



**DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Duston Parish Council  
Duston Community  
Centre  
Pendle Road  
Duston  
Northampton  
NN5 6DT

**Community Services Committee**  
**Minutes 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Chair:** Cllr S Maitland

**Councillors Present:**

Craven, Enright-King, Ennis-Clark, Roper, Golby

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ryan Ikavnieks – Assistant Clerk

Cllr Littlewood

Laura Wood – Team Coordinator for Free2Talk

**CSC01/24. To elect the Chair of the Community Services Committee**

- **RESOLVED:** That Cllr S Maitland was elected Chair of the Community Services Committee for the municipal year of 2024/25.

**CSC02/24. To elect the Vice-Chair of the Community Services Committee**

- **RESOLVED:** That Cllr S Roper was elected Vice-Chair of the Community Services Committee for the municipal year of 2024/25.

**CSC03/24. To receive apologies for absence**

- No apologies were received.

Tel: 01604 583626

Web: [www.duston-pc.gov.uk](http://www.duston-pc.gov.uk)

Email: [office@duston-pc.gov.uk](mailto:office@duston-pc.gov.uk)

**CSC04/24. To receive and approve the minutes of the Community Services Committee on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (APPENDIX A)**

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

**CSC05/24. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda**

- Cllr Golby declared a non-pecuniary interest – due to his position as Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Public Health and Regulatory Services for West Northamptonshire Council.

**CSC06/24. Public Participation Session**

- There were no members of the public present

**CSC07/24. Free2Talk Report**

- The Committee receive a presentation from Laura Wood, Team Coordinator for Free2Talk.
- 19 individual young people have attended 3 or more sessions during the current quarter, bringing the total number of attendances to 74 and is equal to approximately 139 contact hours
- Primarily attendees are in the 14-15-year age bracket (Years 9/10 at school).
- During an Outreach Session 18 young people and 5 parents were approached and spoke with a youth leader.
- This quarter saw low youth engagement due to three main barriers: mock exams for school years 10-13, use of the youth group as punishment, and a fallout among friends. To address these issues, the plan includes targeting the 12-14 age group to maintain numbers, recruiting a volunteer for simultaneous outreach and centre-based work, improving visibility by attending community days, and enhancing social media promotion with the help of young people. Outreach during Easter reached over 20 young people and parents, highlighting the need for continued community engagement efforts.
- The report outlined a Topic and Activity rota that was created by the young people who attend. The aims of this exercise was to foster a sense of ownership and pride for the young people over the youth work.
- The Chair of the Committee and Council thanked Laura for the presentation and ask her to pass their thanks on to the rest of the Free2Talk team for their invaluable work.
- **RESOLVED:**

a) That the report from a representative of Free2Talk regarding the Youth Club / Work was received, discussed and noted.

b) That Free2Talk and the Youth Working Party be thanked for their hard work to date.

**CSC08/24. Recommendations To Full Council**

• **RESOLVED:**

a) That the Community Services Committee accepted the Free2Talk report.

b) Recommends the report and updated SLA be endorsed by Council.

APPROVED

