

Marlborough Community Area Board - 19th October 2010

Youth Transport Proposal

Proposer:

Marlborough Area Board Youth Transport Working Group

What is the purpose of this report?

The purpose is to ask the Board to support this proposal to provide free transport for young people within the community area so that they are able to attend an additional 7 organised events.

What does the project hope to achieve?

- To address the identified need that evening transport within the area is often difficult for young people, especially from rural areas.
- To promote the minibus scheme so that it can be seen whether it is an effective way of addressing the need.
- To provide a safe way for young people to travel to organised events.
- To help explore if a more sustainable model of transport provision can be provided.

How will the project work?

- Transport to three events were organised in the late summer which provided a platform on which this project can be run. Although take-up was low (4 people for the first two events), this was to some extent to be expected. It will take some time for the scheme to get well known and the publicity went out during the summer holidays. No funding from the Area Board was spent in the running of these events.
- It is proposed that transport is offered to the following 7 events:
 1. Salvage Fashion Show (13th November)
 2. The Rat Pack Vegas Spectacular (20th November)
 3. Three evening events during the Youth Development Centre events programme. The Youth Service will provide the driver and chaperone for these events. (During Autumn half term)
 4. Bluz 'n' Zuz (During November)
 5. Drop-in to enjoy Christmas in Marlborough (During December)
- The transport will be publicised electronically and through the school.

- Transport will be hired through the Urchfont minibus (See costs below). The key advantage is that a driver will be provided. However, a CRB checked chaperone will be required to accompany the driver. This is because it is Wiltshire Council policy that all staff who work with young people must have a approved Criminal Records Bureau check before they work with those young people. While Wiltshire Council is funding and organising this project these rules are in place. Ellie Vesey-Thompson has offered to co-ordinate the requests to go on the minibus. This can be done electronically and once numbers are known, the Urchfont Minibus co-ordinator will let her know when the young people will be picked up. This information can then be sent out them.
- Future co-ordination of transport schemes could be carried out in several ways including a co-ordinator in each village or possibly utilising the Youth Champions within each Parish Council. However this will be decided when this scheme has been evaluated and can be considered alongside the transport 'Mapping and Gapping' report.

How much will the project cost?

- The exact cost for the hire of the minibus depends upon who wants to use it and therefore how far it will have to travel. However we would expect it to be in the region of £90 per event; hence about £630 in total.
- Publicity via electronic means is generally free as is radio and press coverage.

How will the project sit alongside the proposal to map and gap transport provision?

- This project will provide real data on how much demand there is for a scheme such as this and where that demand seems to be coming from.
- This project will also be able to help identify lessons learned if considering running a similar scheme again.
- This information can be then placed alongside the 'Mapping and Gapping' project report so that the Board can consider how to take this issue forward.
- The long term goal of both projects is that the Area Board can help support the setting up and running of a more sustainable and community led solution.

What will happen when?

19 October 2010 - Marlborough Area Board decide whether to support the proposal

End of October - Publicity finalised and sent out

Mid Nov – Mid Dec - Events held

January - Project evaluated

8 February 2011 - Area Board considers 'Mapping & Gapping' report with evaluation

Recommendations

- Marlborough Area Board support the project as outlined in this report
- Marlborough Area Board agrees to fund this project up to a maximum of £800
- Marlborough Area Board requests that the evaluation of this project is brought back to the meeting on 8 February 2011 to be considered alongside the 'Mapping and Gapping' report