

Kettering Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS ,
MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 21ST FEBRUARY 2024

Attendees :

The Mayor, Cllr Emily Fedorowycz (Chair)
Councillors Dez Dell, Alex Evelyn, Maggie Don, Scott Edwards, Mark Rowley,
James Towns and Keli Watts

Presenters

Kerry York and Craig, Youth Violence Intervention Unit
Jane Rowley, Youth Works
Lindsey Atkins, BHVA
Matthew Peleszok and Tom Dryburgh, Northamptonshire Sport
Adam Rowlands + Garry Smallbones, Kettering Sea Cadets
Steve Rolt, Northamptonshire Scouts
Tom Houston, St Andrews Arts Centre

Attendees

Chris Bielby, Kettering Swimming Club
Alice Brown, Groundwork Trust
Nikki Farrah Hayton, Homestart, Kettering
Jacqueline farrow, Kettering Swimming Club
Laura Kwah, Kettering Youth Theatre Group
Cllr Anne Lee NNC
Claire Pickering, Methodist Church
Ruth Rignall, Wicksteed Park
Hazel Webb, Kettering Air Cadets and NNC

Martin Hammond, Town Clerk and Zuzanna Brzostowska, Administrative Officer,
KTC

Item No	Item Description
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Robin Carter, Carolyn Carter, Anup Pandey, Craig Skinner, Sarah Tibbs and Bev Wright and also from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- NNC Cllr Paul Marks- Laura Clark, Big Bubble Theatre Company
2	<p>Welcome from the Mayor</p> <p>The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to understand what was already being provided for young people (largely in the 8-16 year bracket) and to consider how best to improve</p>

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	<p>engagement, awareness and participation, and what gaps might exist in provision.</p> <p>The Mayor gave a summary of what the Town Council was already providing itself and also later in the meeting, a summary of the views expressed at a young persons' forum she had convened at Tresham College earlier this month. (The notes of this forum are held on the Council's website as part of the papers for this meeting)</p>														
3	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Presentations (all of which are on the Council's website, as papers for this meeting) were made by:-</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>Youth Violence Intervention Unit</td><td>Kerry York and Craig</td></tr><tr><td>Youth Works</td><td>Jane Rowley</td></tr><tr><td>Beccy Hurrell Voice and Arts</td><td>Lindsey Atkins</td></tr><tr><td>Northamptonshire Sport</td><td>Matthew Peleszok + Tom Dryburgh</td></tr><tr><td>Sea Cadets</td><td>Adam Rowlands + Garry Smallbones</td></tr><tr><td>Northamptonshire Scouts</td><td>Steve Rolt</td></tr><tr><td>St Andrews Art Centre</td><td>Tom Houston</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Questions were put to the speakers after each presentation.</p> <p>The Mayor summarised the feedback from 13 young people who had met at Tresham College earlier in February. Three priorities had emerged from that discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Friday Film Night at the Kettering Arts Centre2. Youth Club at the Woodcroft Scout Centre3. Create a basketball club at Tresham <p>and all three were now being explored.</p>	Youth Violence Intervention Unit	Kerry York and Craig	Youth Works	Jane Rowley	Beccy Hurrell Voice and Arts	Lindsey Atkins	Northamptonshire Sport	Matthew Peleszok + Tom Dryburgh	Sea Cadets	Adam Rowlands + Garry Smallbones	Northamptonshire Scouts	Steve Rolt	St Andrews Art Centre	Tom Houston
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4	<p>Discussion</p> <p>After the presentations, themed discussion groups considered what they had heard and what might be done differently in future.</p> <p>It was recognised that volunteering and participation in more formal activity sessions (i.e. scouting, cadets etc) built employability, transferable social skills, confidence and resilience amongst young people.</p> <p>A level of synergy between providers could be achieved by groups working closer together and cross referring; cross advertising what was available.</p> <p>The main thematic considerations arising from the discussion groups were:-</p>														

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Sport

Known areas of need :-

- A desire for better swimming facilities particularly for groups with particular needs and the ability to make more intensive use of existing swimming pool space
- A desire for better MUGA or all weather facilities including for basketball – one example being potential lighting improvements to the Mill Rd MUGA.

Fun things to do; Places to go/ youth clubs

A variety of ideas were mooted

- Some form of “youth club” type facility, which could combine theatre, disco, ITC and science activities, drop in and general play
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Reference was made to existing activities which could be more widely accessed

- Green Rangers at Greenpatch
- Methodist Youth Connection

There was scope with existing venues – St Andrews Arts Centre – when it was back in action – to accommodate more bookings

Transport

The (un)availability of public or community transport to access venues, or activities was widely known, and cycling to venue was still not felt to be a safe means of getting around on main roads. It was recognised that, longer term, a better cycling network would be helpful. In the meantime, exploring how community transport services could be expanded would be beneficial.

Communication and engagement

The importance of engaging young people so that their voice was helping design services and activities. BHVA had accumulated a great deal of knowledge and awareness from their outreach into what young people said they wanted, which could be more widely shared. Getting information in front of family members was also an effective but under-used way of reaching young people

Awareness of what was available and how to access it was low. Using existing structures – schools, youth clubs, websites, venues, to cross advertise services and activities should be explored by everyone. Having information available to new residents – e.g. through estate agents and lettings agents - would also help build awareness amongst families not just young people.

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	Communicating via social media was not necessarily a default medium for young people and old fashioned printed leaflets were often the best means of advertising
	Meeting closed at 9 pm

Signed
Date

(chair)