

**BOLSOVER DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL**

**THE YOUNG VOICE**

**TEAMBUILDING DAY AND AGM**

Minutes from the meeting at Pleasley Vale Outdoor Activity Centre held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017, at 10:00am.

**PRESENT:**

**Chair:** Bolsover School

<b>Tibshelf Community School:</b>	6 Youth Cllrs
<b>Bolsover School:</b>	6 Youth Cllrs
<b>Shirebrook Academy:</b>	2 Youth Cllrs
<b>Heritage High School:</b>	4 Youth Cllrs
<b>Frederick Gent School:</b>	4 Youth Cllrs
<b>Stubbin Wood School:</b>	5 Youth Cllrs

**Bolsover District Council:** R. Gadsby (Customer Service and Improvement), Colin Matchett (Pleasley Vale Centre Manager).

**Also in attendance:** Sandra Peake (Heritage), Garry Wallis (Tibshelf), Francis Newton (Heritage) Donna Franks & Tracie Jenkinson (Frederick Gent) Allison Lyons & Julie Buckingham (Stubbin Wood) Andrew Blair (Bolsover)

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

The Youth Council were advised of the housekeeping requirements of Pleasley Vale.

Richard Gadsby welcomed everyone, and advised the group the purpose of the Youth Council and what it involves. New Youth Councillors were given badges and a welcome booklet.

There were no apologies.

**2. Aims and Objectives**

The Youth Council were advised of the aims and objectives of the meeting, including working as a team to solve problems to help everyone get to know each other.

### 3. Teambuilding and Problem Solving Activities

Colin Matchett introduced himself and advised the Youth Council that the range of outdoor activities for the morning were designed to help them work more effectively as a team, help them get to know each other and support communication.

Youth Councillors went outside were split into two teams. Each team undertook a range of activities including a battle zone exercise, “rope knot”, “arrange the cones” and “keep the ball rolling”.

#### AGM – First Meeting of the School Year 2017/18

### 4. Minutes of last meeting

The Youth Council were reminded of the changes agreed at the last meeting including the order of Chairs for the meetings and the role of Lead Youth Councillors.

**AGREED** - that the minutes of the Young Voice meeting held on 27/6/17 be approved as a correct and accurate record subject to the following amendments:  
Page 1, Sandra Peake (Shirebrook), Tracie Jenkinson was absent from the meeting.  
Page 3, Item 7 misspelling of the word “Council”.

### 5. Last Year’s Achievements

Richard reminded the Youth Council of all the good work they did last year. The highlight of the year was the fundraising undertaken for Teenage Cancer Trust. Youth Council were advised that the total amount raised was £4326. This was a great team effort and the support was greatly appreciated by the charity.

Other activities included the “Eats and Treats” event for elderly members of the community, consultation over the Bolsover Draft Local Plan, the visit to Derbyshire County Council, a range of bite sized projects, and the delivery of the Positive Activity Reward Scheme.

An increased amount of social media usage and a new website will also help get the message out and promote the young voice.

The results from the last years’ feedback forms were presented to the group, with the results being positive. A key focus for the new year is to support each Youth Councillor to feel confident to speak out in meetings.

Richard gave his personal thanks to the Youth Council, schools and support staff who made the year such a success.

**AGREED** - that Youth Council note the achievements of the last year.

## 6. Approval of Newsletter

The latest draft of the Young Voice Newsletter was passed to each group for comment.

**AGREED** - That the Young Voice Newsletter be approved subject to some minor changes.

**ACTION** – Richard to send latest draft to schools for final approval.

## 7. Manifesto – Initial Scoping

Youth Council were advised that the Manifesto was approved at the last meeting after lengthy discussion at previous meetings.

Richard discussed the charity “Young Minds”, and highlighted some key statistics around mental health and young people. Youth Council were advised of the “helloyellow” campaign which invites schools and students to wear an item of yellow clothing for Mental Health Day on 10 October 2017.

Each group was asked to spend five to ten minutes to discuss how they can deliver the manifesto. A range of suggestions were put forward including:

### Mental / Physical Health

- Non-uniform day in aid of Young Minds
- A questionnaire around mental and physical health
- Sessions on exam stress – also becoming more an issue for younger students.
- Design a card students can keep with them in their pocket to give to teacher if they feel unhappy or down.
- There needs to be more action around mental health – some cases are misdiagnosed.
- Eating disorders should also be looked at – there is a danger that focusing too much on obesity and body shape/image could trigger eating disorders.
- Shirebrook Academy have elected a range of students to become Mental Health Champions who raise awareness around the issue. The school have raised funds for Suicide Awareness Day and their Youth Cllrs would like to support the “helloyellow” campaign.
- Schools should look into using personal development days for students to support mental health and identify any issues.
- Gym for second school years to promote physical health.

### First Aid

- Schools could come together to buy first aid courses in bulk to reduce costs.
- Invite St John Ambulance to deliver first aid courses in school. – Promote “ABC”

**AGREED** - that:-

- a) All persons present note the suggestions from Youth Councillors.
- b) Young Minds be chosen as the charity for Young Voice to support for the year 2017/18.

**ACTION** – Richard to send details of Young Minds and their helloyellow campaign to schools.

**8. Any other business**

There was no other business to be discussed.

**9. Feedback forms**

Newly designed feedback forms were distributed to Youth Councillors and were collected in at the end of the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 2:00pm.

**Details of next meeting:** Monday 13 November 2017- 10am-12pm at The Arc, Clowne. Heritage High in the Chair.

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