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Dear Parents,

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Cornwall

Monday 22nd November 2010

Transport and young people in the Marlborough Area

Transport has been identified as a key issue for young people living in Wiltshire and locally the Marlborough Area Board have set up a transport working group to look into addressing this issue in partnership with local communities' charity Community First.

Initial efforts have centred on providing **free** transport for young people through the use of minibuses for selected events as listed here:

Thursday 2nd December – Bowling in Swindon* - 7pm start Friday 10th December – Bluez n' Zuz Disco (Azuza, Marlborough) – 6.30pm start Tuesday 14th December – Ice Skating in Swindon* - 7pm start Wednesday 15th December – Cinema in Swindon* - 7pm start * *these events are organised and hosted by the Marlborough Youth Development Centre*

(To book free transport for your child to attend these events contact Ellie Vesey-Thomson UK Youth parliament representative on <u>evtukyp@gmail.com</u> stating which event(s) you would like transport for.)

In the main, the transport for these events is being provided by community minibus groups as a 'oneoff' pilot programme to gauge interest from young people locally.

However after transport for these events has been provided, working in partnership with Community First, the working group want to explore ways in which local adults and young people can become involved to ensure that a longer lasting solution can be put in place to address the issues associated with transport and young people in and around Marlborough.

Discussions have already begun with young people to gauge their interest in gathering numbers from their peers interested in getting to and from places for which they would require transport.

However, to take this initiative further forward, the working group would also like to talk to you about the possibility of volunteering to drive minibuses and assist in other ways to enable young people locally to get out and about (for instance in the evenings and at weekends.)

The working group has commissioned Community First to talk to you about your potential involvement in this initiative. To make this happen, it is intended that a representative from Community First will be discussing the project informally with you on board **free** shuttle buses that are being laid on for you to get to and from FAME the Musical (the school amateur production) happening on **30**th **November and**, **1**st, **3**rd **and 4**th **December** (meaning that you can have a drink and also not have to worry about traffic or parking if you are attending the play!)

As an incentive for your involvement in this initiative, Community First have teamed up with Pebley Beach garage in Wroughton to offer volunteers a servicing and M.O.T. package on your car for just £50 (plus parts). Community First are also able to offer you free nationally recognised Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme (MiDAS) training in return for your help as a volunteer driver.

More information about these incentives as well as further details about the push to seek a lasting solution to the issues mentioned earlier will be available from a stall which will be set up at the parents'

Member of the ACRE network of .

Wyndhams St. Joseph's Place, Devizes SN10 1DD Tel: 01380 722475 Fax: 01380 728476 Email: reception@communityfirst.org.uk www.communityfirst.org.uk

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evenings being held at the School over the coming few months. (It is envisaged that the stall will be located by the School main entrance/exit – edible treats will be available!) (cont/d. overleaf)



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If you would like any further information, or would like to book a place on one of the free shuttle buses running to and from FAME the Musical, please contact me using the details below.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Tatton-Bennett Community Transport Officer Community First (01380) 732816 Itatton-bennett@communityfirst.org.uk



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