

**SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD
(28 May 2015)**

Positive Activities for Youth Update

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. To note an update on the progress made in delivering positive activities for young people in this community area.
- 1.2. To approve the allocation of £5k of the 2015/16 “positive activities for young people” budget to support youth groups and clubs to “buy in” activities from approved providers – to be known as the “alternative activities scheme”.
- 1.3. To re-launch the leisure credit scheme as “Community Rewards”, and to approve the apportionment of £7k to this reward scheme.
- 1.4. To re-affirm the Board’s support for the delegation of spend to the Community Area Manager to authorise bids to the “alternative activities scheme” and the “community rewards scheme” up to £1,000 at a time. This delegation of authority will be exercised in consultation with all members of the Board, and the Local Youth Network Management Group, and will be reported to the next available full board meeting.
- 1.5. To support the use of £1k of the previously agreed £5,400 start up funding for Alderbury Youth Group (agreed in December 2013) to fund a series of “alternative activities” until arrangements have been put in place to secure a youth leader.

2. Key Issues

Brief Update on Emma’s Work

- 2.1. Emma will provide a brief verbal update on her work since reporting in March 2015.
- 2.2. The board has £38,000 in its 2015/16 “positive activities for young people” budget.

Alternative Activities Fund

- 2.3. One of Emma’s findings in her needs analysis is that some youth clubs may benefit from the use of providers to put on structured “alternative activities”, e.g. alternative sports, such as road surf boarding, bubble football, and contemporary sports such as cricket, rounder’s and fencing. Young people

really value the space and security which their youth groups/clubs provide, allowing them to relax and socialise in an unpressurised environment. However, there may also be scope for perhaps 30 minutes of a youth group session to be taken up with a more structured sport/leisure or other such activity once a month. Emma is able to advise as to which providers would best suit which youth group. In order to facilitate this, the board is asked to allocate £5k of its budget to which groups and clubs can bid for funds to “buy in” these “alternative activities”.

2.4. See table below which provides an indication of the types of alternative activities, providers and costs involved.

Go Active	Archery, Tchoukball, Fencing, Street Surfing, Street Dance, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Real PE, Martial Arts, Urban Polo, Korfball, Handball Cricket, Athletics, Football, Gymnastic, Tag Rugby, Rocketball, Boxing, Dodgeball, American Football, Parkour.	£25 per hour for group size of between 2 - 14 people. £22.50 per hour for 1-2-1 coaching
Health Wiltshire council and Salisbury Hospital	Staff can come into sessions and deliver talks and workshops regarding health. This includes contraception and sexual health	free
Sunrise Bushcraft Outdoor Academy	Through outdoor and land-based education, we deliver nationally recognised QCF qualifications. As well as the national qualification there are various bush craft courses ranging from half a day From making shelters and being able to identify edible and medicinal plants and fungus to skinning and preparing of a Deer carcass.	Price per group of max 12 £480, Min group 4. Price per Individual £40
Wessex Community Circus CIC	Circus Skills, Street Gymnastics, Magic Activities, Alternative Dance and Music Generation	minimum £17.50 per hour
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Ltd	We are able to offer a full range of outdoor nature-based learning activity, including Forest Schools and The John Muir Award.	£250 per day, £150 per half day
Area Board Councillors	Able to deliver talks on policies and democracy	free

2.5. A positive activity can be any educational or recreational leisure-time activity that is arts, sports, leisure, informal education and community based which helps young people achieve healthy and safe lifestyle outcomes (see appendix for further information).

Community Rewards

- 2.6. £7k is available for this re-launched scheme, once known as leisure credits.
- 2.7. The idea is that the Local Youth Network Management Group (LYNMG) would consider proposals from youth provision providers to involve young people in work that benefits the local community, e.g. litter picking, footpath clearing etc in return for a reward, e.g. a trip to a theme park or free swimming or other leisure sessions.
- 2.8. Parish Councils will be asked to identify what work they would like the young people to do in their village.
- 2.9. The board is asked to apportion £7k to the Community Reward scheme.

Community Bids for Positive Activities

- 2.10. If the board agrees to allocate £5k for the “Alternative Activities” initiative and £7k to the “Community Rewards” scheme, this leaves £26k available to Southern Wiltshire groups to bid for funds to facilitate other positive activities for young people in their parish.
- 2.11. Alderbury Parish Council was awarded £5,400 to set up a youth club in December 2013. The Community Youth Officer is asking the Area Board to allow the Parish Council to spend £1000 of that money already awarded in a slightly different way. The Parish Council would like to spend £1000 of the money to fund positive activities over the summer months on the Recreation Field in Alderbury, which it owns. The Community Youth Officer has struggled to obtain figures from providers to recruit and employ a youth worker to set up and run a youth club in Alderbury, as they do not currently have the capacity. This has therefore caused a delay in setting up a provision. Being able to spend this money in a different way will enable the Parish Council to pay for outdoor positive activities to happen now. As well as paying for the sessions, part of the £1000 will be used to hire out the Sports and Social club in the event of bad weather and to provide refreshments as the activities will be physical.
- 2.12. The Parish Council would like assurance that the youth group can receive further funds to help support the set up and running of the youth group if it is successful in the future, as some of their money for this will be allocated to the “positive activities” during the summer.

Appendix

Positive activities are for young people aged 13-19 (up to 25 years of age for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities) and may include activities and support which:

- Helps young people connect with their communities, enabling them to belong and contribute to society e.g. through volunteering
- Provides opportunities for young people to take part in a range of sports, arts, music and other activities where they can socialise safely with their peers and develop relationships, including with adults they can trust
- Encourage young people's personal and social development
- Improve young people's physical and mental health and emotional well-being
- Help young people to achieve in education, work or training
- Prevent and divert young people away from risky behaviours e.g. teenage pregnancy, substance misuse and involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour

The Education Act 1996

S507B of the Education Act requires Council's, so far as reasonably practicable, to secure for qualifying young persons (aged 13-19 in the local area) access to sufficient positive leisure-time activities which improve their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities. With an annual budget for positive activities for young people and enabling support from Wiltshire Council Children's Services, this responsibility has been delegated to Community Area Boards.

Local Youth Network Management Group

Southern Wiltshire Local Youth Network Management Group (LYNMG) is a sub group of the Southern Wiltshire Area Board. It represents a wide range of community stakeholders who work in partnership to facilitate a range of positive activities across the community area. Young people play a central role in all aspects of the LYNMG. Southern Wiltshire LYNMG will identify local priorities and make recommendations to the Area Board on how funding for positive activities for young people should be deployed. Currently the members of the LYNMG are:

- Young person from Old Sarum
- Michelle Poole – Chair of the Old Sarum Youth Club
- Young person from Alderbury
- Representative from the Area Board Cllr Richard Britton, and Cllr Ian McLennan
- Community Youth Officer Emma Drage
- Community Area Manager Karen Linaker

All members are required to:

- Take an active part in the development of the LYNMG and its aims.
- Ensure that the organisations are represented by a person of appropriate experience/competency (or his/her appointed deputy) who has full authority within the relevant organisation to speak on behalf of the organisation and contribute fully to all discussions.
- Take responsibility for sharing information with the LYNMG relevant to their organisation/ stakeholders/sector.
- Contribute any information that may have a bearing on positive activities and ensure that this is shared with the LYNMG
- Champion the voice and influence of young people in decision making.
- Be open and honest and work collaboratively.
- Work to promote equality and non-discriminatory practices in all aspects of the LYNMG's activities.
- Respect all members of the LYNMG and invited representatives.
- Work to improve outcomes for young people and ensure high quality safeguarding practice

Key responsibilities for the management group include:

- Facilitating and coordinating the process to design, develop, deliver and review positive activities for young people in the local area;
- Maintaining regular and effective communication between all members of the LYNMG;
- Developing a written overview of the needs, outcomes, priorities and objectives for positive activities in the local area;
- Making recommendations to the Community Area Board on how positive activities funding should be deployed (to include evaluating grant requests and identifying suitable suppliers of positive activities);
- Overseeing the work plan of the Community Youth Officer;
- Monitoring and reporting on the quality and effectiveness of local youth activities;
- Addressing any conflicts of interest that may arise as part of the local decision making process.
- Support local agendas including the local youth networks (LYN) as well as the JSA.