

**WARMINSTER AREA BOARD
4 MARCH 2010**

**Partner update for CAYPIG-
Warminster Development Centre for Young People-Community Area Young
People's Issues Group, Specifically looking at Skate Park and Transport Issues**

Purpose of the Report

1. To highlight issues that affect young people within Warminster and surrounding Villages these include the continuing issues that surround the Skate Park within Warminster Town Park and also Transport Issues in the Warminster Community Area – Young people not being able to access out of school hours activities.
2. An update of service in relation to opportunities available for young people and resources

Background

1. The young people are still continuously working on sorting out the issues within the skate park, the boxing in of the ramps have been completed, and the coating, jump box and the rail has yet to be done in the park.
2. The young people are still working on ideas and consultation around the teen shelter; this is still in discussions within the CAYPIG's and with Colin Brown from Wiltshire Council, along with other partners.
3. Young people living in outlying community areas of Warminster are not engaging fully in after school activities/services, this is mainly down to the lack of buses available to young people in villages and also within some parts of town. Certain young people are missing out on valuable developmental opportunities from organisations; one being Wiltshire Council's Youth Development Centre and their outreach service, as well as the sports centre, Skate Park and even the town park as a whole. This also extends to other youth organisations within the town and surrounding villages.
4. There is a lack of buses from outlying areas, including villages, to transport young people into Warminster to access the services they may wish to use. Buses don't stop near where they live and do not run at times suitable to their needs. Young people's safety is a major issue because they want to be able to access a bus at a safe, well-lit location, times when the clubs/services they access close, to avoid loitering and at locations near the clubs/services they wish to use, to avoid long walks, especially if it is late or they are on their own/small groups. Without safe, accessible transport, young people will lose out. Many parents/carers do not allow their children to walk to places when it is late or dark and those young people, who are allowed, don't want to as feel vulnerable.

5. Warminster Development Centre for Young People is in the process, along with young people, of planning how to best use its new allocation of youth worker resources. Its allocation for 2010-2011 means we have 56 staffing hours, equating to 11 sessions (typically 2.5 hours in length each) of face to face work, allowing for a minimum of 3 youth development workers per session and on occasion, depending on the session, 2 members. This will ensure there is delivery and opportunities throughout the week/weekend-afternoon and evening, to meet a diverse range of young people and their needs. Further information is available from Sam Shore

Main Considerations

- Young people's needs
- More litter bins in the right locations in the skate park
- Consultation regarding the positioning of the teen shelter in the park
- Full consultation and involvement in future plans for the skate park and the town park
- Parent/guardian opinions
- Explore existing transport routes/times including villages
- Meet with transport providers to highlight young people's concerns
- Isolation of young people
- Options for improvements to transport/new initiatives
- Funding for transport initiatives
- Positive impact on young people through being able to access 'out of school hours' services
- Recognising the importance of the voice & opinion/influence of young people
- Costs to young people when they access transport
- Safety of young people

Recommendation

- Look at further improvements to the skate park and the town park in relation to the friends of the park and Wiltshire councils 5 year plan and that young people's involvement is welcomed
- Visit other skate/town parks
- Young people to organise and fundraise for cost of repairs and maintenance of the skate park by organising a sponsored skate to Trowbridge which will tie in with Warminster Festival – Young people to promote Skate Park and competition for the event on Saturday 10th July 2010
- The existing transport provider's public bus routes/timetables are explored
- Transport providers from current services should be invited to the Warminster CAYPIG & possibly future Area Boards
- Young People with Youth Development Worker to attend transport conference for young people February 18-19 2010, where transport providers & portfolio holders will be
- Further consultation/in-depth questionnaire with young people reference the times they want buses to operate and from what specific locations, this has been initiated but needs continuing

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