

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Youth Provision Committee, held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth, on Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 9.00am

Councillors Present: Paul Dodds (Chair)
Ian Barlow
Chris Lockyear
Hilary Nelson (acting Vice Chair)
John Nicholson

Apologies: Francetta Bridle
Stuart Hughes

The meeting started at 9:00am and finished at 9:50am

1 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

2 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

No matters of urgency were reported.

3 School Holiday Activities and Packed Lunch Project

The Committee considered a proposal to establish a one-off school holiday packed lunch scheme for vulnerable children in Sidmouth, funded from the Youth Provision Project Budget, to address the shortfall in support following the withdrawal of the national holiday food voucher scheme for summer 2026. Members were advised that some local schools had not been informed of the replacement Crisis and Resilience Fund application process, resulting in eligible families being unaware of the support available.

Cllrs Dodds and Nelson updated Members on the partnership project, which would provide weekly packed lunch kits and activities for up to 50 vulnerable children in Sidmouth during the summer holidays. The maximum estimated cost of the scheme was £3,150.00

RESOLVED:

- 1) That up to £3,150.00 be allocated from the Youth Provision Project Budget to fund the one-off Summer Holiday Lunch Box Scheme.
- 2) That the Chair and Cllr Dodds contact East Devon District Council and Devon County Council to request that local schools be urgently informed of the Crisis and Resilience Fund application process, enabling eligible families to access available support.

4 Update on Ongoing Youth Provision Projects

The Committee received an update from Cllr Dodds on ongoing Youth Provision projects, including the Get Involved Grants (GiG) Scheme, the Youth Club and partnership working with Sidmouth College. Members were informed that recent visits to Sidmouth College had been successful, the student social media competition had been well received, and the GiG Scheme had been promoted at a parents' evening. It was noted that GiG information leaflets had been distributed in both printed and electronic formats and would also be provided to the local Police to distribute to families who may benefit from the scheme.

Cllr Dodds also advised that he had invited PSCO Jane Starkey to attend a session at Sidmouth International School (SIS) to re-assure SIS of what to do in the event of a tricky situation or anti-social behaviour.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

Next Meetings

- 22 July: Planning Committee
- 3 July: Council
- 12 August Planning Committee

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CHAIR OF THE YOUTH PROVISION COMMITTEE