

**Report of Youth Activities Forum meeting held on 27th March, 2014,
at 6.00pm in the Heritage Centre ,Town Hall, Llantwit Major.**

Present Councillor Mr E Williams – Chairman

Councillor Mr G Ingram

Councillor Mr M Mason

Councillor Mr D Foster

Also Present

Mrs J Smith – Girl Guides

Ms Ve Van de Voorde – Vale of Glamorgan Council

There were no Councillors Declaration of Interest Forms.

Apologies were received from;

Ms N Stanton, Vale of Glamorgan Council Youth Service

Ms T Mills, Vale of Glamorgan Council

Councillor R Jenkins

Councillor Mrs P Lancaster

Mrs A Kincaid – Girl Guides

Mrs D Chapman – Boys Brigade

Report of the last meeting of the Youth Activities Forum held on 17th September, 2013

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the report of the last meeting of the Youth Activities Forum meeting held on 17th September 2013. Noted.

To receive update from Vale of Glamorgan representative on Youth Council

Ms Ve Van de Voorde gave a verbal update with regards to the Youth Council.

Ve stated that over the summer months of 2013 they were struggling to get any Members to attend the Youth Council. However, since the autumn term, several meetings have taken place with up to 9 young people now regularly attending. They represent the following organisations:

Baptist Church/Girl Guides/Boys Brigade/SWOOSH/Comprehensive School Council and some individual members

Ve stated that more members were still required. They have spent the last few meetings getting to know each other and learning team building skills. They held a brain storming session and voted to decide the name of their group. They are now called '**Llantwit Youth Council**'.

Ve said the Llantwit Youth Council had set up their own Code of Conduct rules and are now finalising the roles descriptions for members of the Youth Council. They will eventually look

into appointing their own Chairperson, secretary etc. Ve also stated she is looking into giving them further training in Meeting skills and how different Councils work (ie. Town Council/ Vale Council/ Welsh Government) and their roles and responsibilities.

Ve eventually wants to work towards members of the Youth Council attending Full Town Council Meetings from September onwards. She would like in the Easter Holidays to organise a walk around Llantwit Major with the Youth Council and members of the Town Council. She wants the Town Council to show the young people what the Town Council is responsible for in the town and get ideas from the Youth Council what areas they would like to see improved.

Councillors asked Ve Van de Voorde the ages of the young people represented on the Youth Council. She stated the age range was 13 to 17 year olds, split between 6 girls and 3 boys. Councillor Mason agreed with Ve that more integration with young people was required by the Town Council and was impressed that Cowbridge already have a Youth Mayor and a Youth Hub.

Councillors discussed how the Youth Council could integrate in a Full Town Council Meeting. Suggestions were made that an Agenda item such as 'Youth Activity Progresses' could be introduced. This would work the same way as the Community Constables Report. The Youth Council could give their report at the beginning of the Meeting then have the flexibility to leave the Meeting if they did not wish to remain for the whole Meeting.

Councillor D Foster stated it would have been useful for the Youth Council to have had a voice in the School Amalgamation process. What do younger people want, a dialogue of what they would have liked to see in a new School.

Councillor Williams commented he was glad to see such a committed group of young people and is keen for them to have a voice but also stated the importance of keeping the Meetings interesting for them.

RECOMMENDATION: Deputy Town Clerk to liaise with Ms Ve Van De Voorde to organise a guided tour for the Llantwit Youth Council around Llantwit Major showing the group the areas in the town that the Town Council are responsible for. Possible dates for this tour are between the 14th and 17th April 2014. Councillors from the Youth Forum Committee would be actively involved in the tour.

Further

RECOMMENDATION: Ms V Van de Voorde to arrange a date when the Llantwit Youth Council are able to attend a Youth Forums Committee Meeting to give the group an insight into Council Meetings.

Further

RECOMMENDATION: Deputy Town Clerk to put an Agenda Brief forward to the next Full Town Council Meeting in April to obtain Councillors reactions to the Youth Council attending Full Town Council Meetings in the future.

Update on Vale of Glamorgan Youth Mayor

Ve gave an update on the Vale Youth Forum. After a massive recruitment drive they now have 40 new people. They had 16 young people standing for 7 Youth Councillor Vacancies on the Youth Cabinet. Ve stated that the Manifestos and Speeches were excellent and the results of the vote are to be announced on the 31st March 2014.

Ve also stated that the appointment of a Youth Mayor was progressing well.

Date of next meeting

Councillor E Williams will advise the Youth Forum Committee of the date of the next Meeting.

Councillor E. Williams thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was closed.