

**WESTERHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Youth and Community Committee**  
Minutes of the Meeting held virtually on  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr E Boyle (EB) – Chairman  
Mrs D Coen (DC)  
Dr J Lord (JL)  
Mr B Holt (BH)

Town Clerk: Mrs A Howells (AH)  
Mr C Elsdon-Wortley (co-opted Cllr elect)

Item		Action
1.	<p>This meeting was held virtually using Zoom due to Covid 19. No members of the public had requested to join the meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> None</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest not previously declared</u></b> None</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>Minutes of the Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020</u></b> Had been approved at the Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October.</p>	
4.	<p><b><u>Information items arising from the minutes of the previous meeting not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda</u></b> None</p>	
5.	<p><b><u>WTC Virtual meeting with Retailers</u></b> Cllr Boyle reported that the turnout for the meeting was disappointing but there had been good discussions with some good ideas raised. The circulated leaflet had been hand delivered to all the retailers and initial results suggest they would like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A retailers Facebook page for information items.</li> <li>• They did not want to open every Sunday.</li> <li>• There was interest in opening the first Sunday (6<sup>th</sup> December).</li> <li>• They did not want to open late night Thursdays.</li> <li>• There was interest in the virtual workshops etc but worry about lack of IT skills.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Since the leaflet had been circulated there had been a second lockdown so opinions about opening might have changed. Following discussion it was agreed that WTC would run a 'Best Dressed Window' Competition and possibly a children's trail, all designed to help increase footfall in the Town. Cllrs Coen and Holt offered to help staff with the trail.</p>	DC/BH
6.	<p><b><u>Youth Projects</u></b> <b><u>Youth Provision</u></b></p>	
6(1)	<p>Youth Provision – Cllr Boyle reported that he Cllr Coen and the Clerk had attended a virtual meeting in October with the West Kent Youth Services Community Investment Manager who put the Clerk in touch with the WK Youth Services Manager. WKYS had been undertaking some detached work in Westerham on a Friday and had sent a report for the meeting. They were in discussion with Churchill School about starting a nurture group. The Clerk met the Youth Services Manager at Westerham Hall to discuss non-contact boxing sessions which have been working very well in other parts of the District. They would like to start in January 2021 for a ten-week pilot, the cost of the sessions would be paid for by WK and WTC would need to fund the Hall rent. Following discussion it was agreed to pay the Hall rent for the pilot sessions and to consider the cost of continuing the sessions if successful at the February meeting. The boxing poster to be advertised in the TN16.</p> <p>Cllr Coen to contact Edenbridge Youth Workers to find out how they had been managing Youth Work in Edenbridge during lockdown.</p>	DC
6(2)	<p><b><u>Half term Youth activities</u></b></p> <p>At the last meeting it was agreed to fund three sessions of detached work. Playplace planned for three sessions on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Times of each session were 4.30pm till 6pm. The plan was for: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - General detached sessions to engage with young people in the area.</li> <li>➤ Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - Multi-sports sessions.</li> <li>➤ Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - Outdoors gaming session.</li> </ul> <p>The Tuesday session was cancelled due to the bad weather and the report from the other two sessions was circulated. Following discussion the Committee agreed not to proceed with any more detached work at present.</p>	
6(3)	<p><b><u>Anti-Social behaviour</u></b></p> <p>Due to the bad weather there had been only rubbish at Russell House. However broken glass and nitrous oxide capsules were on the increase at KGF.</p>	
6(4)	<p><b><u>Youth Mentoring</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Coen had circulated a proposal for Youth Mentoring where the Committee would offer their time and expertise to young people. Following discussion it was agreed to have a brain storming meeting in the Chamber as soon as this current lockdown lifted with a view to getting a proposal together to take to the schools in the New Year. Dates to be circulated (AH) for councillor availability – likely to be an evening.</p>	AH

7. 7(1)	<b><u>Community Issues</u></b> <b><u>Community Warden</u></b> A report from the KCC Community Warden had been circulated. The Warden to be thanked for his continuing efforts.	AH
7(2)	<b><u>Police: update</u></b> A number of emails and reports had been circulated to the Committee including details of Police Nights of Action. A new PCSO had been appointed for Westerham as PCSO Best had been promoted. Thanks and congratulations to be sent to her.	
7(3)	<b><u>IPAG (Independent Police Advisory Group) Representative</u></b> The Clerk had contacted the IPAG and nominated Cllr Holt as the new representative. Cllr Holt should start to receive emails directly.	
7(4)	<b><u>Christmas Lights</u></b> Cllr Boyle had ordered three Christmas trees, two for Westerham and one for Crockham Hill. The contractor will pick all three up and erect them. Following discussion it was agreed that the tree lights would be turned-on on 26 <sup>th</sup> November. There was a joint project with St Mary's Heritage Trust, Town Partnership, Westerham Society and WTC to put as many Christmas Trees as possible in the local and empty shops as the Christmas Tree Festival could not take place and to brighten up the Town.	
7(5)	<b><u>Flooding</u></b> Cllr Thompson had completed the training and the Clerk would add him to the Emergency Plan. Cllr Holt would be added when he completed his training.	
8.	<b><u>Financial Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020</u></b> A statement up to 31 <sup>st</sup> October had been circulated. There were no queries.	
9.	<b><u>Draft Budget 2021/22</u></b> The draft budget 2021/22 had been circulated. Following discussion it was agreed to recommend to F&GP the budget of £31,850.	
10.	<b><u>Committee Three-year Strategy</u></b> The three-year strategy had been circulated and the areas allocated to Y&C were: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Closer links with businesses</li> <li>➤ Electric charging points</li> <li>➤ Plastic Free Westerham</li> <li>➤ Career mentoring</li> </ul> Following discussion it was agreed that a budget was not necessary for any of the projects.	
11. 11(1)	<b><u>Westerham Library</u></b> <b><u>Current Closure due to Covid</u></b> The Clerk had received a number of queries from residents regarding Westerham Library closure and had emailed Kent Libraries. A response had been received stating the due to the pandemic resulting in extras costs this year KCC had made the difficult decision that those libraries, children's centres and community	

11(2)	<p>learning buildings not yet reopened will remain closed this financial year, to avoid the considerable costs in making them Covid secure. KCC had focused on their busiest and largest libraries. Following discussion it was agreed to contact KCC Cllr Chard with a request that Westerham Library be opened to benefit residents with no internet access who relied on the computers and for those lonely residents who needed something to read!</p> <p><b><u>Asset of Community Value</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk had received confirmation that SDC had considered the information submitted and made the decision that the nomination had been successful. SDC concluded that the current use of the amenity furthered the social wellbeing, cultural and recreational interest of the community. SDC also concluded that it was reasonable to expect that the asset could remain in community use in the next five years.</p>	
12. 12(1) 12(2)	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>SDC Community Safety News – October 2020 was noted.</p> <p>Porchlight Annual Review was noted.</p>	
12.	<p><b><u>Reports from Councillors</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Coen reported that the Community Meals was restarting and the volunteer drivers were being resurrected to deliver the Crockham Hill meals. Cllr Holt had attended the Westerham Hall Trustees meeting and circulated a report.</p>	
13.	<p><b><u>TN16 and website</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
14.	<p><b><u>Matters for District and County Councillors</u></b></p> <p>Westerham Library</p>	
15.	<p><b><u>Further Matters for Consideration at the next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Mentoring Project</p>	
16.	<p><b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Monday - 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021</p>	

The meeting was concluded at 8.30 pm

Minutes confirmed as a correct record:

Chairman