

## **Minehead Town Council**

### **Report on Extending Service Agreement with Minehead Eye Youth Services**

#### **Background**

- In April 2021, a 3-year service level agreement (SLA) was established between Minehead Town Council (MTC) and Minehead Eye Youth Services (MEYS) to provide weekly youth club services.
- Prior to the SLA, there was limited organized programming tailored specifically for local youth. The SLA ensured consistent delivery of dedicated youth services.
- The current SLA provides £6,000 annually from MTC to MEYS. This enables MEYS to reliably staff and supply the youth club.
- The agreement ends March 31, 2024. Youth club services have been provided weekly over the past 3 years thanks to the SLA framework.

#### **Key Benefits**

- Holding a youth club at the Minehead Eye venue provides a safe, constructive environment with facilities tailored for youth activities and socialisation.
- It also links youth to additional programming such as activity clubs and events that are also available through the organisation.
- Participation in a youth club builds life skills, confidence, and connections with peers and mentors. It fills a need for social outlet.
- Providing engaging activities can help deter negative behaviours and foster a sense of belonging.

#### **Aligning with Community Needs**

- 47.2% of Minehead's population is aged 55 or older, while only 12.9% is aged 14 or younger according to 2021 census data.
- Continuing the SLA ensures dedicated services remain in place to meet the social, developmental, and recreational needs of the youth demographic.

#### **Recommendations**

- Renew the service level agreement with Minehead Eye Youth Services for another 3-year term through March 31, 2027.
- Maintain current annual funding amount of £6,000, which is allocated in the 2024/25 budget. (219 – Community Services and Grants; 4360 - Youth Service)
- Follow existing SLA framework and procedures to ensure effective delivery of youth club services.
- Designate a Council member as liaison to MEYS to facilitate regular communication and reporting.

Ben Parker

Town Clerk

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