

## Appendix A

Apologies were received from Councillor Harper, Proudlove, Shaw and Walley

### PRESENT

Rob Hackwood	Biddulph Valley Leisure Centre		
Lyn McWilliams	Biddulph Valley Leisure Centre		
Tracy Price	James Bateman Junior High		
Julie Simcock	James Bateman Junior High		
Emma Domanski	Roy Castle Fag Ends		
Terri McMahon	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
Emma Gaffney	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
Angela Gaffney	Resident		
K Clark	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
B M Webb	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
H Robert	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
Helen Roberts	Biddulph Valley Community Association		
B Bowen	Staffs Moorlands Children's Centre		
Linda Devlin	Resident, BENP Education Chair		
Gary Holdcroft	Biddulph Pentecostal Church		
Margaret Worthington	Knypersley Community Association		
Tony Worthington	Neighbourhood Watch		
Kate Thacker	Biddulph Town Council		
Jean Gaunt	Biddulph Town Council		
Councillor Jones	BTC/SMDC	Sonya Bloor	Staffs Moorlands
Councillor Deane	BTC		Children's Centre
Councillor Adams	BTC		
Councillor Baddeley	BTC/SMDC		
Councillor Deaville	BTC		
Councillor Hall	BTC/SMDC		
Councillor Harris	BTC/SMDC		
Councillor Sheldon	BTC/SMDC		
Councillor Whilding	BTC		
Ruth Reeves	SMDC		
Sue Edbury	SMDC		
Anthony Capostagno	Youth Service		
Sarah Dyke	NHS North Staffs		
Nikki Critchlow	NHS North Staffs		
Lesley Goodburn	NHS North Staffs		
Craig Harris	v involved team		
Katherine Windsor	v involved team		
Michelle Holland	Guiding		
Mavis Hancock	Guiding		
Trish Hancock	Guiding		
Peter Sheldon	Retired		
Carol Sheldon	SMCVS		
Andy Boys	SMCVS		
Gaynor Parkinson	SMCVS		
Zoe Warner	School Nurse		
Karen Stevenson	Police		
Steve Powell	Police		
Lee Crowther	Police		
Juliette Scrimshaw	Police		
Lisa Barlow	Connexions		
Michelle Jackson	Library		
Tim Roberts	Connexions		
Lisa Barlow	Connexion		
Teresa Hawkins	Community &		
Debbie Jacobs	Learning Partnership		
Jenny Holdcroft	SMCC		
Lisa Parkinson	SMCC		

# NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN FORUM: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JULY 2009

*For attendance see appendix A*

The Town Crier introduced the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chief Officer; he then called upon Pastor Alec Hilton to offer prayer for the meetings.

## 1.09 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Councillor Harris welcomed everyone to the first Forum and gave a brief history of its origins.

## 2. CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ruth Reeves gave a brief explanation of the data and statistics, which had been tabled.

## 3. RESULTS OF YOUTH CENTRE SURVEY

Ruth Reeves and Anthony Capostagno talked about the survey which had been carried out at the Youth Centre and outlined some of the issues which had been raised by young people. A larger group would be surveyed for the next meeting in January 2010. The importance of giving feedback to those surveyed was stressed. A brief summary of the various summer activities for young people was given.

## 4. DISCUSSION GROUPS

Everyone introduced themselves to the meeting; groups were invited to discuss, around the tables, one of the following questions for about twenty minutes and then report back to the whole Forum.

- What do children and young people want?
- What are the key issues/challenges faced by children and young people, or that your organisation deals with?
- What are the key priorities/big projects/aspirations of your organisation?

## 5. RESULTS

### What do children and young people want?

Fridays and Saturdays – special activities for older children.

Graffiti wall, older playground and little playground

Their own sort of advertising

Skate park extension (gets very full)

Free transport around local area

Later openings for events

Town centre facility

Somewhere safe to go to until about 11.30 pm ~ listen to music, tv, talk, food drinks. Adults - low key input

Netball or other 'girl sports'

Open forum for youngsters of all ages

Respect

Better education on lifestyles around drugs

Positive role models

More activities on different days and a different range of activities

Young people are not just a statistic, SEE THE PERSON

Wider consultation: how many consultations over the last two years

### What are the key issues/challenges faced by children and young people, or that your organisation deals with?

Barriers to using equipment/services/projects

- social

- youth centre in all wards – too much concentrated in Biddulph East

Transition from childhood to adulthood

Lack of sports facilities

Getting a job linked to recession  
Low aspirations in Biddulph

#### 4-6 years

Behaviour – access services  
safe open space to play

#### 7-12 years

Behaviour – access services  
Emotional support  
Safe open space to play  
Worries about media information  
Peer pressure – big variations in area  
Worries and anxieties about parents separating

#### 13-19 years

Behaviour – access services  
Emotional support  
Safe open space to play  
Worries about media information  
Peer pressure – big variations in area  
Worries and anxieties about parents separating  
Worries about, stress anxieties, around home situations, relationships  
Worries about drug taking, alcohol smoking, anger  
Worries about jobs, work, economic climate

Ask schools what facilities they have already in place

#### Children's Centre

Safeguarding of children in their care – consequences/impact of families on children  
Recession – not able to afford childcare  
Communication – difficult to reach vulnerable families

#### NHS Staffordshire

Safeguarding young patients  
Freeze on expenditure  
Issue on getting out wellbeing message rather than ill-health prevention

#### Community & Learning Partnership

Safeguarding – parents support worker to start in schools from September (Commissioning services)  
Biddulph Pilot Area – 'Disadvantage Subsidy Grant' £288 per pupil (criteria of free school meals or looked-after children)  
How to get message out – challenge of effective communication of services

#### Key Issues:

Negative stereotyping of young people by older people  
Teenage pregnancy  
Drinking/substance misuse  
Feeling safe  
Employment issues/employment culture changed in families  
Geographical isolation – travel from Biddulph

#### **What are the key priorities/big projects/aspirations of your organisation?**

Councillors, Leisure Centre and Police:

#### Priorities

Greater engagement with community  
Ongoing promotion  
PPG17 sporting facilities – audit – money to improve amenities

#### Big projects

Sports Village

Meadows site  
Biddulph High School  
Bowling – Leisure centre and Knypersley  
Affordability of sport activities for lower income families  
Free swims  
Leisure centre summer programme – range of activities, helps self-esteem  
Mend to work course, NHS funded  
Sport link into BHS sports college status

#### Aspirations

#### Reducing ASB

- partnership
- Engagement
- Community reassurance team PCSO's and youth service
- enforcement

Fix and Ride

BYTE

Summer activities

- huge range of activities eg cook and eat, music, sport tolerance 'no ball games'
- inter-generational projects letting in the light better understanding

Mill Hayes cricket pitch – not used now because of skatepark

Safer schools project ASB citizenship

Better engagement- citizenship

Add Sports Council to mail list

## 6. SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Netball Club – MUGA

Better use of school sports facilities, amenities are there but issue is access

Engaging young people – consultation more meaningful

Hard to reach groups – more co-ordinated approach

Consultation feedback is essential

Safe and well - once a month at Kingsfield School, police and health professionals

Pentecostal 'Go bananas' holiday club

7-9 middle school activities

## 7. CLOSE

Councillor Harris thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.

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### **ACTIONS/DESIRABLE OUTCOMES:**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Larger sample survey of children & young people | Youth Centre/SMCVS              |
| 2. Feedback from surveys                           | Youth Centre/SMCVS              |
| 3. Skatepark extension                             | District Council/Sports Village |
| 4. Look at transport issues                        | all                             |
| 5. Town centre facility                            | all                             |
| 6. Communication                                   | all                             |
| 7. Netball for girls                               | Leisure Centre/Youth Centre     |