



Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee

RECORD OF MEETING

Held on Monday, 2 July 2007 at Linwood Centre, Linwood Lane, Leicester

Present

Councillor Shelton, Freeman (Chair)
Councillor Kim Blower, Eyres Monsell
Councillor Nigel Porter, Aylestone
Councillor Rory Palmer, Eyres Monsell

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63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Porter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in budget applications C2 and C7. Councillor Porter also declared a personal interest in budget application C6.

67. YOUTH PROVISION IN THE AREA

Fiona Bedford, Senior Youth Worker, Kingfisher Centre, gave the Committee an overview of the services the centre provided. This included a breakfast club scheme for children every Saturday, a senior club three times a week and a junior club once a week. There had also been an accredited life skills course for young people not in education, which they hope to repeat subject to funding. In the future partnership work with the Saffron Young Peoples Project was planned to increase opening times possibly straight after school.

It was noted that the ball court area had been refurbished along with the planned redevelopment of the kitchen facilities, which had been funded by the Youth Capital Fund. This would allow healthy eating and food hygiene sessions to be carried out.

It was reported that at the Southfields Drive Sports Centre there were sports sessions running four times a week.

At the Magpie Youth Centre in Eyres Monsell there were various clubs including a senior youth club, a girls club, and a motorbike project. The group had hoped to

widen their work to include the Gilmorton Centre. There were also detached work sessions. It was noted that Youth Action Representatives have been elected and will participate in the Youth Forum. There was also a residential trip being planned to Gambia, if the funding could be secured.

It was reported that throughout the summer the programme would be slightly different this year focussing on sport and a graffiti project and would include partnership work with Connexions and Intersport.

There was widening participation work happening in the Linwood Centre and the Magpie Youth Centre with young parents in partnership with Saffron Young Peoples' Project, Connexions and Sure Start, and there were also detached youth work sessions in a Aylestone and Eyres Monsell.

Dee Dixon, Senior Worker, Goldhill Avenue Playground, informed the Committee that from 16 July, between 11.30am to 4.30pm, for 5 weeks the playground would be open for young children at a cost of £3.00 per child. There would be spaces for between 70 and 120 children which would be part funded by the Red Cross. Over 21 workers visiting from universities across the Country would support the sessions. It was noted that there were trips planned for the children to Skegness and Waterworld.

It was reported that the walls of the playground were to be expanded to include an open air sports ground and a tree house village, which would be disabled friendly. It was noted that the cost of this would be £68k, although £30k had already been secured.

A member of the public noted the lack of facilities in the Aylestone Ward. Councillor Porter agreed that there was a lack of provision, including swings, slides and benches in the Ayleston Ward and that the Cabinet should be asked to introduce these provisions into the area.

Another member of the public asked why the Kingfisher Centre had reduced the times it was open. It was noted that this was due to the lack of resources.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet be asked to introduce play facilities in Aylestone Playing Fields and Aylestone Park.

76. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

