

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



*City of
Joondalup*

**MEETING OF THE JOONDALUP SOUTH YOUTH ADVISORY
COUNCIL HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 1 (JOONDALUP CIVIC
CHAMBERS) ON WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2001.**

ATTENDANCES

Natasha Newman	Chairperson	Paul Kadak	Councillor
Rachel Curtis		Bob Tomlins	Coordinator, Youth Services
Ryan Kukura		Jeremy Manning	Youth Projects Officer
Enid Chua		Robert Evans	Financial Counsellor
Steven Baron			
Garrath Dingley			
Luke Williams			
Andrew Logan			
Robert Harwood			

APOLOGIES

Heidi Delaney

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 4.33pm.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Joondalup South Youth Advisory Council meeting held on 18 April 2001 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. City of Joondalup Financial Counselling Service

Robert Evans, the City's Financial Counsellor gave members a brief description of his role. He then addressed issues concerning young people and personal debt. A lively discussion followed, particularly in relation to young people and mobile phones.

Young people can very easily enter into a contract for a mobile phone – including the entry into a binding agreement, via a phone call. In doing so, there is often very little explanation from the carrier of the potential consequences of their actions – namely large phone bills. Unlike 'similar' credit card accounts there is no 'credit limit' beyond which the young person cannot use their phone. Robert retold a story of a young man he had seen who had a bill of \$5,000 to pay.

Robert also raised the issue of Third Party Property Insurance for motor vehicles. Many young people do not realise the importance of this cover and the potential consequences of not having it. Many young people find themselves with a large debt arising from damage caused to other vehicles in accidents for which they have been held responsible.

Members raised a number of ideas in regard to how the YAC could make a positive contribution to addressing these issues within the City of Joondalup. These included:

- Education of young people on how to avoid high levels of personal debt – use of case studies to demonstrate what not to do – present issues to students using role plays in schools – articles in the YAC newsletter – presentation of the issue as part of the Youth Expo – use of a simulation mobile phone, similar to the 'virtual baby' that students care for in order to experience the demands of early parenthood.
- Working with phone companies to improve their practices or government to legislate for better practices – better explanations to young people of the financial costs of owning a mobile phone – a cooling off period in which a young person can cancel the contract – limits to be placed on the credit available on a mobile phone.

ACTION

- a) Members expressed a wish to pursue these issues further at their next meeting – to be included on the agenda in order to develop some concrete action/s.
- b) Robert Evans will liaise with other financial counsellors to gather additional ideas on how the issues of young people and personal debt have been addressed elsewhere.

2. Facilities/Activities for Young People in Greenwood

Natasha Newman reminded members of the issues she raised last meeting in relation to the outcomes of a survey she conducted with students from Greenwood Senior High School. Natasha surveyed students from five classes – two year 8 classes, one year 9 class and two year 10 classes – a total of 150 students. These students complained that there were very few local attractions for young people and that it was difficult for them to

travel to facilities and activities elsewhere in the City. Top of their list of 'wants' were a skatepark and dance parties. At the last meeting Natasha undertook to convene a committee to organise a regular dance party (with the support of the YAC Coordinator).

Councillor Paul Kadak informed the meeting that the Councillor's Skateboard Committee was considering the future location of new skateparks to be constructed within the City – the suburbs of Kinross, Ocean Reef and Greenwood are presently under consideration. This Committee will be very interested, in due course, to receive the information gathered from the young people of Greenwood Senior High School.

ACTION

- a) The Youth Advisory Council recommends to the City that it construct its next skatepark at a location accessible for use by the young people of Greenwood, Duncraig and Warwick.
- b) Jeremy Manning to work with Natasha Newman and a small group of YAC members to collate and make available, all the information contained in the surveys completed by students from Greenwood Senior High School.

3. Youth Council Week

Youth Council Week will be conducted between 16 and 20 July 2001. A total of 12-16 young people will have the opportunity to participate. It will be an excellent opportunity to discuss difficult issues in greater detail. Unfortunately a meeting to identify issues for consideration during the Week was postponed as members had other important commitments, such as the Roadsafety project.

ACTION

- a) Members intending to participate in Youth Council Week and others interested in identifying the issues for debate will meet on Thursday, 7 June 2001. At this meeting members will go through surveys of local young people collected at a number of recent events, including the Joondalup Festival, to identify their issues of greatest concern.

4. Reunion 2011 – Roadsafety Project

The purpose of this video advertisement is to address the issue of teenage road trauma by encouraging safer driving practices amongst young drivers in the City of Joondalup. The project has been funded by a grant of \$10,000 to the City's Youth Advisory Councils from the Offices of Roadsafety and Youth Affairs. Support has also been received from local businesses.

Luke Williams provided members with an up-date on the progress made towards the production of the video – with the completion of the rehearsal, filming will soon begin as per the schedule drafted. There are three 'shoots', the last one being on 4 June 2001.

ACTION

Project plan to continue to be implemented – the next stage being the filming and editing of the video footage. Members not already participating were urged to join the cast and organise appropriate costumes.

5. Carwash

Andrew Logan and Enid Chua reported on the carwash, which took place at the Lakeside Shopping Centre on 19 May 2001. They felt that it had gone well in spite of the poor weather that deterred many motorists from having their cars washed. On the positive side some cars were washed and \$40 in donations to the 'Make a Wish Foundation' was collected. In addition many brochures and stickers promoting the YAC were distributed.

6. Marketing Workshop

Members of the Promotions Committee attended this workshop on 26 April 2001. James Lawton, Marketing Manager for the City of Joondalup conducted the workshop. 'Promotion Plan 2001' was the outcome. The Plan, a copy of which is attached, lists a number of strategies to promote the YAC over the next twelve months. The most significant strategy being implemented at the present time is the production of the first edition of a YAC newsletter. This will contain many features of interest to local young people. It will bring the YAC to their attention and enable the YAC to gain feedback on issues of concern to local young people.

7. YAC Newsletter

Jeremy Manning informed members that Viet Nguyen of the Joondalup North YAC was coordinating the collection of items to go into the first edition of the newsletter.

ACTION

- a) Members to forward their contributions to the YAC newsletter to Viet Nguyen within the next couple of days. Viet will compile the newsletter content before forwarding it to Jeremy Manning for production by the City's Marketing Section.
- b) Members to discuss at the next meeting how the newsletter may best be distributed.

8. Media Opportunities

At the Marketing Workshop the suggestion was made that this item should appear on the agenda for all future YAC meetings. This would ensure that opportunities were not overlooked. Members agreed to accept the suggestion.

ACTION

- a) 'Media Opportunities' to appear as a regular item on all future agendas.
- b) Jeremy Manning to liaise with the City's marketing staff to ensure that opportunities associated with the Roadsafety project are realised.

2. Extreme Youth Festival – Evaluation and Video

Members had previously received a copy of the Evaluation Report of the 2001 Extreme Youth Festival, held at Craigie Leisure Centre on 4 March 2001. The Festival was organised by a group of Youth Advisory Council members in conjunction with Youth and Leisure Services staff.

Members were asked to comment on the contents of the report. The following feedback was received:

- Contrary to the report, there was in fact more there for girls than just the music – they were there also for the extreme sports, 'participating' differently to the boys.
- The overall layout of stands was too spread out. Greater atmosphere would have been created had the layout been more compact – the grassed area adjacent to the Joondalup train station may be a better venue.
- More advertising would have attracted greater numbers of young people.
- There should be some 'non-extreme' attractions.

ACTION

Feedback from members on the Evaluation Report of the 2001 Extreme Youth Festival be considered when planning for next year's event.

Members then viewed the video of footage filmed at the Festival. Members were impressed by the quality of the video and the great interviews conducted by John Saratsis with some of the young people who attended.

NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 20 June 2001
Time: 4.30 pm
Venue: Conference Room 1 – Council Chambers.

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting at 6.30pm.