

CLAYDON AREA YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

REPORT TO CLAYDON & WHITTON PARISH ANNUAL MEETINGS APRIL 2017

The Claydon Area Youth Support Group acts as a steering group for the Claydon Youth Community Project (CYCP). CYCP specifically organises activity events during the school holidays. During the council year 2016/17 we have held activity programmes in the Easter, Summer, October half-term and February half-term holidays.

At Easter 2016, 74 children enjoyed experiencing one or more of 12 different activities, in the Summer holiday 134 children/13 activities, October Half Term 48 children/7 activities and February Half Term 56 children/6 activities. There were a real variety of experiences on offer for the young people to choose from – Cooking, Trampolining, Golf, Football, Drama, Wall-Climbing, 'Street-Running', Go-Karting, Archery, Diving (pool), as well as various craft activities. All these events have been offered and run at least once during the year, many are offered at each holiday. We sometimes need to cancel events if the take up is insufficient and there have been times when we've been disappointed with the level of take-up. There is no doubt however that CYCP remains popular, especially with the 10-13 age group. Our offering is open to all youngsters up to the age of 16 but we struggle to get some of the older (15/16 year old ones) to participate.

Our main outgoings are the honorarium we pay our activity planner and co-ordinator, insurance and a subsidy of many of the activities. We really appreciate the passion and time-commitment that our planner and co-ordinator puts into running CYCP. Publicity/brochure printing has historically also been a significant expense but we've been active in getting some advertising revenue during 2016/17 to mitigate that cost.

During 2016/17 we were very grateful to receive grant funding from Claydon and Barham parish councils and also, for the first time, from Great Blakenham parish council. We've also received some Localities Grant funding from Suffolk County Council (Cllr. John Field's budget) as well as Mid Suffolk funding we carried over from 2015/16. Without all this generous funding, we could not have undertaken the 2016/17 CYCP activities. Money however remains VERY tight and we eagerly await 2017/18 parish grants to fund the Easter 2017 and May H/T planned activities.

John Whitehead (Claydon P.C. representative on CAYSG)