



**Minutes of the Youth Committee of the Working Groups held on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at  
13:00 at The Bungalow, 8 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT**

**Present:** Cllrs Steve Huxtable, Rachel Backhouse, Vix Frisby, Liz Brookes-Hocking

**Absent:** Cllr Guy Cochran

**In Attendance:** Cath Kelly, Lead Youth Work  
Kai Barkla, Sessional Youth Worker and Admin Support  
2 x work experience students

**Minute Taker:** Rachel Avery, Town Clerk

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## MINUTES

**1 / ELECTION OF CHAIR 2025/26**

**2025** **Decision:** It was **resolved** to elect Cllr Brookes-Hocking as Chair. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

**2 / ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR 2025/26**

**2025** No nominations were received for the position of Vice Chair. It was **noted** that this would be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**3 / WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

**2025** All in attendance introduced themselves.

**4 / PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**2025** There were no members of the public in attendance.

**5 / APOLOGIES**

**2025** There were no apologies.

**6 / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS**

**2025**

**6.1 / TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND DISCLOSABLE  
2025 PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI'S) IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest.

**6.2 / TO CONSIDER ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS (REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE  
2025 TO THE TOWN CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING)**

There were no dispensation requests.

**7 / ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**2025** There were no changes to the order of business.

## 8 / CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 There were no announcements.

## 9 / YOUTH SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

2025 **Decision:** It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

## 10 / YOUTH COUNCIL PRESENTATION

2025 Two work experience students presented their plans for the creation of a new Youth Council.

The following questions and comments were made:

- What would a residential consist of? The students said perhaps an away day or one night. Having researched other youth councils, it is commonly done to improve connections and offers support to the members. It would include supporting staff.
- Which public open space may be identified by youth council. The students had spoken to the Deputy Clerk who had suggested the empty play areas at Spinningpath Gardens or Fulda Crescent, or to investigate MDDC-owned areas such as Saxon Close.
- How regularly the meetings would take place and whether Town Council were allowed to attend. It was suggested that they would be monthly with informal weekly meetings and that in the future, town councillors could attend. It was asked whether weekly meets would be too much, but it was suggested that they would be informal and a place where additional research could take place.
- How would the youth council be set up and how interest would be created. Students said posters and social media would be used.
- Would elected members have to live in Crediton? It was stated that members would have to abide by the same prerequisites as town councillors, and that it would be important to ensure those not attending QE have the same opportunities.
- It was asked what budget would be required. It was noted that there is a budget for staffing, and that anything over and above the existing youth budget would go to Full Council for approval.
- It was asked how the Youth Council would be involved in town council grant provision. Students suggested that it would be good for the youth council to be able to comment on applications where relevant.

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to approve the following recommendations made by the work experience students:

- To establish a Youth Council as described
  - To establish a baseline for young people to be involved in the council's decision-making process to support them in learning the role of a councillor, and by attending Grants Committee meetings, with Cllrs Brookes-Hocking and Huxtable offering grant training to election youth councillors
  - To support the work on public open space regeneration
  - To consider and agree a mechanism in which youth council recommendations are considered by Full Council.
- (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

## 11 / DATES OF MEETINGS 2025/26

2025 **Decision:** It was **resolved** that meetings would take place on the second Thursday of September, November, January, March and May. (Proposed by Cllr Backhouse)

**12 / YMCA UPDATE**

**2025** The YMA proposal was received and **noted**.

It was generally agreed that the requirement to take safeguarding responsibility away from the Town Clerk was important. It was agreed that the Lead Youth Worker would work on plans to manage the safeguarding aspect of youth work.

**13 / DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**2025** It was **noted** that the date of the next meeting would be Tuesday 09 September 2025 at 14.30.

**14 / REPORTS PACK**

**2025**

Signed .....

Dated.....