



**MIN NO**      **MINUTES OF THE ASHFIELD YOUTH COMMITTEE OF ASHFIELD COUNCIL, HELD ON LEVEL 6, CIVIC CENTRE, 260 LIVERPOOL ROAD, ASHFIELD ON MONDAY 25 MARCH 2013, COMMENCING AT 5:30 PM.**

**PRESENT**      Councillor Alex Lofts, Pooja Halasagi (Chair), Liliana Tai, Simone Tai, Sophie Hawkshaw, Yatha Jain, Richard Gough, Johnny Egurrola, Antoinette El-Alam, Emma Suyasa and Camille Cavill.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY**

"Let us acknowledge that we are meeting on country for which the members and elders of the local Aboriginal community have been custodians for many centuries, and on which Aboriginal people have performed age old ceremonies. We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region."

**APOLOGIES**

An apology for non attendance was received and accepted from Mary Britton

**DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

No disclosures were made.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Ashfield Youth Committee Meeting held on 04 March 2013 were confirmed.

**ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- Clr Lofts follow up the Council request for a progress report on the Skate Park expansion at Summer Hill.
- Sophie investigated other t-shirt printing companies. The response was to find a local printing company and use them.
- Council will be running an art competition during Youth Week which will help to fill up the blank spaces in the Youth Centre.

Committee members expressed frustration around the clarity of their role and contribution to council activities, especially in relation to the Youth Centre.

Camille explained that the role of the Youth Committee is an advisory role. The Committee should not feel that they are responsible for decorating, running or opening the Youth Centre, but rather providing advice to Council on these items.

The Committee voted unanimously to redirect their energy into organising an event, like last year's very popular Harry Potter Trivia Night.

**ACTION: Include Event Planning in the agenda for the next meeting.**

**ACTION: Cllr Lofts to invite Director of Corporate and Community Services, Nellette Kettle, to attend the next meeting to provide advice to the Committee on its role.**

### **RESULTS FROM THE CARNIVAL SURVEY**

Council thanked Pooja, Johnny, Antoinette and Sophie for their efforts in running the Information Stall at the Ashfield Carnival of Cultures on Sunday 17 March. In particular, thanks to Sophie who spent a lot of time putting together the survey, jelly bean competition email list and promotional signs for the stall. The Information stall looked great on Sunday and ran well.

Forty-eight responses were collected from the Youth Committee survey. Here are the results:

- **Age group:** nineteen 12 – 14 year olds, twenty 15 – 18 year olds, three 19 -21 year olds, seven 22 – 25 year olds.
- **Gender:** 26 female and 22 male.
- **Cultural background:** A wide range of background including 7 Australians, 9 Chinese, 5 Lebanese, 4 English, 3 Greek and 3 Indian.
- 17 respondents knew about the Ashfield Youth Committee.
- Four respondents had liked our Facebook page.
- 28 respondents said they'd be interested in joining the Committee.
- One third of respondents (15) knew about the Ashfield Youth Centre.
- There were over 33 different suggestions on what would attract young people to the Centre. The top suggestions were food and drink (11), games (4), somewhere to hang/chill out (4).

**These results should be forwarded to staff (Camille, Youth Theatre director, Social Outcomes Project Officer, etc) working on the Youth Centre.**

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT**

Cllr Lofts reported that the Ashfield Aboriginal Consultative Committee is keen to encourage a young Aboriginal person to join the Ashfield Youth Committee.

Also, 82 email addresses were collected in the Jelly Bean guessing competition, where young people indicated interest in joining.

**ACTION: Camille to invite people on mailing list to lodge expressions of interest to join the Ashfield Youth Committee once recruitment is advertised.**

**ACTION: Camille to email the winners of the Jelly Bean Guessing Competition.**

### **YOUTH WEEK**

Camille distributed a draft program for Youth Week Art Competition.

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Camille distributed a draft program for the April School Holiday Program.

### **YOUTH CENTRE PROGRAMMING**

A six month program has been developed in partnership with Metro Migrant Resource Centre/Metro Assist. The program includes Homework Help with Australian Catholic University, Dress for Work and Dress for Success, Life Skills workshops for Young People at risk and Social Enterprise training course. The Youth Committee meetings and Council's school holiday program will continue to run in the Youth Centre.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Clr Lofts announced that Council will be launching a new app called Snap Send Solve. The app for Smartphones allows the public to photograph an issue (dumped rubbish, abandoned trolley) and report it to Council.

Burwood Council were looking to consult with members of the Youth Committee who participated in the Your Australia Our Australia game last year. The consultation would run at the next Youth Committee meetings for approximately to 30 minutes. Given that only a few committee members participated in the game, the committee preferred to decline the invitation.

**ACTION: Camille to inform Burwood Council that they will decline the offer.**

Liliana announced that she received a Youth Action and Policy Association Grant (YAPA) and is working in partnership with Youth Beyond Blue and Metro Assist to run a public speaking competition. The event will be held on Sunday 14 April at Sydney University. High School students are invited to speak on mental health in young people. There are cash prizes to be won. For more information visit [www.bbyouthpublicspeaking.com](http://www.bbyouthpublicspeaking.com).

Liliana also announced that she is representing Ashfield at the United Nations Youth Parliament.

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Johnny announced that Burwood Council is running a Murder Mystery event during Youth Week. Cash prizes to be won. For more information contact Burwood Council on 9911.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15 April 2013 at Ashfield Youth Centre, 5.30pm-6.30pm.

**PROCEEDINGS TERMINATED AT 6.45PM**

Chairperson of the meeting of Ashfield Youth Committee  
when the Minutes were confirmed

Chairperson

Date