



# Carterton Youth Council

## Presentation to Carterton Town Council

Officers...

**Chyna Mitchell** (Chairperson)

**Aimee Ralph** (Secretary)

**Olivia Ford** (Deputy Chair)

**Darren Larner** (Treasurer)

**Matty Yallop** (Vice Treasurer)

**Tammy Burrows** (Vice Secretary)



## Carterton Youth Council

### **Elections, Training and Mentoring**

All Carterton Youth Councillors were elected in their own organisations in September 2007. We are all residents of Carterton between the ages of 11 and 17.

We had our first Training session in September and then our first proper meeting in October. Shelley from the Allandale helped with the training and we have Town Councillors to mentor us.

At the meeting in October we elected a Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. In January some Youth Councillors were elected to vice positions to assist the 3 elected officers.



## Carterton Youth Council

### **Extreme Wheels Day – Project 2008**

There are several representatives from Carterton Youth Council on the Extreme Wheels Day Project Team. The meetings have been great and we have had a lot of input from young people.

This year we are thinking bigger and better, we are hoping to have a bouncy castle AND a bungee run, so all funding we can secure is really helpful.

The Project involves loads of young people as well as volunteers from the community, everyone has an input and therefore we feel like we have ownership of the whole project.



## Carterton Youth Council

### **Christmas Lights**

At one of our very first meetings we decided to have a stall at the Christmas lights, we had a raffle and a lucky dip, all prizes were donated by schools, Town Councillors and the man from the Market.

Our chosen charity was the Children's' Liver Disease Foundation, one of the Youth Councillors chose this charity because she was born with the disease and so The Youth Council thought this was a great idea.

David Cameron was amongst the visitors to our stall (and he bought a ticket too!)



## Carterton Youth Council

### **Neighbourhood Action Group**

At our Youth Council meeting in January we invited Steve Cox from Thames Valley Police to facilitate a session when we thought about Anti-social behaviour and Facilities for young people in Carterton

Youth Councillors were then invited to attend a NAG meeting when a number of issues were discussed, such Anti-social behaviour, Speeding and Police Visibility

The NAG considers quality of life issues and possible solutions such as speed checks, poster campaigns, test purchasing, education and CCTV for Carterton Town Centre.



# Carterton Youth Council

## Youth Activities

During the facilitated session we discovered that contrary to popular belief, there are lots of things to do for young people but that these are not always very well publicised

We decided to produce a list of everything there is to do and then to consider how best to make this information known to all the young people in Carterton

We think that a Carterton Youth Council website would be a great way to publicise what there is to do in Carterton in a format which appeals to young people, we would also use the website to let people know what we are doing in the community on their behalf



# Carterton Youth Council

## Youth Council website

A few of us got together to discuss what we might use a website for and what it should contain, how we could design and develop it, how much it would cost, we decided that...

- The Youth Council website could be attached to the Town Council website
- The cost could be covered by Youth Council funds
- It should appeal to all ages from 11 to 17
- We should have an input in it's design, development and upkeep



# Carterton Youth Council

## Lessons learnt

The whole experience of being a Youth Councillor has already taught us many lessons that we feel will benefit us in the future...

- The importance of thorough and sufficient planning
- The need to work as a team to get things done
- The effectiveness of working in partnership with agencies such as the Town Council, Neighbourhood Action group, Youth Service, churches and local businesses
- The contribution we can all have when we have the opportunity



## Carterton Youth Council

### Looking Ahead...

We think it's important to give feedback on our experience as Youth Councillors to help the next Youth Council benefit from what we have learnt and the experiences we have had, including what was good and what we think wasn't so good...

- The meetings could be held more often
- The facilitated session would be better with Shelley or a Town Councillor, aimed more at our ages rather than adults.
- We feel we still have enough time for homework and other stuff
- We feel we have a really important role in the community and we feel that we are really being listened to!
- We would like the opportunity to serve a second term of office!



# Carterton Youth Council

## Proposals

**The ideas which Youth Council are still considering are:**

- More youth clubs
- Advertise existing youth clubs
- Sports leadership – in and out of school
- Cooking course @ youth centre
- Team building
- £200+ first aid funding needed
- Fund-raising

**The proposals we are bringing to you for ratification today are:**

- £500+ towards Extreme Wheels Day 2008
- To create a youth council website



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**Thank you for listening!**