

Plymstock Children and Young People's Community Forum Meeting Minutes

Friday 8th November 2019 1.30 p.m.

Venue: Plymstock United Church

Attended by pupil and student representatives from Coombe Dean, Dunstone, Elburton, Goosewell, Oreston and Plymstock Schools and supported by members of staff from several schools.

Three members of Devon and Cornwall Police, Caroline Chapman (Community and Families worker for Plymstock United Church) and John Stephens (UK Parliament Teacher Ambassador).

Apologies from Pomphlett and Wembury, who together with Sherford and Hooe, have committed to attend in the future.

Thank you to everyone who attended our first Children's and Youth Forum to discuss our community and how we can make Plymstock an even better place to live. We talked about and agreed our aims (attached) and how we can make a difference. We discussed three main areas – what we like about Plymstock, what we dislike, and ideas for improvements. These are listed below in the young people's words and those in bold show the things that are the same for both primary and secondary schools.

The children, young people and adults engaged brilliantly with each other to help understand the good things about Plymstock and things that worry or cause them concern. The full feedback from the children and young people is listed below.

The main priorities the children and young people wish to explore further were agreed as:

- Having safe and welcoming indoor and outdoor places to meet with friends during holidays and weekends. One suggestion was to find out if a vacant unit on The Broadway could be used for children and young people to meet up with friends, play computer games, have a coffee etc. This could also be a place where young people could receive expert advice and support for any concerns.
- Improving local play parks that have become neglected e.g. Southernway Park next to Dunstone School and to build a play park in the Staddiscombe area. Other parts of Plymstock and the city seem to have better play park facilities.
- Making sure the local community is safe and tidy e.g. better lighting in the parks and to keep the streets litter-free.
- Having large noticeboard style maps of Plymstock showing places of interest to encourage people to visit them e.g. parks, walks, clubs, activity places etc.

These priorities will be presented to the Adult Community Forum on Monday 2nd December 2019.

The afternoon was a great buzz of thinking, discussing, learning and presentations by groups and those who shared the feedback. We look forward to meeting again in early 2020 to develop the ideas suggested.

Thank you.

John Stephens jmstephens1962@gmail.com and Caroline Chapman caroline@plymstock.org.uk

PRIMARY SCHOOLS' FEEDBACK

What do we like about Plymstock?

Broadway
Supertramp
Radford
McDonald's
Spaces to play football
Community – quiet, feel safe
Coffee shops
Shops
Quiet neighbourhood
Relationships inside Plymstock
Bike trails
Saltram
Hooe and Dean's Cross parks
Friendly

What do we dislike about Plymstock?

Graffiti
Drugs
Gangs
Vandalism
Litter
Not enough bins
Bins not collected enough
Recycling – not enough people recycling
Smoking
Drunk people
Travelling at night
Too many people parking on roads – especially around schools
Teenagers behaviour
Bus stops
Poor lighting
Traffic at rush hour
Parking spaces
Shops at night

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' FEEDBACK

What do we like about Plymstock?

Broadway
Supertramp
Radford
McDonald's
Football teams
Places for sport
Feel safe in Plymstock
Costa
Shops/ charity shops
Lidl
Beaches
Hooe lake
Library
Jennycliff
Royal mail
Legends' boxing gym
Rugby teams
Oreston quay

What do we dislike about Plymstock?

Graffiti
Drugs
Big groups
Poundland closed for school children
Bus safety
Need more shops on the Broadway
Boring
Nowhere to go – especially in the winter
False accusations
Young people have a bad reputation
Nowhere to go on bikes
People with mental health illnesses need safe spaces
Knife crime – know of people carrying knives
Radford – dangerous areas
Saltram – dangerous areas

PRIMARY SCHOOL FEEDBACK

How can we make Plymstock even better?

Skate park

Off road biking area

Youth clubs

Youth centre – gaming room

More litter collections

More sports

Summer camps

Local maps – information with parks, cafes, toilets, trails, tennis court etc

Local swimming pool

Additional safety for school play areas

More bins

Beach clean up

Clubs

Update local parks – more equipment, better flooring etc

More CCTV

More trees

Litter picks – Oreston quay, beach, parks

SECONDARY SCHOOL FEEDBACK

How can we make Plymstock even better?

Skate park

Indoor bike park

Youth clubs

Graffiti wall – designated space for graffiti

Coffee shop for young people with Wi-Fi and chill zone

Benches in more practical places

Sheltered areas

Bowling alley, mini golf, arcade on Broadway

Put something in the empty co-op building on Broadway – Wetherspoons?

Designer clothes shop – Broadway

Tuck shop

Something like Freedom fields community festival in the summer

Streetlights in Radford

Lighting on road at Radford dip

Plymstock zone – somewhere to go for help and support

Mental health area for support