

**YOUTH INITIATIVES WORKING GROUP held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 14 SEPTEMBER 2000 at 5.00PM**

Present: Reverend Duncan Green – Chairman
District Councillors D J Morson and Mrs S V Schneider. Maggie Cox, Clive Cooper, Stuart Izaard and Sarah McLagan – Uttlesford District Council.
Roz Stafford and Brenda Towle – Essex County Council Youth Service.
P C D Cahill – Schools Liaison Officer – Essex Police
- Secretary Uttlesford Youth Forum.
- Saffron Walden Police

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Solder and Gaynor Bradley.

MINUTES

The notes of the meeting held on 13 July 2000 were agreed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute Y113 (iii) Essex Youth Service International Trip

The invoice for this trip had not yet been received and Ros Stafford agreed to chase this. She reported that the trip had been very successful and the young people had gained much from experiencing a different culture.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Group's draft action plan had agreed at the last meeting of the Community Safety Action Team. It was accepted that this was a fluid document, which was likely to change throughout the year.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Outstanding Matters

(i) Isle of Wight Summer Camp

The Chairman reported that fifty young people had attended the camp. This number had comprised a good social mix and young people from villages as well as the towns. Given the nature of the group the week had been very successful. This Group had funded the young people that had been nominated by Social Services. The Princes Trust volunteers had taken an active role in leading the activities and this had been a very useful experience for these young people. Planning for next year's camp was now underway. Social Services had expressed a wish to be involved again as had the Princes Trust volunteers.

(ii) Essex Experience

Councillor Mrs Schneider reported on this event which had been held on 9 September at Chelmsford. The Essex Experience was run by the Essex Youth Council as part of its commitment to provide young people with opportunities to undertake activities, challenges and training in life skills. It was particularly for young people who did not have access to scouting or experienced social exclusion. The event had been very successful and 18 young people had attended from Uttlesford District. A further benefit was the opportunity for young people to train as helpers at the event and two Uttlesford Council employees had attended in this capacity.

(iii) Visits to Parish Councils

The public meeting was to be held at High Easter on 6 October. Following a visit from Stuart Izaard and Darren Connew earlier in the year there was now interest in the village in the setting up of a Youth Club.

A meeting was to be arranged with the Great Chesterford Parish Council.

PC Cahill reported on incidents concerning young people in the village of Elsenham. A Youth Club was held in the village once a week but apart from that there was very little for young people to do. It was agreed that the local District Councillor should be advised of the problems in that area. The group agreed to help wherever possible and thought that this village might be an appropriate place to pilot the Football in the Community project.

Action: Sarah McLagan to contact local member.

(iv) Youth Directory

The latest version of the Youth Directory had now been circulated to all Councillors, all organizations listed in the booklet and to all Year 6 pupils in the District within the Crucial Crew pack.

(v) Youth Forum Feedback

Six members of the Youth forum had attended the British Youth Council Convention that had been held in York earlier this month. The event had run a number of workshops that were intended to assist in the setting up of a

Youth Forum. The workshops had been of varied quality but the conference had been very useful in terms of networking with other areas. The members of the Forum had realised how well they were progressing in relation to other areas. The Forum was holding regular meetings and would also be attending school assemblies to raise the awareness of the Forum and getting more people involved.

(vi) Actions to be Taken

Officers were working through the action plan and organising the various events.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING – SEE SAT OBJECTIVES

Under outstanding matters it was reported that the partnership arrangement documents from the Youth Offending Team had now been received.

Action: A Working Group comprising of Ros Stafford, Stuart Izzard, Clive Cooper and Duncan Green would now meet to discuss the implementations of the document and the actions to be taken.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Morson reported that unfortunately he was unable to continue running the Henham Youth Club. He had run this club for the past five years but had found it very difficult to obtain any help. He mentioned that the Youth Club held quite a large amount of equipment that might be useful to other clubs. The Group was advised that there were a lot of young people in Henham and Elsenham area and it would be a pity if this facility were to close.

Action: In the first instance, the Chairman to approach the Parish Council to see if anything could be done within the community with the help of the Youth Initiatives Group.

? reported on an Uttlesford Community Safety Day which was being held for police constables to raise their awareness of community safety activities taking place in the District. The Youth Initiatives Working Group was being asked to give a thirty minute presentation. On 30 October and 6 November 2000.

Action: Stuart Izzard and Duncan Green to put together a presentation.

The Chairman reported that he would be taking a group of young people to North Wales during the half-term holiday and was likely to ask this group for assistance with transport costs.

The meeting ended at 6.20pm

