

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, WIGSTON ON WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER  
2014, COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor R E R Morris – Chairman

K Loydall, M Chamberlain, J Kaufman, L Kaufman, S Morris, J Gore

Also in Attendance: M Smith (Young Persons Co-ordinator, OWBC),  
S Castleton (Youth and Community Manager, Community Action Partnership),  
H Kingsley-Elton (O&W Youth Council), S Lamrani (O&W Youth Council)

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Resp.
<b>51.</b>	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Councillors: R Kanabar, L Bentley</p>	
<b>52.</b>	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forum held on 4 June 2014 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.</p>	
<b>53.</b>	<p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Representatives from the Police were unavailable to attend this meeting.</p> <p>M Smith provided Members with an update on Youth Related Policing Matters delivered by Police at a recent Joint Action Group Meeting.</p> <p>This update covered three areas within the Borough that are currently on the Police's radar. These areas are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hayes Park, Wigston:</b> The Police are receiving a number of complaints from residents whose houses back on to the park regarding young people and anti-social behaviour. The Police have found that the majority of the calls they have received are more akin to 'perceived anti-social behaviour' as much of what is being reported to them, i.e. drug taking on the park, has been found to be unsubstantiated when followed up by officers. In light of these findings the Police are reluctant to move young people on from the park as they are, for the most part, using the green space as intended.</li> </ul> <p>K Loydall updated the Forum that a plan was being looked at to install more equipment, such as goalposts or</p>	

	<p>a basketball hoop, at Hayes Park in order to 'relocate' the young people on the park away from the houses that back on to it. This also serves to prevent the young people using the existing swing set as a goal by providing dedicated equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bell Street, Wigston:</b> Police have received several complaints from shopkeepers and members of the public regarding young people skateboarding in Bell Street. This issue is highlighted due to the ongoing redevelopment work taking place at the location. The young people involved are quoted as saying that they "don't like to use the South Wigston skate park due to the distance to travel and the trouble that they experience there". Steps have been put into place to encourage the Police to A) Signpost these young people to the skate facilities on Willow Park and B) Ascertain if they are already aware of Willow Park's facilities and, if they are, why they are choosing to not use them.</li> </ul> <p>This area of concern ties in to an Early Help funded project that will be covered in agenda item 6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tesco, South Wigston:</b> Tesco has become a hotspot for youth related anti-social behaviour due to large numbers of young people congregating in and around their car park in the evenings. To discourage this Tesco have elected to remove the benches adjacent to their car park in the hopes that this will cause the groups to congregate on Blaby Road Park instead; an area covered by the existing domehawk camera installations.</li> </ul>	
54.	<p><b><u>COUNTY YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Officers representing the County Youth Service were unavailable to attend this meeting and no update was received.</p>	
55.	<p><b><u>SUPERSONIC BOOM 2014 RECAP</u></b></p> <p>Following being shown a video showcasing the event members received a short presentation from H Kingsley-Elton and S Lamrani of the Oadby &amp; Wigston Youth Council recapping Supersonic Boom which took place on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014.</p> <p>The presentation covered the youth council's stall, how they felt the day had gone ("really well") and the selfie completion that was being run on the day.</p> <p>The Chair explained that this is the first time in eleven years that the event had been organised and delivered 'in house' at the Council and that it is one of the smoothest organised Supersonic Boom's that he is aware of. The Youth Council organised, delivered and hosted the event with 'behind the scenes' support from M Smith. The Chair also wished it to be</p>	

	<p>noted that Supersonic Boom raised £414.47 for the Mayor's charities (Wishes4Kids and The Alzheimer's Society) which is the most money ever raised through Supersonic Boom.</p> <p>J Advani, Oadby &amp; Wigston's Young Citizen of the Year 2014, received a special mention for designing, organising and negotiating the final price of the '#SupersonicBoom' wristbands distributed at the event by the Youth Council.</p> <p>Members of the forum wished for their congratulations to all involved in the successful running of the event to be noted.</p> <p>Member's asked if next year's event could start later in the day in order to attract a larger crowd. The location of next year's event was also queried. At this point in time the only aspect of Supersonic Boom that is set in stone is the name with all details for 2015 to be looked at next year.</p> <p>The amount of people who attended Supersonic Boom this year was also enquired about. Whilst a final total is unavailable as yet M Smith estimates that at least 1500 people passed through Blaby Road Park on the day making this year's event as big as, if not bigger than, 2013's.</p> <p>Members recommended that the video shown to them at the start of this agenda item be used to promote the event next year due to its quality. It was also recommended that the video is shown to the full Council at a future meeting alongside the Youth Council promotional video shown at the previous forum.</p> <p>Members enquired as to the insurance status of the inflatables present at Supersonic Boom following an accident taking place on them. M Smith informed them that the inflatable operators held current Public Liability Insurance that was checked, and signed off, prior to the event by Oadby &amp; Wigston Borough Council's Environmental Health Team. If the operators did not hold the relevant insurance they would not have been permitted to attend the event.</p> <p>The possibility of there having been a climbing wall present at Supersonic Boom was also raised. M Smith explained that it had been looked in to but the cost for a four hour event was substantial. M Smith will be looking in to hiring a climbing wall as part of the Early Help Grant Scheme where better value for money may be achieved by hiring a wall for several sessions.</p>	
56.	<p><b><u>EARLY HELP GRANT SCHEME UPDATE (INCLUDING YOUNG INSPECTORS REPORT)</u></b></p> <p>M Smith updated members on the current performance of the Early Help Grant Scheme.</p> <p>Members heard that, bar some overdue monitoring returns,</p>	

	<p>all of the figures received are indicating that the grant scheme is on track to meet the targets set through the PAYP expenditure in the last financial year.</p> <p>All of the projects that have returned monitoring information are on track to receive an 'excellent' rating when they end and, although not a finalised figure due to overdue monitoring information, the Early Help expenditure is currently 7p per head per hour for each young person involved in the funded projects.</p> <p>M Smith also updated the forum on the findings of a Young Inspectors visit to the Wheels Project; a mobile skate park scheme funded through Early Help.</p> <p>Due to the Oadby &amp; Wigston Youth Council's Young Inspectors running Supersonic Boom on the planned inspection day their counterparts from Blaby District Youth Council were invited to conduct the inspection taking place at Maromme Square. The Young Inspectors rated the project a 4 out of 5 overall and found that the young people engaging in the project were benefiting from the opportunity it granted them.</p> <p>M Smith believes that had the Young Inspectors been briefed of Maromme Square's status as a targeted neighbourhood then the project may have received a 5 out of 5 score. Unfortunately this was unable to go ahead due to Supersonic Boom but is something that will be rectified in future inspections.</p> <p>The Wheels Project also serves to gather young people's opinions on the current level of skating provision within the Borough, tying it into the Police concerns raised in agenda item 3. The feedback gathered from this project, and from the Police and Outreach Teams, will be used to inform future skate park based projects provided within the Borough.</p> <p>Members enquired as to how many Wheels Project sessions there were in total, at how many locations and how the project had been advertised. M Smith stated that there were 14 sessions in total across 6 locations although more sites were looked at, particularly in South Wigston, but could not be used due to ongoing building works or them being of an unsuitable size. The Wheels Project was advertised via twitter (Oadby &amp; Wigston Youth Council's and Active Oadby Wigston's accounts), the Jitty website, the Active Oadby Wigston Website, Flyer Drops and Posters. M Smith stated that the plan was to advertise on the Oadby &amp; Wigston Borough Council website as well but was unable to do so due to the current website editing embargo.</p>	
57.	<p><b><u>YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The Chair, H Kingsley-Elton and S Lamrani gave the forum</p>	

	<p>an update on the current Youth Council projects including new t-shirts for Youth Council members and the Arriva campaign.</p> <p>Members enquired as to how receptive and supportive Arriva have been to the Youth Council and heard how Arriva's current area manager, M Rossiter, has attended two Youth Council meetings now and already implemented some of the suggested changes. The Chair mentioned that if Arriva hadn't been short on vehicles due to mechanical issues there would have been a double decker bus present at Supersonic Boom to aid Arriva in gathering young people's opinions on their service.</p> <p>K Loydall enquired as to whether it would be possible for him to attend the next Youth Council meeting on 15 September to address them regarding the Food Bank scheme. The Chair agreed to this going ahead.</p> <p>J Kaufman asked if Local Democracy Week was to be discussed at the next Youth Council meeting. M Smith informed him that it was already on the agenda.</p> <p>The Chair also informed members that one of the future Youth Council meetings is to be held at the Bassett Centre Community Hub.</p>	
58.	<p><b><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p> <p>The Chair announced to the forum that following the success of last year's Halloween event held at Elizabeth Court that a repeat was being planned. The working title for this event is 'Supersonic Doom' in order to capitalise on the success of this year's Supersonic Boom event.</p>	

**The Meeting Closed at 7:45 p.m.**