## Youth Sub-Committee
### Proposed Recreation Facility
#### Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday 18 March 7:30 pm

1. **Present:**
   - Councillor J Conte (Chair)
   - Mr T Short, Manager, Recreation & Community Services
   - V Dimpopoulos
   - T McDermott
   - Y Kok
   - S Campbell
   - S Reisch (Youth Representatives)

2. **Apologies:**
   - Councillor P Braithwaite

3. **Recreation Facility Proposal**
   
   The Village Youth Sub-Committee considered three proposed recreation facilities – a cycling ‘fun track’, a skate park and a youth entertainment venue.

   J Conte asked the youth representatives to put forward their viewpoints on what the majority of Village youth wanted in terms of recreation.

   S Reisch stated that the majority of Village youth had no common meeting place. He believed that a recreation facility that served this purpose would be of the most value.

   V Dimpopoulos agreed. She added that the facility had to be accessible to different groups within the Village. J Conte asked the youth representatives to submit their viewpoints on each proposal.

   Y Kok stated that the youth entertainment venue would be used primarily by bands, which could mean that a significant proportion of the youth population would be excluded. S Campbell stated that the entertainment venue could be expanded to have more than band facilities. Suggestions included an Internet café, a basketball court and an sound engineering studio. T Short stated that this would exceed council budget and that some of these facilities already existed within the Village.

   T McDermott stated that the cycle fun track could have limited appeal as it was a sub-section of the youth community. Y Kok, V Dimopoulos, S Reisch and S McDermott were in agreement.

   S Reisch stated that the Skate Park would serve a wide variety of youth. V Dimopoulos agreed and added that a graffiti wall at the skate park would be of potential value. Y Kok expressed concern that the skate park could be gender biased in its appeal. A female only afternoon called the ‘Grrrl’s Session’ was proposed as a possible solution.

   T Short raised the possibility of putting a syringe drop box at the skate park. This comment created considerable discussion. J Conte questioned the meanings that this may convey to the youth and to the wider community. S Campbell stated that heroin use existed but was not a major problem among the Village youth.

   Motions, ranking the skate park as the first preference and the entertainment venue as the second preference were carried.

   The Youth Sub-Committee will meet again in two week’s time to draft a submission to the Council executive, in light of the above decisions and in accordance with the majority wishes of the group.