

STEYNING AREA YOUTH SERVICE

r/o 3 Hyde Square ~ Upper Beeding ~ West Sussex ~ BN44 3JE

Tel: 01903 810316

email: upper.beeding @btconnect.com

Secretary: Steve Coberman

Charity no. 1152572

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF STEYNING AREA YOUTH SERVICE

Date: Thursday 18th June 2015 **Time:** 7.00pm **Place:** Steyning Centre

Present:	Trustees: P Bowell (SPC), D Coldwell (UBPC), R Potter (BPC) Parish officers: S Coberman (UBPC), R Luckin (SPC), P Robson (BPC), H Roxby (APC) Horsham Matters: E Burt, E Edwards Councillors: 8 members of parish councils Other: P Butchers (Upper Beeding Baptist Church)
Apologies	There were no apologies received.
Chairman's Report	Mr Coldwell noted that this was the first formal AGM of SAYS, since the service had not been running for a sufficient length of time to warrant holding one in 2014. He briefly outlined the background and history of the service, covering the removal of WSCC youth services, the unusual financial arrangements made to avoid the need to pay VAT on the employment costs, and issues of governance and ownership. He noted that parish councils will need to consider continuation of the service following expiry of the current contract with Horsham Matters in spring 2016. Mr Coldwell noted that Horsham District Council are setting up a liaison conference for all parishes running youth services. He offered thanks to his fellow trustees, and the parish officers, for their assistance over the past two years.
Acting Treasurer's Report	Mr Coberman provided the meeting with a set of accounts for the financial year 2014/15, which had already been approved by the trustees. He explained in some detail the contents of the accounts, including the sources of income, the nature of the expenditure, and the fact that the accounts referred only to the charity element of SAYS and not the employment costs (which are financed direct by the parishes). He noted that there was a surplus on the year of £6,781, which added to the surplus brought forward from 2013/14 resulted in a total surplus on 31 st March 2015 of £48,806. This includes a total of £20,546 contributed by WSCC and HDC, which is ring-fenced for youth provision, the remainder of the surplus belonging to the four parishes.

<i>Youth Worker's Report</i>	Ms Edwards presented a report on the achievements of the service, which is appended to these minutes. Mr Coldwell asked Ms Edwards if she believes her work is making better citizens; she replied that it is hard to assess this quantitatively, but she feels progress is being made. A councillor asked how Ms Edwards has enough time to do all the work, and she replied that she is significantly helped by Maria Colenso and Paul Conroy. Mr Coldwell noted that anyone wishing to assist in the youth work could volunteer, and also join the Management Committee. Mr Potter asked what single thing would Ms Edwards most desire over the next 12 months; she replied that she would like more opportunity to do outreach work with otherwise detached youth outside the formal groups.
<i>Adoption of Accounts</i>	Mr Coldwell asked if anybody had any objection to the accounts adopted by the trustees. No objection was raised, and the meeting formally adopted the accounts.
<i>Appointment of Trustees</i>	<p>In line with the trustees amended policy on nomination of trustees (as ratified at their meeting of 9th June), formal nominations were invited from the parish councils, and the following were nominated to serve as trustees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S Birnstingl (UBPC); - P Bowell (SPC); - C Hammond (APC); - R Potter (BPC). <p>These trustees were invited to nominate up to three other trustees, and they invited Mr Peter Butchers to serve. He accepted the invitation, and was therefore nominated as a trustee in accordance with the policy. It was noted that Sue Rogers had been invited to serve as a trustee, but she was unable to accept at this time.</p>
<i>Appointment of Officers</i>	Parish officers were invited to volunteer for officer roles in SAYS. Only Mr Coberman volunteered, and he was therefore invited to serve as both Secretary and Treasurer. He noted that he would relinquish his role as secretary of the Management Committee, who would therefore be required to nominate their own secretary.
<i>Rebate to Parish Councils</i>	Following the agreement of the trustees, Mr Coldwell reported that with the removal of any imminent threat to the continued use of the Cuthman Centre, it was now prudent to reduce the level of reserves held by SAYS. Accordingly, £20,000 will be distributed to the four parish councils in line with their respective levels of contribution.
<i>Horsham Matters Report</i>	Mrs Burt presented a slide show detailing the work of Horsham Matters as an organisation. Following a question from Mr Bowell, she explained that there is an ongoing problem with referring people to specialist bodies for assistance on, for example, mental health matters, and Ms Edwards outlined a recent example of this with a low-esteem self-harming individual. Mr Birnstingl noted with approval Mrs Burt's commitment to improve communication and public awareness of the work done, and the plan to extend outreach work. Mr Coldwell noted that there will be a liaison meeting next month with the School headmaster and governors.

<i>Any Other Business</i>	Mr Potter thanked Mr Coldwell for his services in helping set up SAYS, and acting as chairman of trustees. The meeting endorsed these thanks.
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The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Achievements and Activities of Year 2 of SAYS

Workers

Emma Edwards- community youth worker 22.5 Hours

Paul Conroy – Sessional worker 5 ½ Hours per week

Marla Colenso – Sessional youth worker 15 hours

Current number of Volunteers – 7 plus 3 young volunteers

Regular projects

Upper Beeding youth café – Café run by and for young people at the Hub café in Upper Beeding running Monday nights 7pm -9pm for young people in school years 9-13 run by a dedicated staff team of fully trained young people, providing a safe space for young people to socialise with others – open to all.

Tuesday junior club – Youth Club at the Cuthman Centre for young people in school years 7 and 8, Tuesday nights 5.00pm – 6.45pm. Includes pool, table tennis, tuck shop, Ipads, advice, games, craft and informal education sessions etc. Average 10/15 young people attending.

Tuesday senior club - Youth Club at the Cuthman Centre for young people in school years 9 and 13, Tuesday nights 7pm – 9pm. Facilities as above. Average 10/15 young people attending

Thursday Youth club – Youth club open to all young people school years 7 – 13 from 7pm-9pm. Full use of all youth club facilities and a different activity offered each week. Activities this year have included: cooking, bag making and design, film making, dodge ball, smoothies, hula hooping, sewing, sports and many more. Average 20/25 young people attending.

Mentoring - Working with the behavioral support team at SGS Emma has been supporting students on a one to one or small group basis giving emotional support, anger management, assertiveness training etc. Emma is currently seeing 5 students and has seen a total of 11 throughout the year.

Romance Academy - A 12 week course to teach young people about healthy relationships, covering topics such as sex, parenting, consent, effective communication etc. Course included an over-night residential for young people and an opportunity to take home a virtual baby for the weekend to learn about parenting. New course starting in the next academic year.

Neighborhood plan/Youth Voice – A small group of young people meeting weekly to work on discovering the views of young people in the local area feeding into the neighborhood plan, and providing information for the parish council to meet the needs of local young people.

Motley crew LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning) - A monthly group for young people aged 14 – 25 from the LGBT community. A safe and informal gathering to meet other local LGBT young people, ask questions, gain support, seek advice and learn.

Special events

DJ workshops - 15 young people took part in a DJ workshop during a special youth club session, learning techniques such as mixing, blending, scratching and picking suitable tracks for their audience. Each young person received a certificate of achievement for taking part.

Singing to residents at Dingemans - a group of 5 girls went to Dingemans sheltered housing to spread a little Christmas cheer, singing songs and performing hula hooping dance routines for residents as well as leading them in some carols.

Christmas Disco – A Christmas disco was held with young people DJ'ing at the Cuthman Centre including lights, tuck shop, loud music and smoke machine.

Free Your Mind - A convention for young people in West Sussex held in October raising awareness and discussing issues surrounding young people and mental health.

Arts Award – This year Emma became an arts award assessor for Bronze and Silver and is currently supporting two boys to achieve their bronze award.

Trips

Half term residential – A group of 8 young people from the junior youth club at Cuthmans joined young people from around the Horsham district for a night of camping, games and survival skills during the October half term.

Dunsfold Driving taster - Group of 8 young people attended a trip to the Dunsfold racetrack in Cranleigh to have their first go at driving a car in November.

5 a side football tournament - A team of boys from the senior youth club at Cuthmans took part in a 5 a side football tournament against other youth team in Seaford during March.

The Triangle – A group of young people visited The Triangle swimming pool in March.

Bowling and Laser Quest - A group of 17 young people attended a trip bowling and laser quest in Horsham in April.

Thorpe Park – A trip to Thorpe Park took place during the Steyning Grammar inset day in May for members of the junior youth club.

Go karting – A group of 8 boys from the Cushman Junior youth club went Go-Karting at the Brooklands track, Worthing in June.

PGL Summer Camp – A weekend camping and outward bounds activities for 30 young people across the Horsham district is planned from the 21st – 23rd of August with a number of young people from the Steyning area attending.

Training

Understanding Eating Disorders - Emma attended training in London around Eating disorders in September offered by B-eat a leading eating disorder charity in the UK.

Mindfulness - In February Emma attended a workshop on mindfulness provided by Safety Net exploring techniques to aid young people gain clarity and peacefulness.

Managing Challenging Behavior - Maria attended training in London provided by UK youth around managing challenging behavior, including engaging groups, anger management and effective communication in February.

Holistix - Emma attended training with West Sussex County Council in order to use the new Holistix system – this is a multi agency tool that brings together a variety of professionals to form an early help plan for families.

Youth Work Skills – During May and June Maria attended a course over two Saturdays in Burgess Hill provided by Sussex Clubs for Young People, covering risk assessments, policies, good practice standards and youth work skills.

First Aid – In June Maria will be updating her First Aid certificate validated for 3 years.

The Youth Work Summit - In June Emma will be attending the Youth Work Summit, in Tunbridge Wells, a national conference for youth workers bringing together key note speakers exploring innovative ideas on youth development and new ways of engaging young people.

Partnership Working

The Steyning Downland Scheme – Emma continues to be a member of the Steyning Dowland Scheme Steering Group heading up involvement and engagement with young people. This year's events have included being involved with The Big Picnic, organising a Stars and Songs evening at The Star Inn during March combining stargazing and 5 talented young performers, and speaking at The SDS information evening held in February. Upcoming events include the now annual SDS Acoustic gig on the Downs, which will take place on Saturday the 4th of July. Current objectives include setting up a separate youth vision group for the scheme to feed into the running of the project.

The Community Partnership - This year Emma has been invited to be part of the Steyning Community Partnership providing opportunities for young people to take part and engage within the local community.

West Sussex Anti bullying Policy - Emma has been working with a multi-agency action group to write the West Sussex anti bullying strategy for West Sussex. The group are currently in the process of writing the operational plan which will be rolled out to various schools and youth groups across West Sussex.

Schools Work

Oasis Pregnancy Crisis Care – This year youth workers have been assisting the schools education team from The Oasis Pregnancy Crisis Centre in Horsham, teaching lessons to young people about the options available to them should they find themselves with an unwanted or unplanned pregnancy and the development of the fetus through the pregnancy timeline.

Legal Highs and Alcohol Lessons - During February and March, Maria, Emma and team, taught lessons to year 11 students at SGS educating young people about alcohol awareness and harm minimisation and the dangers surrounding legal highs.

The Mocktail Apprentice Project - MAP is a full off curriculum day for school years 8&9. MAP teaches alcohol safety and the dangers of drink driving as well as combining development in entrepreneurial skills as young people produce and set up a micro business selling their own Mocktail. In March 280 SGS students from year 8 took part in the day for the first time with the winning team of 9 students attending the Grand Finale at South Lodge with other schools across Sussex.

New Equipment - Over the summer the Cushman Centre was refurbished for this year. Thanks to a grant of £870 from Saxon Weald we were able to purchase 3 Ipad minis this year. We have also purchased a new pool table for the youth club and some new notice boards for outside to replace the current old wooden ones which are broken and rotting.

Get in touch

Keep up to date with events, sessions, and youth activities or for opportunities to volunteer working with young people and joining the team in the following ways,

Contact Emma Edwards: emma.edwards@horsham-matters.org.uk 07702492828

Alternatively like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cywsouth follow us on Twitter @CommunityYW, Like our Instagram @CYW_South or search for youth work, Steyning on the Your Space website <http://www.yourspacewestsussex.co.uk>