

Report of the Gore District Youth Council meeting, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore on Monday 11 August 2014, at 5pm.

Present Devin Kubala (Chair), Renee Moyles, Alec McWhirter, Alex Parish, Cirque Gammelin. Megan McCall, Alice Robertson, Grace Kelly, Jordan Edwards, Hamish Goatley, Luke Howden, Amy McCabe, Brayden Scott and Sian Davis.

In Attendance Youth Development Coordinator Kayla McIntosh, Cr Anne Gover, Cr Bolger, Kylie Weir Corporate Support Officer, Kylie Aitken Youth Worker, Lisa McKenzie Social Sector trials Leader and Jo Brand Mataura Community Development Officer.

Apologies: Georgia Johnstone, Olivia Nicholson, Tayla Marlow, Skyla Mill, Andrew Macleod, Amy McCabe, Tyron Belt, Tomazina Koppen-Pavlovich, Abigail Visser, Paige Ogilvy and Georgia Nicol.

1. Confirmation of Report

The report of the Gore District Youth Council meeting held on Monday 23 June 2014 had been circulated. Hamish Goatley moved that it be received, seconded by Alex Parish.

Kayla informed the Youth Council about the Festival for the Future scholarship which Alec had applied for. This covered his attendance at the conference and his accommodation. Alec would address the Council on 12 August and would ask for assistance for his travel.

2. Council item and discussion about performance for the Council.

Council agenda items:

Cr Bolger was present at the meeting to gain the Youth Council's opinion on the \$250,000 St James Theatre Trust loan and if it thought it should be paid back or if a portion should be transferred into a grant.

Alec believed that the Trust should be granted that amount as it gave so much back to the district with attracting the New Zealand ballet, operatic, performances and concerts.

Devin addressed the Youth Council on the skit that was meant to happen at the Council meeting on 24 June. Discussion was held about why it had not gone ahead which was due to most of the Councillors not being available. They needed more warning that it was going to happen so they could meet up and have a practice. It was decided that they would try to arrange a practice so the skit could be performed at a later Council meeting.

4. Reflection on the final event of Kidzone

Luke referred to the Kidzone event which had come from a decision made to form a partnership with Hokonui radio to give back to the community and help those children who were less fortunate. The competition ended up with 100 entries, which led to 16 winners. The winners all got to bring one friend which meant 32 children were taken plus volunteer helpers.

All the children had a great day out with a healthy lunch provided by Bakers Beyond in Invercargill, they got to look around the Kidzone festival and meet some Southland Stags. There were plenty of volunteers and with it already being an annual event it made it easier to organise. Luke thanked all the Youth Councillors who gave up their time to come and help on the day and in the lead up to the event by putting all the goodie bags together.

Sian Davis now joined the meeting at 5.21pm

5. Call for more applications for Cultural Diversity Forum

This item had been pulled from the agenda due to the numbers being cut. They wanted students aged 18-30 years and requested that most of the participants be from Christchurch.

6. Discussion about how the Youth Awards will work this year

Kayla introduced the Youth Councillors to Kylie Aitken, Jo Brand, and Lisa McKenzie who joined the meeting to discuss the Youth Awards. Lisa held discussion around things that had been started and what would be involved in order to improve on the previous year's event. She also informed the new Youth Councillors about what the awards were about and why they were started.

Cr Gover now joined the meeting at 5.30pm

The Youth Awards received 47 nominations last year with around 270 people attending and it hoped that this number could be achieved again this year.

The Youth Council was informed a meeting had already been held and they had set out smaller groups which would involve some staff and Youth Councillors to get everything sorted in time before the event in December.

These groups were:

- Catering - Hannah Armstrong, Kylie Aitken, Megan McCall, Sian Davis
- Decorating - Kayla McIntosh, Sian Davis, Renee Moyles, Alex Parish
- Entertainment - Tiff, Jordan Edwards, Brayden Scott, Alice Robertson
- Public relations and Media - Jo Brand, Renee Moyles, Luke Howden, Alice Robertson, Alec McWhirter
- Sponsorship and Trophies - Cr Gover, Alex Parish
- Nominations and judging - Kayla McIntosh, Alec McWhirter, Alice Robertson, Cirque Gammelin
- Lighting and Sound - Lisa McKenzie, Terry, Hamish Goatley, Andrew McLeod, Alex Parish

Grace Kelly now left the meeting at 5.55pm

Jo suggested inviting Parris Goebel, Coca-Cola Amatil Young New Zealander of the Year for her achievements in dance for entertainment.

Cr Gover advised the Town and Country Stadium had been booked for 5 and 6 December. This would allow the hall to be set up on the Friday with the awards held on the Saturday.

Cr Bolger now left the meeting at 5.56pm

7. Any other matters arising

Alex referred to an offer of a 30 minute slot once a week on the locally owned Caveman radio station. This opportunity would enable Youth Councillors to share what they did and any events that were coming up as well as give their point of view on Gore. The Youth Council would have to provide the material and music and caveman would help with the dials. The idea was to support the community by getting involved and interacting with the locals. The time could be from 3.30-4pm on a Tuesday for a start and if it ran well could look at going an hour long.

Discussion was held around how many Youth Councillors had heard of Caveman radio and whether they would be heard by enough local people to make the commitment worthwhile. Alex advised the radio station was channel 106.4, in case anyone wanted to go home and have a listen.

There would be a cost of \$20.00 per week for a half hour slot.

Luke declared a conflict of interest and stated he could not be part of it as he worked for Hokonui and it would breach his contract.

Cr Gover stated that they would need to get permission from the Council and get in contact with the Communications Coordinator as a starting point.

Alec believed this was a good opportunity for the Youth Council however, there would need to be a trial basis to ensure enough Youth Councillors were available to fill the spot so they did not get put in the position of Councillors saying they would but then not turn up.

Kayla advised that Glenys Dickson had been in contact asking for ideas on how to make youth more interested in voting this election year. Discussion was held around why youth were not interested and the feeling was that politics were too complicated and boring to gain attention. They believed that the language used in their policies was at a level they struggled to understand. They wondered if there was cellphone application or a website that targeted youth and if party policies were more simple then they would attract a youth audience.

Alec raised the idea on the Youth Council getting behind some 100 year celebrations next year for the First World War.

Cr Gover said at the Gore RSA on 12 August there would be a WWI embarkation commemoration at 3.30pm and any Youth Councillors who wished to attend could meet her there.

Date of next meeting – Monday 1 September at 5pm.

The meeting closed at 6.15pm