



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2007

**In Attendance:**

R.D (St Mark's RC), H.B (Halewood College), H.W (Holy Family), H.Y (Plantation),  
D.S (Halewood C of E), N.H (St Andrew the Apostle), and L.F (Halewood College).

Elected Members : Cllrs Sue Smith and Cllr Sue Moretta respectively  
Town Council Staff : John Green (Town Manager).

**Apologies:** B.R – Treasurer (Halewood College), E.J, (Halewood resident).

YC9/2007 – To Welcome any new Members to the Youth Town Council.

The Town Manager reported that E.J, a Halewood resident who attends St Hilda's CE School, had intended to join us this evening but he received an e-mail this morning informing of her absence this evening due to illness. It was further recommended that Emily's application for membership of the Youth Town Council be accepted, and that the rest of the Council looked forward to meeting her at the next meeting.

The Chair of the meeting asked if the other Members of the Youth Council were in favour of E.J joining, and this was unanimously agreed.

YC10/2007 – To approve the minutes of the meeting of 11 October 2007.

The minutes of the meeting of 11 October 2007 were read and duly accepted.

Proposed: H.B (Halewood College)  
Seconded: R.D (St Mark's RC)

YC11/2007 – To discuss matters arising from the minutes of 11 October 2007

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

YC12/2007 – To welcome a representative from Merseyside Police (Halewood)

The Chair welcomed CSO Lindsay Gibbon from Merseyside Police (Halewood) to the meeting of the Youth Town Council. It was explained the reason for requesting a Police attendee at the meeting, and the Members of the Youth Town Council then raised various issues as follows:

- (i). The question of CCTV being made available elsewhere in the township. Lindsay explained that a colleague, CSO Joe Franco was working to raise match funding for a scheme to provide two CCTV cameras on the Torrington Estate.
- (ii) One member of the Youth Council raised concerns about the broken railings by the bridge by Halewood Railway Station. This has led to access by youths who have been throwing missiles at passers-by, and vehicles. The Town Manager will pass this information on to the Area Relationship Director for Halewood.
- (iii). Another Youth Council Member raised the issue of recent burglaries in her area. Lindsay did state that a home “assessment” visit for security was available from the Police, and that Members of the Youth Council could make parents and friends aware of this scheme. Interested people should contact the Halewood Police Station if interested.
- (iv). One member raised the issue of receiving prank phone calls on her mobile. Again advice on changing the SIM card was given, and depending on the network provider, this could be free.
- (v). The issue of providing panic alarms was raised. Lindsay did say she would be able to provide a small number for the members of the Youth Council, but would also obtain a price for obtaining a stock should the Youth Town Council wish to use this as a project.
- (vi). In response to the issue of litter between the shops and the College, Lindsay did say that very soon CSO’s would have the power to issue litter fines.
- (vii) Other issues raised by the members including lighting issues in dark alley areas of Halewood (Area Relationship Director to be informed), motorbike nuisance, and the climbing of a broken fence between Wood Road field, and the shops on Ravencourt as a shortcut.

The Chair thanked Lindsay for her attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Youth Town Council.

YC13/2007 –General Purposes & Environmental Committee of 8 November 2007.

The minutes of the General Purposes & Environment Meeting were received and discussed. The Town Manager gave an overview of the issues raised at the above meeting.

- (i). Items raised at Youth Town Council meetings would be raised and referred to the Town Manager for action.
- (ii). That the Youth Town Council allow a protocol of welcoming members of the public to their meetings.
- (iii). That specific actions raised by the Youth Town Council regarding Knowsley MBC be referred to the respective departments by the Town Manager.

The Members of the Youth Town Council noted, and agreed with the proposals.

#### YC14/2007 – Halewood Library Service – New Facilities

A request from the Halewood Library Service regarding what the Youth Town Council wished to see within the new building was discussed at great length. The issues then raised by the members of the Youth Town Council included:

- (i). 14+ children should be catered for (i.e older teenagers) as this appears to not be the case elsewhere. A music library, coursework “trainer” being available, and a social mentor (for “growing-up” problems) should be considered.
- (ii). Special needs “surfers”, such as the deaf and blind should be catered for in the new environment. Perhaps an in-house sign language course could be provided for those interested.
- (iii). There needs to be a wide cross section of books available, linking age to reading needs. It was also stated that perhaps a “link” between the Library and the College be established to ensure that appropriate coursework books are available.
- (iv). Any atmosphere, décor etc needs to be modern, and inviting to younger people.
- (v). There needs to be sufficient space for all who wish to attend, no over-crowding.
- (vi). One suggestion to avoid over-crowding is that each school be given a “time-slot” in the week to help congestion.
- (vii). It was suggested that the new Library may consider special “themes” at regular intervals.

#### YC15/2007 – Community Activities/ Facilities in the new Halewood Learning Centre

A request from the Heather Vaughan of Knowsley’s DRN Department was received regarding what the Youth Town Council wished to see within the new building was discussed. The issues then raised by the members of the Youth Town Council included:

- (i). There is a need to ensure that traditional forms of information (i.e books) are still provided, and not just a reliance on computers/laptops.
- (ii). There was a request to ensure that adequate coursework and problem solving material was available, particularly in book form. It was further added that major bookshops may be invited to provide a book market on a regular basis to enable students to purchase books to assist with their studies.
- (iii). It was felt that any new facility needs to have plenty of light, space, in order to make it a place where you would want to go to study.
- (iv). There still needs to be a “quiet place” for those requiring such quiet study without distraction.
- (v). There needs to be a special needs section for those students who are deaf, or suffer from partial sight.
- (vi). It was suggested that there be one homework club after College for all years, with no set day for each year.
- (vii). There needs to be a continuation of the “Mentor” scheme already in operation, and availability to all students of this facility.

#### YC16/2007 – Any Other Business

- (i). One member raised the issue that some Liverpool schools had recently been receiving visits from St John Ambulance giving instruction on CPR and the recovery position. The Town Manager said he would contact Knowsley LEA (Local Education Authority) Offices to see if this was being rolled out to Knowsley, (and Halewood) schools.
- (ii). It was suggested that the Youth Town Council consider putting a half page or full page article in each edition of the Halewood Community News. Members of the Youth Town Council were also asked to volunteer delivering the editions in their immediate street or area.
- (iii). The Town Manager also informed the Youth Town Council of the work currently being undertaken to provide a new website for the Town Council. It was felt that a dedicated page for the Youth Town Council would be a major asset. The Town Manager will keep members informed when this new site will be available.

#### YC17/2007 – Close of meeting, and date of next meeting

Being no further business, the Chair of the Meeting thanked all for their attendance, and closed the meeting at 6:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Youth Town Council will take place on Thursday 14 February 2008 at the New Hutte Neighbourhood Centre, commencing at 6 p.m.