

Policy Group – 19 September 2018

Support for local youth clubs

1. Purpose of report

To seek agreement to grant aid youth clubs in Swanage and Wareham

2. Key issues

- 2.1 As a response to its budget problems, Dorset County Council has transferred the provision of youth facilities to the community sector. At the time of the proposed transfer, some communities were unable to take on the responsibility for the operation of their local youth clubs and the facilities closed. In Purbeck the facilities in both Swanage and Wareham have been taken over by community trusts. The Wareham trust also provides outreach support to both Corfe Castle and Wool. The facility in Upton closed although there are ongoing discussions aimed at retaining the facility.
- 2.2 In recent months the community trusts operating the facilities in both Swanage and Wareham have written to the Council requesting financial support. In the case of the Swanage youth club, the Council has been asked for a contribution to the estimated cost of £36,800 to refurbish the centre, as shown in **Appendix 1**. In the case of Wareham, the Council has been asked to support the Trust operating the youth facilities, as detailed in **Appendix 2**.
- 2.3 In the case of both facilities the Council will provide support through promoting the facilities in the next issue of About Purbeck. It is also recommended that the Council supports these facilities by providing grant aid of £10,000 for each of the two trusts, together with other trusts operating youth facilities which were previously operated by the County Council.

3. Recommendation

A report be submitted to Council recommending:

- 3.1 A grant of £10,000 be given to each of the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and the Wareham & Community Centre;
- 3.2 The Chief Executive be delegated to provide similar grants to other youth clubs in the district in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Social Issues Portfolio Holder and the relevant local members
- 3.3 The cost of the grants be met from the Council's General Reserves.

4. Policy issues

4.1 How will this affect the environment, social issues and the local economy?

Facilities for young people is one of the highest priorities for the public in terms of improvements which need to be made in the district. The Council has included supporting young people in most of the versions of its Council's Corporate Strategy.

4.2 Implications

4.2.1 Resources

Financial support for the youth facilities in Swanage and Wareham will cost £20,000. This will increase to £30,000 if the Upton facilities have a sustainable future. The cost of this support is not included in the Council's annual revenue budget. The costs can, however, be met from the Council's General Reserves.

4.2.2 Equalities

The proposed support will only affect the provision of support to young people.

4.2.3 Shaping Dorset Council

The cost of the proposed support is below the threshold for the proposal to have to be submitted to the Shadow Executive for consultation or approval.

Appendices:

- 1 - Letter from Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
- 2 - Letter from Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation

Background papers:

None

For further information contact:-

Steve Mackenzie, Chief Executive



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust

Councillor Gary Suttle
Purbeck District Council
c/o Town Hall
High Street
Swanage BH19 2NZ

Date: 25 June 2018

Dear Councillor Suttle

The Centre – formerly the Swanage Youth and Community Centre

We are writing to you, as owners of the Centre, to request the support of Purbeck District Council in our efforts to raise funds for the urgent replacement of the roof.

When we took over the Swanage Youth and Community Centre, from Dorset County Council, the property was in a very poor state of repair and decoration. With some financial help from Swanage Town Council, many hundreds of hours of volunteer time and local and national fund raising we have managed to refurbish the building internally. However, we are aware from an initial structural survey that the roof needs replacement. We have been patching, when leaks have occurred, but this has limited impact on a roof in such poor repair.

We are delighted to say that our letting strategy, following refurbishment, has resulted in our being able to cover our normal running costs and re-open the Youth Club with 40 members, and still growing. We continue to strive to open the Centre up to other events so that it becomes a local social hub for the whole Community.

We have received quotes for carrying out the repair works for complete stripping off, including removal of redundant plant and machinery, and replacement with a good quality finish and adequate insulation, to improve energy efficiency. The best of these quotes was from a local roofer, S&A Roofing, in the sum of £36,800.

We would be very grateful if Purbeck District Council could consider making a donation towards the cost of these essential works, to enable us to complete the repair in the summer months and help us in our drive to make the Centre sustainable in the long term.

Yours faithfully,

Bob Foster
Chair of Trustees

Reply to: 3 Sunridge Close Swanage BH19 2BW
E-mail: bob1foster@aol.com
Tel: 01929 426714 Mob: 07827 012759
Web: www.sandpdt.org.uk

Registered Charity. No: 1162662
Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration No: 8743407
Registered Address:
Herston Cross House 230 High
Street Swanage BH19 2PQ

26 MAR 2018

RECEIVED

Wareham Youth & Community Centre-Worgret Road-Wareham-BH20 4PH
Telephone: 01929 552934 Charity Number: 1168537



Steve Mackenzie
Chief Executive Purbeck District Council
Worgret Road
Wareham

19th March 2018

Dear Steve Mackenzie,

Purbeck Youth and Community Foundation are a charity responsible for the financial running of the Wareham Youth Centre, based near the Purbeck Sports Centre, since Dorset County Council stopped the running of youth clubs in Dorset.

We are always seeking funding to enable us to provide a service for young people in Wareham. Any support PDC could give us would be gratefully received. We are aware of the funding other clubs are receiving from their local councils to support their young people.

Since we commenced in September 2016, a high number of young people have linked with us. We run five lunchtime sessions, three evening sessions, an evening in Wool, and an evening in Corfe Castle. The sessions are open to all young people in school Year 7 and above in the area. We are fortunate to have qualified, experience youth workers, who lead each session, supported by volunteers, some of which are young people we have trained ourselves.

A Duke of Edinburgh group meet fortnightly, and the Purbeck Gateway Club for adults with learning difficulties meet weekly.

We also provide a young-person friendly space for alternative education.

The needs of many young people, coupled with cuts in many services, have led us to work in partnership to provide additional services, which include some art and drama therapy sessions.

We provide a weekly CAB session for young people.

We have some input from Dorset MIND.

The police play football with some of the older lads.

We have run a summer residential for young carers, which was surfing in Cornwall last year. We are planning that for this summer. Many various trips are arranged - ice skating, Splashdown and theatre etc. There was also a PGL adventure break. We hire out rooms for suitable activities.

Intergenerational activities are also organised.

**Item 10, Appendix 2
(PG - 19.09.18)**

There is only a small group of dedicated fundraisers who write bids, publicise our work, and hold local fundraising events.

We really need support from the local community, to keep the service going and flourishing. In the transition to a Unitary Authority we are keen our services are promoted and some support is established now.

We know we are valued by young people and this transition to adulthood is such an important time for them. They tell us that The Club really makes a difference in their lives.

One comment is "Coming to Youth Club has made me a happy person, it makes you feel safe, and it's a place to express your feelings and somewhere to come to be accepted, 'xy' have been a massive help on helping me become a bigger and better person"

A professional who uses the Centre wrote "The Youth Club is a fantastic resource that is greatly valued by its service users, children and professionals alike. I use a room at the Youth Club to offer counselling sessions and there is always a friendly approachable feel"

We are in the process of developing our Business Plan to provide a sustainable income, but in this early stage of our development, we are looking to local community support.

I attach a short leaflet about the Foundation, and would be pleased to provide any further information. Our website is <https://purbeckycf.wixsite.com/purbeckycf>



Yours faithfully
Joyce Spiller

Trustee and Fund-Raising Co-ordinator on behalf of Trustees and the Fundraising group
joycespiller@pycf.org.uk



Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation - Who, What and Why?

Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation is a charitable organisation and was formed last year by local volunteers in response to Dorset County Council's appeal for community groups to take over the management of youth centres.

Our aim is to help and support young people in Purbeck and we are just coming to the end of our first full year managing Wareham Youth Centre.

During this time we have retained existing youth centre based activities for our members with age-related evening sessions - plus lunchtime access for students at the adjacent Purbeck School. We've also organised one day trips and overnight visits.



Most importantly the staff support young people's individual needs and when necessary signpost them to professional counselling advice and help on a diverse range of issues. Outside agencies regularly use our premises for this purpose.

Our members have highlighted the club as somewhere they feel safe, where they can meet friends and make new friends, relax, be themselves and enjoy themselves.

Item 10, Appendix 2

(PG - 19.09.18)

The Foundation is self-sufficient and our biggest challenge is securing funds to meet our financial commitments. Our only regular income is from members' weekly contributions and refreshment purchases plus several room hire arrangements. In addition, we are providing and managing staff for other youth centres in Purbeck.



A room for all reasons

Opportunities for room hire at Wareham Youth & Community Centre

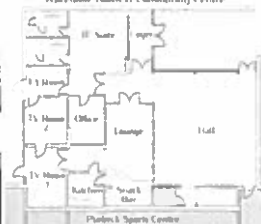


The Centre is adjacent to the Purbeck Sports Centre, which is situated to the rear of the Purbeck School on the east coast. It is managed by the Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation and is open to a group of local volunteers. The Centre is provided to promote team spirit, local organisations, and groups and is a hub of local governing activities. There are a number of important features of this venue.

The Centre offers a variety of options to hire as shown on the floor plan below - ranging from 1/2 hour to 24 hour accommodation for parties or other events that can accommodate up to 200 people.

Please telephone the Youth & Community Leader on 01929 512934 for details of hire opportunities, costs and availability of rooms.

Map showing Yards 1 & Community Centre



Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation, Wareham Youth & Community Centre, Wareham (B&C) 4th

We want the centre to be more widely used by the community at large, be it through greater room hire by local residents and groups or activities that cut across generations.

If you'd like more information on the facilities and opportunities for hire, have ideas for organising community-wide activities, or want to know more about PYC&F then please contact:



Kevin Vasey on 01929 552934 or kevinvasey@pycf.org.uk

You'll find us at:
Wareham Youth Centre, Worgret Road, Wareham BH20 4PH

PYC&F charitable number: 1168537