ACTION –

- Cllr Fernandes to review the website and advise of ways to sign post Youth Activities
- Increase signage around the Parish with QR codes to direct Youths to local groups

24/CYA/38

User Friendly Agenda and Paperwork

38.1 Due to time constraints this had not been done this month. Perspex display boards had been purchased and would be displayed on the posts in the café in due course.

Cllrs enquired about the display screen that was previously sited in the café area.

ACTION –

- Clerk to arrange for the display screen to be re-sited in the café area
- Clerk to arrange for the 'user-friendly' agendas to be displayed

24/CYA/39

Correspondence

39.1 Shinfield St Mary's C.E. (VA) School

Members NOTED that Shinfield St Mary's C.E. (VA) School were proposing to become an academy school.

ACTION –

- Cllr Montgomery would contact the 'governors' and report on the result of their proposal to become an academy school
- Cllr Montgomery to write to Shinfield St Mary's C.E. (VA) School to ask how their governance would continue if they became an academy school

24/CYA/40

Date of Next Meeting

40.1 The date of the next Children and Young Adults Committee meeting will be 10th September 2024

The meeting ended at 21:00

List of Actions

24/CYA/35.1	Cllr Grimes to write to the local MP and invite her to the next parents meeting to be held at the SGC	Cllr Grimes
24/CYA/35.1	Cllr Grimes to contact Reading Buses regarding school transport	Cllr Grimes
24/CYA/35.2	Clerk to arrange the next meeting of the Education Working Party	Clerk
24/CYA/35.2	Clerk to invite a representative of Oakbank School to the Education Working Party	Clerk
24/CYA/36.1	Members to investigate ideas of places on SPC land where a shelter for teenagers could be placed	Members of the committee
24/CYA/37.2	Clerk to contact ACF to see if they would be interested in participating in an event in 2025	Clerk
24/CYA/37.2	Youth Council to be added to the agenda in September	Clerk
24/CYA/37.3	Cllr Fernandes to review the website and advise of ways to sign post Youth Activities	Cllr Fernandes
24/CYA/37.3	Increase signage around the Parish with QR codes to direct Youths to local groups	Clerk
24/CYA/38.1	Clerk to arrange for the display screen to be re-sited in the café area	Clerk
24/CYA/38.1	Clerk to arrange for the 'user-friendly' agenda to be displayed	Clerk
24/CYA/39.1	Cllr Montgomery to contact the 'governors' and report on the result of their proposal to become an academy school	Cllr Montgomery
24/CYA/39.1	Cllr Montgomery to write to Shinfield St Mary's C.E. (VA) School to ask how their governance would continue if they became an academy school	Cllr Montgomery

Earley Youth Events – email to Cllr Montgomery from the Community Engagement Officer, Community and Partnerships, Wokingham Borough Council dated 28-08-2024

Hi Ian,

I hope you are well.

I came across this whilst searching for free activities for young people in and around Shinfield and have signposted to parents whose children used to attend youth group at St Barnabas Church. I wondered if this might be something SPC might be interested in delivering in partnership with ETC, especially for any events at Chalfont Pavillion which is accessible to families living in Shinfield North?

Just a thought!

Earley Youth Events

THE BERKSHIRE YOUTH NETWORK

Community Sports and Games

1.30-2.30pm Zorb Football, Graffiti & Consultation Chalfont Field, Earley	Thursday 29th August FREE!!	3.30-5.00pm Zorb Football, Graffiti & Consultation Event Field, Earley
		

Have your say to about youth provision in the Earley Community

gareth.mepham@berkshireryouth.co.uk

Berkshire Youth working in Partnership with  EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL