

KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Youth Strategy Working Party meeting held on Monday 28th July 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in the Town Council Office

PRESENT: Councillors Alex Beaumont, C Brennan, M Burton, D Cooper and A Wait (late).

IN ATTENDANCE: Dawn Drury (Town Clerk)

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ibby Kramar (Youth Support Worker).

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

16. DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Youth Strategy Working Party meeting held on Wednesday 28th May 2025 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Town Clerk expressed concerns that this Working Party was not achieving its function which is task and finish project to produce a Youth Strategy for the Town Council Youth Service (TimeOut) and Youth Council (KeynshamNow).

RESOLVED

That a recommendation be made to full Council that the Youth Strategy Working Party meetings be used solely to complete the task of producing a Youth Strategy and a new Committee be set up to deal with the Youth Service and Youth Council matters.

It was agreed to consider agenda item 5 – Forming a Youth Strategy after all other items on the agenda.

18. FEEDBACK FROM THE KALEIDOSCOPE FESTIVAL

The Clerk reported on the Festival.

- That a number of young people aged 11 – 19 attended the event over the two days and data will be produced at a future meeting. The numbers were disappointing though.

- The weather was dull with rain showers on the Saturday, so attendance numbers were low.
- The set up of the two Youth Fest zones in two tents that were not in close proximity did not work well.
- The stretched tent that was set up for circus activities and a teenage chill zone was a conflict of the activity types. Whilst the Youth wanted to relax and have some quiet time, young children and families were juggling, throwing hoops and twirling ribbons meaning the zone was not a quiet area in which to chill.
- There was no communication or collaboration with the young people of the Youth Service when planning the workshops. The Kaleidoscope funds in the sum of £20,000 (14,000 allocated to tents and the remainder to workshops).
- The workshops over the weekend were Circus Antics, participants mainly consisted of younger children and families, a juggling workshop, strap line (tight rope walking, Maker's bee (crafting activities) and spray painting. In respect of the latter the young people complained about the queue for this as it was a popular activity for families with young children.
- The planned Kaleidoscope programme within the Music Festival leaflet did not happen. Several of the Bands pulled out or did not turn up. Acts that did perform had a very poor audience. This may be down to Lewin not opening the sides for the tent as instructed. The performance tent was finished and packed up on both days by about 5.30 p.m. Lewin attended the Town Council office for only four of his contracted hours that were allocated for promotion of the acts and work on the performance line up. He also did not work his contracted time at the Festival. The Town Council have yet to receive a timesheet detailing his hours worked and how they were allocated and to date they have not been invoiced by the Music Festival for his work.

It was suggested that next year, Council should consider holding a separate Youth Festival (not at the Music Festival) in collaboration with other Youth Groups. This could be held in the main park using the Bandstand for performances/battle of the bands and skate park (for skate board exhibition/competition) or on Manor Road playing fields. Costs for such an event would need to be investigated.

Councillor Wait arrived.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the above the information

19. UPDATE FROM KEYNSHAMNOW

Cllr Wait reported that past weeks have been busy for KeynshamNow meetings:

- The KeynshamNow Music Festival stall was successful, as was the competition to guess how many balloons there were in Caitlin's car. They raised £128 for the Trevor Project Charity. This Charity works with LGBTQ and people with mental health issues. There were 97 balloons in the car, after one popped, there were a few close guesses of 98 and 96 and the winner received a KMFA

Limited T shirt as part of his prize. The young people learnt a lot from running the stall and competition.

- KeynshamNow have been working on two campaigns. One related to young people being able to vape at school in the toilets and in some instances even in the classroom (discretely). KeynshamNow will be investigating the law on single use vapes and how regulations can be strengthened. The second campaign was on votes for 16-year-olds.
- The Sub-Committee working on the Teviot Play Area and Green Space project have been working hard on mood boards detailing possible themed play areas, fitness trim trays and play trim trays, together with furniture benches and picnic tables including items suitable for those with disabilities. These mood boards will be used at consultation events on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in August. This group has also prepped and worked on an online consultation that the Deputy Town Clerk has put together for them. The group will be asking Katherine to produce a flyer advertising the two consultation events.
- KeynshamNow members undertook a litter pick in the Kelston Park/Queens Road area of town and were surprised at how litter free it was meaning that only a few bags were collected. Approximately 8 young people and three mentors attended. Surprisingly, the area was not too littered, and the rubbish collection only amounted to a couple of bags.
- The Organisation will be undertaking recruitment assemblies in local schools in the new school year as they are losing some of their key older members. Imogen the KeynshamNow Secretary who is off to Cardiff University and Darcy the Chair who now has an apprenticeship with the Police Force.
- The next KeynshamNow meeting is on 6th August 2025.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the update by Cllr Wait on KeynshamNow matters.

20. YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

- a) Update on the Centre – facilities and resources.

The Youth Centre has had a thorough clean, sort and tidy so that equipment is now more easily accessible. Old, out of date computers have been removed and securely disposed of by SoVision. The monitors and keyboards have been removed from the Centre to free up valuable activity space along one wall. All the loose artwork has now been displayed on the walls. Some guidance notes on behaviour have been displayed near the entrance to the building so that they are visual to all. A welcome white board displays the activities for each session and which staff are on duty.

Both the table tennis and table football equipment has now been fixed and new tips to the pool cues have been purchased. Some table tennis tournaments have been held recently.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the verbal update on the Centre from Town Clerk.

- b) Update on Monday evening sessions and any joint working with outside agencies/organisations since 28th May 2025.

Outreach is not happening on a Monday at present but over the summer the Youth Staff will be out and about with sports equipment liaising with the young people in different areas of the town.

It is hoped that once a new Senior Youth Leader is in post that we can look at doing some collaborative outreach with Project 28 and Willow to engage with those that are harder to reach.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the verbal update from the Town Clerk

- c) Update on all activities that have been provided at the TimeOut Youth Centre between 19th May 2025 – 28th July 2025, including details of any workshops.

Sessions have been taking place and some of these have been used at planning sessions getting the views of the young people in respect of what activities they would like going forward.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the verbal update from the Town Clerk.

- d) Update on Centre activities and workshops to be held from 28th July 2025.

Information on this will be presented at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the information.

- e) Update on the sessions:

Wednesday night -	7 – 9 p.m. – staffing and activities
Thursday night -	7 – 9 p.m. - staffing and activities
Friday evening –	4 – 6 p.m. - staffing and activities

During the summer months sporting activities, coaching sessions hockey, cricket and bowls are being arranged together with some special days out including pottery at Flourish, Air Hop or Indoor activities and soft play.

RESOLVED:

- (i) *To receive and note the verbal update from the Town Clerk*
(ii) *To note that data on attendance will be presented at the next meeting.*

- f) Update on any funding applications submitted or to be submitted (including Quartet and Bath and North East Somerset HAF - Activate: Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme).

Applications have been submitted and funds received as follows:

- Quartet £2,500 some of the funds from this have been spent on sports equipment for summer activities.
- B&NES HAF £1600 to cover food to support summer activities monies are allocated to support those on free school meals.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the verbal update from the Town Clerk.

- g) Update on financial matters in relation to the running of the Club, including use of petty cash and volunteer cooking sessions.

This will be reported on at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the information

- h) Update on staffing, including training undertaken, including an update on the contracted Sports Coach (explaining the need for payment of administration costs and provision of supervision).

The staff undertake lots of training when they are not running sessions or planning activities. The Town Clerk forwards to them regular training bulletins from NYA and Ygam. A new Youth Worker (Teri Simmonds) has joined the team.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note a verbal report on staff, staff training and the contracted Sports Coach from the Town Clerk.

- i) Update on Music Studio, one to one music sessions and gigs.

There was no additional information on this other than the report about sorting a lease/licence. More income is expected from the guitar lessons on Monday evenings.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the verbal update on information in respect of the Music Studio and one to one music sessions.

21. FORMING A YOUTH STRATEGY

RESOLVED:

That a Sub-Committee be formed to look at how to move the Strategy forward, what it should include, who to involve (KeynshamNow, Schools, all young people and organisations supporting the young people that attend our Youth Service).

The Working Party briefly went through the framework structure for the Youth Strategy. Cllr Burton gave census information data on young people in Keynsham.

Going forward the new Committee need to look at the current strengths, gaps in the service provision, threats, a SWOT analysis and Vision Statement.

Currently, the objectives of the draft Youth Strategy are more like aims and therefore need replacing with SMART objectives.

A Needs Assessment should be undertaken to ascertain the issues that young people are facing today.

Some KPI's need to be put in place.

Cllr Brennan informed the Working Party that she had heard about a 10-week course open to young girls to boost self-esteem that may be of interest to TimeOut and KeynshamNow members.

Accessibility and inclusivity need to be thought about as the Strategy is formed and it should also include information on who the TimeOut Youth Service and KeynshamNow are for e.g. those that live, are educated or work in Keynsham.

Partnership collaboration, funding opportunities and marketing needs to be included too.

Cllr Cooper said that she would work on a Template that would shape the Strategy and suggested that at each meeting a topic or two be considered. She will also set up a One Note file and invite other Working Party members, so that their ideas, thoughts and images can be kept all in one place.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

To note that a date is to be arranged by Doodle for a meeting in early October 2025.

The meeting finished at 8.15 pm.

SIGNED: DATE:

(Chairman)

DRAFT