

## Record of Meeting: Youth Council

Venue Committee Room 1 (4.00-4.55 pm), Committee Room 2 (4.55-5.30 pm)  
When 4-5.30pm, 12 October 2011

### Present

Members: Katja Heesterman, Emily Murphy, Duncan Armstrong, Bing-Ying Lou, Susie Larken, Rebecca Christini, Zared Wall-Manning, Stevenson Pule, Ben Ogilvie, Kieran Meredith, James Wall-Manning (late)  
Councillor: Cr Simon Marsh  
Officers: Simon Wright, Janette Wallace Gedge, Colin Drew  
Guest: Brydon Sundgren

## Minutes

### 1. Opening/Karakia

Katja welcomed the group, including Brydon who is interested in joining YC.

### 2. Apologies

Ricki Lambert, Morgan Watkins, Jack Marshall, Ana Yabakiron.

### 3 Previous minutes and matters arising

Susie moved that the minutes be ratified, Bing seconded the motion and it was passed. No matters were raised. The following actions were reported on:

- The links between the YC's WCC website page and YC's Facebook are in place
- People who express interest in joining YC will be invited to sit in on meetings but appointments will not be made until the beginning of next year. Members were asked to think about whether they will stand for YC next year and about what sorts of people should be recruited to make YC more representative. This will be an agenda item later in the year
- Bing confirmed that Salient publishes articles of less than 100 words for free. A item about YC should be submitted in the next VUW term.

### 4. What's on top

Cr Marsh informed YC members about Te Papa's programme on MMP and the upcoming referendum on the electoral system. He encouraged members to contact Te Papa about taking part. A number of YC members expressed interest.

### 5. Portfolio reportbacks / Forward programme

#### Arts and Culture

The discussion on submitting on the draft arts and culture strategy was carried out under General Business.

#### Climate Change

The report to SPC about the Climate Change Action Plan was noted. One comment about it was that it seemed 'light weight'.

## **Finance**

Copies of the Annual Report summary were circulated at the meeting. No concerns were raised.

## **Portfolio responsibilities**

As no other substantive comments were made about any of the other portfolio areas, members were reminded that they are expected to research issues in their portfolio areas before meetings and to demonstrate leadership on identified issues.

## **6. General Business**

### **Support for Youth Council post restructuring**

The effects of the City Communities restructuring were discussed. Over a number of years, YC members have attended region youth hui accompanied by 1 or 2 WCC officers. No YC members attended the Horowhenua Youth Council's Youth hui on 11 October. In part, this is a result of the restructuring, which has decoupled YC from youth development.

Most other youth councils are supported by local authority youth development officers. This was the case in Wellington before the restructuring and WCC youth development officers used to attend the hui to network and share experience with other youth development officers. In doing so, they could driver YC members to the hui and act as guardians for any under-18 YC members. Officers from Consultation and Engagement now support the YC and cannot justify attending on these grounds, and City Communities no longer has a youth development team or budget. Consultation and Engagement was prepared to pay for public transport to the Horowhenua hui but not to send an officer.

It was argued that these hui are valuable to YC members and that they assist members with their advisory function. Therefore, Council should provide enough support to enable attendance. Others questioned whether support should extend to providing a guardian for under 18s, and other mechanisms for achieving this were suggested. One view was that YC members should not always look to WCC for support. Another was that YC should focus on adding value to Council by regularly attending YC meetings and delivering on portfolio responsibilities and other duties. Given the current environment, it was suggested that YC needs to more carefully evaluate conferences, hui and opportunities before deciding to go.

### **Transport focus groups**

Zared, Kieran, Stevenson and Katja are interested in taking part in focus groups on youth driver safety.

**Action:** Simon to forward their contact details to Anna Blomquist (Transport Planning).

### **Draft Arts & Culture Strategy**

A process was set up for Emily and Bing to make a YC submission using the online form by 14 October.

**Action:** Bing was to email an outline of the draft strategy to members after the meeting and members were to provide comments by email by 5pm on 13 October.

### **Develop Long Term Plan input**

This item was deferred.

**Action:** A session to refine the YC's early input to the Long Term Plan team will be scheduled for the next meeting.

## **Access to Council-owned buildings and land for recreation and community purposes**

Colin Drew (Policy and Planning) is leading the review of the community leases policy and sought some youth perspectives to help him develop policy.

YC response to the question “Should groups that get the subsidised rent of a hall/facility make it available to other groups?”:

- Lease should provide flexibility – need to explain obligations
- If you have subsidised facilities, you play our game

YC response to questions about the control of commercial activity:

- If organisation is benefiting from subletting, WCC should be able to increase lease/rent.

YC response to question “what do you see as the future demand for Council premises?”:

- Don’t want to make it hard to use. Don’t know how comfortable I would be about the liability being on the lessee.

YC response to question “What would you expect to pay?”

- \$40 per evening
- \$45-50
- Scouts change \$100 per term, \$50 for second and third child. Cost can be flexible.

**Action:** Colin to run draft policy past YC when it’s complete.

## **7. Closing/Karakia**

The meeting closed at 5:30pm. The next meeting is on 26 October 2011

### **Actions summary**

1. **Simon** to forward contact details for transport safety focus group to Anna Blomquist (Transport Planning).
2. **Bing** to email an outline of the draft arts and culture strategy to members after the meeting and **members** were to provide comments by email by 5pm on 13 October. **Bing and Emily** to make an online submission on behalf of YC by 5pm on 14 October.
3. **Simon** to schedule a session to refine the YC’s early input to the Long Term Plan team at the next meeting.
4. **Colin** to run draft leases policy past YC when it’s complete