

Minutes
Youth Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday 29 May 2012
Venue: Council Chambers
Time: 4.00pm

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Mayor Neville Castle (Lithgow City Council), Cr Col Hunter (Lithgow City Council), Mallory Sedger, Brenella Abdel-Rehim, Zac Dray, Jenna Martin, Mel Besley, Patsy Riley, Kasey Fitzgerald and Sharni Banks.

Apologies: Heath Zorz

Officers: Viktoria Gulabovski (Community Development Officer).

Declaration of Interests: Nil

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 24 April 2012 meeting were ratified by email.

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING

SUMMARY

An update on the progress of the tennis courts was provided.

COMMENTARY

Viktoria Gulabovski spoke with Jeanette Dellabosca who advised that tennis club membership was only \$40 per annum. Youth Council agreed this was a relatively inexpensive fee and will write to the tennis club to advertise this fee more broadly throughout the community.

This fee is cheaper than booking a court for a one-off game and provides members with access to tennis courts at any time, including weekends and during the evening. Keys are collected from Lithgow tennis club committee members. Details are on their website <http://www.tennis.com.au/lithgow/>.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The progress update on the tennis courts to be noted.

MOVED: Mel Besley
Carried

SECONDED: Zac Dray

ITEM : 4 DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS RAISING PROJECT

SUMMARY

A discussion about the approach Youth Council will take in raising awareness of drug and alcohol issues amongst young people in Lithgow.

COMMENTARY

Youth Council decided that a call for submissions be made to develop a short film about the consequences of underage drug and alcohol consumption.

The short film is to be no more than 5 minutes in duration and of reasonable quality so that it can be screened on a projector.

The project will be broadly advertised by Youth Council across all schools in Lithgow, Facebook and other youth centres and services.

Viktoria will develop the guidelines for the project and circulate to Youth Council members to assist them with developing the poster for the project.

If possible, the winning films will be screened at the Union Rock II event in September 2012, or at Charles Sturt University (within the film department). Winners will also receive prize/s for their efforts, which are yet to be decided on.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The report on the Drug and Alcohol project be noted.

MOVED: Mallory Sedger
Carried

SECONDED: Kasey Fitzgerald

ITEM : 5 YOUTH FORUM

SUMMARY

Viktoria Gulabovski provided an overview of the Youth Forum that was held on 10 May 2012.

COMMENTARY

A total of eight (8) people attended the Youth Forum on 10 May 2012. This included 2 Youth Councillors, 3 Council staff, one Councillor, a representative from Radio 900/2LT and a service provider from the Family Support Service in Lithgow.

Youth Councillors Mallory Sedger and Daniel Whiteman spoke about current and future directions of Youth Council. This included a focus on sports accessibility, entertainment opportunities, underage drug and alcohol consumption and teenage pregnancy.

Current and emerging issues that were discussed at the youth forum included:

- Violence and drug and alcohol abuse by youths aged 11-17 years
- Council will be working with Housing NSW and LINC to re-activate "The Hub" (Bowenfels Cottage) in the Bowenfels area to provide information on services including access to a representative from Housing NSW on a regular basis for residents of the area.
- It was further agreed that there needs to be consultation in the area to find out what the community wants and needs.

Other important aspects brought up included:

- Sense of belonging for youth
- Greater recreational opportunities
- Development of a Youth Services Network
- Greater education and employment opportunities.

**RECOMMENDATION
THAT**

THAT The report on the Youth Forum be noted.

MOVED: Zac Dray
Carried

SECONDED: Brenella Abdel-Rehim

ITEM : 6 YOUTH STRATEGY

SUMMARY

There was discussion about the development of the Youth Strategy.

COMMENTARY

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework report was considered by Council on 4 June 2012 and included a host of recommendations that relate to youth living in the Lithgow area.

The Youth Forum held on the 10 May also identified some issues related to youth. This information will inform and be included in the Youth Strategy which is set to be developed in the coming year.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The report on the Youth Strategy be noted.

MOVED: Jenna martin
Carried

SECONDED: Sharni Banks

ITEM : 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Union Rock II is set to be held in September 2012. Lithgow Community Projects is the organising body of the event and Youth Council will be assisting them with finding artists and organising the event.

Meeting Closed 5.00 pm

**Next Meeting
Tuesday 26 June 2012 at 4.00pm in Council
Chambers**