



# SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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VAT Reg. No. 142 3103 24

13 May 2026

To: All Members of the Youth Provision Committee  
(Cllrs: Ian Barlow, Francetta Bridle, Bernie Davis, Paul Dodds, Stuart Hughes, Chris Lockyear, Hilary Nelson, John Nicholson, Rachel Perram)

For Information:  
Other Members of the Council  
Town Clerk

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Meeting of the Youth Provision Committee  
Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 10am**

You are called upon to attend the above meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Woolcombe Lane, Sidmouth. It is proposed that the matters set out on the agenda below will be considered and resolution or resolutions passed as the Town Council considers appropriate.

The Chair of the Committee has the right and discretion to control questions to avoid disruption, repetition and to make best use of the meeting time. Individual contributions will be limited to a maximum period of three minutes.

Yours faithfully,

**Christopher E Holland**  
Town Clerk

## A G E N D A

	Page/s
1 <b>Apologies</b> To receive any apologies for absence.	
2 <b>Minutes</b> To confirm the minutes of the Youth Provision Committee meeting held on Tuesday 3 February 2026.	<b>4-6</b>

- 3 **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive any Members' declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.  
Note: You must also declare the nature of any personal or prejudicial interests in an item whenever it becomes apparent that you have an interest in the business being considered.
- 4 **Matters of Urgency and Report**  
To consider any items that in the opinion of the Chair should be dealt with as matters of urgency because of special circumstances. (Note: such circumstances need to be recorded in the minutes)
- 5 **Exclusion of the Public**  
To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded. There is one item which the Clerk recommends should be dealt with in this way.
- 6 **Service Review - Open Access Sessions** **Report to follow**
- To receive a report on Open Access Sessions at Sidmouth International School September 2025 – March 2026
  - To receive an update on negotiations for further Open Access Sessions provision and consider delegation of authority to the Chair of YP, Chair of Council and Town Clerk to renegotiate a further 6m contract for provision of Open Access Sessions
- 7 **Mental Health Youth Worker Project** **Report to follow**
- To receive an update on the Mental Health Youth Worker Project
  - To note the Q4 Report (Jan – Mar 2026) from Action East Devon
- 8 **Headlight Sidmouth Project** **Report to follow**
- To receive a written update from Action East Devon on the setting up of the Headlight Sidmouth Project
- 9 **Parental Minds** **Pages 19 - 24 of the attached SVH document**
- To receive a written report from Parental Minds on their support for caregivers and families in the Sid Valley, funded through Sid Valley Help 2025/6
- 10 **Feedback from Third Parties** **Pages 14 - 18 of the attached SVH document**  
**Wellbeing and Health Action Team**
- To note the presentation of the WHAT Group, attached.
- 11 **Sidmouth College Student Council**
- To extend an invitation to Sidmouth College Student Council to a Youth Provision meeting.
- 12 **Residents' Petition**
- To note the written report on the Petition of Residents presented to Full Council on 2 March 2026 with reference to youth services provision. **7**

13 **Projects**

Youth @ Sidmouth

- To receive an update from Di Byrne on the Y@S website development and Youth Directory

Get Involved Grants (GIG)

- To discuss strategy to encourage take up and to approve new online process for GIG Applications for the academic year 2026/7 as detailed in the following Flow Chart.

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14 **PART 'B'**

**Exclusion of the Public and Press**

The Vice-Chair of the Council to move the following:

“that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of its contents.”

15 **Youth Services Provision 2025/6**

To note and reaffirm the decision of the Council contained in the Youth Provision Committee minutes of 20 May 2025.

16 **Future Committee Meeting dates**

- Tuesday 18 August
- Tuesday 17 November

**Forthcoming Council and Working Group meetings:**

Monday 1 June: COUNCIL

Wednesday 3 June: PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday 15 June: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

## SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Youth Provision Committee, held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth, on Tuesday 3 February 2026 at 10.00am

Councillors Present: Rachel Perram (Chair)  
Ian Barlow  
Bernie Davis (Vice Chair)  
Paul Dodds  
Stuart Hughes  
Chris Lockyear  
Hilary Nelson  
John Nicholson

Apologies: Francetta Bridle

The meeting started at 10:00am and finished at 12:30pm

#### 29 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on Thursday 25 November 2025 were signed as a true and accurate record.

#### 30 Declarations of Interest

Name	Type	Action Taken	Details of Interest
Cllr Rachel Perram	Personal	Remained in the Council Chamber and took part during voting and discussion	Daughter has in the past been employed by Sidmouth International School, the contractor operating on behalf of the Council contractor to deliver open access sessions
Cllr Stuart Hughes	Personal	Remained in the Council Chamber and took part during voting and discussion	Director of Stowford Community Centre

#### 31 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

No matters of urgency reported.

#### 32 Anti-Social Behaviour

Members received an update from Devon and Cornwall Police regarding recent incidents of anti-social behaviour. The Police reported that an initial incident at Connaught Gardens had resulted in damage and had been captured on video. The incident involved a local 14-year-old and other young

people, primarily from outside the local area. Restorative justice options were being considered, including an apology and a potential contribution towards repairs or damage.

A further gathering at Connaught Gardens in the previous week resulted in no damage, and the young people dispersed upon police arrival.

It was reported that anti-social behaviour had been concentrated primarily in Connaught Gardens and the Howarth Close area.

The Police advised that a number of individual cases had been addressed, including the carrying out of interviews with younger children where safeguarding concerns were identified. In some cases, charges had been deferred pending further monitoring and referrals to appropriate support services, and several young people were spoken to and given advice.

The Police confirmed that visits were being made to local shops and garages selling alcohol to ensure that none were selling to underage young people.

The Police outlined a range of preventative measures being considered, including targeted CCTV in identified problem areas, increased involvement of Social Services where appropriate, engagement with parents and families, the use of positive adult role models, and, in certain cases, consideration of residential school placements.

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1) The update be noted.
- 2) Police be provided with information regarding the Get Involved Grant (GIG) to share with families where appropriate.
- 3) The Committee supported Police engagement with Sidmouth College to explain the consequences and wider impacts of anti-social behaviour.

### **33 Outreach Services**

Members considered the report from SPACE and discussed its findings in relation to recent anti-social behaviour.

**RESOLVED** that;

- 1) The report be noted.
- 2) Councillor Denise Bickley be asked to provide information regarding the youth services currently delivered by Devon County Council within the local area.

### **34 Open Access Sessions**

a) The Chair reported that Open Access Sessions continued to operate successfully, with average attendance of approximately 28 young people per week. Behavioural expectations and procedures were reported to be effective. It was noted that former Manstone Youth Centre attendees had begun attending and that further promotion, including a leaflet drop in the Stowford area, could be beneficial.

#### **b) Open Access Sessions Trial – Years 5 and 6**

Members discussed the possibility of trial sessions for younger age groups, including involvement of existing attendees in supporting delivery.

**RESOLVED** that discussions to progress a trial be supported.

#### **c) Radway Cinema – Christmas Film**

Members noted the success of the Christmas film screening and discussed the potential for additional screenings during school holidays.

**d) Half-Term and Easter Activities**

Members considered a proposal from local artist Steve McCrchan to deliver an art session for up to 12 young people during half-term at a cost of £350 including materials, subject to appropriate supervision arrangements.

**RESOLVED:** That a trial session be approved.

**e) Long Park and Skate Park Maintenance**

Members discussed ongoing issues relating to litter and broken glass in these areas.

**RESOLVED:** That the Chair would follow up litter-picking contract arrangements with the Clerk.

**35 Get Involved Grant (GIG)**

Members noted that Sidmouth College remained supportive of the scheme. Cllr Dodds would look to promote the GIG at a Sidmouth College Assembly.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Dodds to oversee the design and production of a GIG leaflet, including contact details and an application form to be endorsed by the College and forwarded to participating clubs and all students at Sidmouth College.

**36 Budget and Mental Health Provision**

a) Members considered the Youth Provision Budget breakdown totalling £56,000.

**RESOLVED:** That the Youth Provision Budget breakdown be approved.

b) Members were advised that Action East Devon had offered to take on the Mental Health Youth Worker role previously delivered by Young Devon.

**RESOLVED:** That £10,000 from the Youth Provision Budget be allocated to the Mental Health Youth Worker project and that the existing contract transfer from Young Devon to Action East Devon.

**37 Headlight contractor**

Members considered the report from Action East Devon regarding the proposed Headlight Sidmouth service to support young people aged 11–18 experiencing mental health difficulties and to address gaps in accessible, out-of-school mental health provision in the Sid Valley.

**RESOLVED:** That a grant of £8,700 be approved and the service be trialled for one year.

**38 Battle of the Bands and Band Practice**

Members received an update from Councillor Hughes regarding the proposed Stowford Battle of the Bands and the use of the hall for rehearsals.

**RESOLVED:** That a meeting be arranged between the Chair, representatives of Stowford Community Centre and the Town Clerk to discuss arrangements.

**39 Future Committee Meeting Dates:**

This agenda item was not covered in the time available and would be discussed at a later meeting.

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The following ideas were suggested for Stowford Community Centre.

Idea	Total
Youth club	42
Drop-in centre for parents/carers (SEN)	10
Baby group	7
Craft sessions	5
Facilities for children	4
Community cafe9	3
Choir	2
Citizens Advice Centre	2
Coffee mornings/afternoon teas	2
Exercise classes	2
Homeschooling meet-up	2
Knit n knatter	2
Life skills sessions	2
Sports	2
LGBT+ support	1
Menes mental health support	1
Monthly disco	1
Music events	1
Outreach days	1
Repair cafe9	1
Seasonal events	1
<b>Total signatures received: 107</b>	

## **Get Involved Grants Scheme – Suggested Process 2026/7**

