

Saltash Team For Youth

Report for Policy & Finance Committee meeting on 12 March 2024

The Saltash Team For Youth working group last met on Friday 19 January at Livewire. Below are the notes from the meeting.

1. Welcome and apologies

Attended by Matt, Rachel, Julia from Saltash Town Council, Charlotte from The Core and Julie from Livewire. Apologies from Sarah. Thanks to Julie for hosting us.

2. Updates from The Core, Livewire and Saltash Town Council

2.1 Livewire

The external painting of the building is completed, lots of positive feedback. The team are busy planning the Livewire Weekender festival taking place on 23rd & 24th March featuring performances from young people who have benefitted from Livewire's support over the years. A commemorative LP is also being produced, which will be sold at £20 each (£15 for artists performing) to help raise money. Julie will send an invite to STC councillors inviting them to attend the event. It was agreed that the event provides a useful opportunity to raise money and Matt suggested the artists performing could make a fundraising ask from the stage and highlight how Livewire has made a positive difference in their lives.

Julie mentioned that the team were touched to receive a donation of £200 recently from a local resident with an accompanying letter thanking them for all that they do.

Weekly sessions are now up and running following the Christmas break. Mondays are particularly busy and there continues to be a waiting list for Juniors on Wednesday evenings. There continues to be a high demand for 1to1 counselling sessions / mental health support and Julie is pleased that this support has been extended to an initial 18 weeks for a young person, compared to the previous 12 weeks.

Lastly, Livewire's involvement in Boardmasters has been confirmed for 2024 providing a platform for young bands to perform.

2.2 The Core

Regular activities have also started again following the Christmas break. Charlotte outlined their new project with Groundwork, which starts in February after half term and is funded by the Good Growth Fund. The Core will host the project, which consists of targeted support for young people, including those that are home educated, for 2 days per week. The participants will be involved in some of The Core's existing activities, including Grub Club and First Aid and Groundworks will deliver other functional skills activities including Literacy and Numeracy. This is a really good example of local youth organisations working collaboratively for the benefit of young people, which also provides a useful income stream for The Core from part of the Good Growth Fund.

Charlotte also mentioned their collaboration with Saltash Community Shed. This will provide additional space onsite at The Core to deliver vocational skills activity for young people. The Core's LGBTQ project for young people working with local artists on fashion design, photography and setting up an exhibition is also progressing well.

Lastly, Charlotte mentioned that the AGM of Saltash Youth Network, which she currently Chairs, takes place on Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm.

2.3 Saltash Town Council

2.3.1 Engagement with Saltash Community School

Matt outlined that, following the last meeting, he had met with Tim Parkman, Chair of Governors at Saltash Community School, on 29th October and agreed the need to strengthen links between the school and youth service provision in the town. They also talked about the current challenges the school are facing and the behaviour measures that have been introduced recently.

Matt and Tim are due to meet again and Tim is arranging for Sara Del Gaudio, currently Acting Head at the school, to attend too. Matt has suggested some dates and is waiting to hear back.

The group recognised the considerable challenges that the school is experiencing and how the involvement of youth organisations in the town could help particularly regarding young people's mental health and wellbeing.

2.3.2 Sustainable transport in the town

Rachel and Julia outlined the forthcoming Beryl Bikes development in Saltash. 13 bike stations, with 6 bikes in each station, are being set up in the town together with investigating the implementation of an electric ferry operating between Saltash, St Budeaux and Royal William Yard. A launch event will be held on Saturday 30th March (Easter Saturday) together with an accompanying awareness raising exhibition at Ashtorre Rock Community Centre throughout the Easter weekend.

2.3.3 Saltash Markets

Rachel and Julia outlined the feasibility of setting up artisan markets on Fore Street, which is currently being scoped out. This forms part of the Town Team's work to improve Fore Street and increase visitor numbers.

2.3.4 Tendering process for professional youth work in 2024 / 25.

Matt mentioned that the timescale for this is to be finalised in due course. It is likely to follow the same format from last year i.e. tendering process opens in the middle of March, deadline for applications middle of April, applicants notified middle of May. The process will be publicised on Saltash Town Council's website and social media as before.

Charlotte and Julie reiterated their thanks to Saltash Town Council for the current support and how vital it is in these challenging times. Charlotte commented that STC's commitment to supporting youth work is really positive to see and is something that STC should be proud of and therefore publicise more e.g. cheque handover at the time the funding is awarded. Matt will feed this back.

7. Date of next meeting

Friday 7 June, 1pm at Livewire.

Cllr Matt Griffiths

1/3/24