



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18th AUGUST 2026

PRESENT:

Cllr: K. Batley (Chair); Cllrs: P. Botterill, D. Dawes
(from Min. 32), R. Nash, P. Ralph, Mrs. J. Warr and
M. White

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. McLaughlin (Committee Clerk)
Mr. B. Handley (Event Duty Officer)
2 members of the public

The Meeting opened at 6.31pm

31. WELCOME BY CHAIR

The Chair welcomed everyone present and read the Council's opening statement with particular attention drawn to the evacuation procedure in the event of the fire alarm sounding and the Council's Standing Orders relating to public question time.

32. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND THEIR APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO MEETING THE AGREED CRITERIA

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Miss. C. Needs and F. Oppler, with the Clerk recommending that the reasons given were acceptable. These absences were therefore **APPROVED** by Members.

No prior apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. Stanley or P. Woodall and these absences could not, therefore, be approved.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair addressed those Members present to ask if they wished to confirm any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda.

As noted on the Agenda, Members and Officers should make their declaration by stating:

- a) the item they have the Interest in
- b) whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interest
- c) the nature of the Interest

- d) if it is an Ordinary Interest whether they intend to temporarily leave the meeting for the discussion and vote
- e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Registrable Interest, and therefore must temporarily leave the meeting for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time.

They then need to re-declare their Interest and the nature of the Interest at the commencement of the item or when the Interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

As per the Agenda, it is each Member's own responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interests notifiable under the Council's Code of Conduct, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

The Chair reminded Members to declare their Interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

Cllr. Batley declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 5 regarding the applicant 39 Club, owing to a family connection, and stated that he would neither take part in the discussion nor vote on this application

Cllr. Nash declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda Item 5 regarding applicants Bognorphenia and Rox Music & Arts and stated that he would take part in the discussion and vote

Cllr. White declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda Item 5, regarding the applicant 39 Club, as the Town Council Representative, stating that she would take part in the discussion and vote. Cllr. White also declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda Item 5, regarding the applicant Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre, as knowing one of the Trustees, and stated she would neither take part in the discussion nor vote on this application

34. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND STATEMENTS

The Meeting was adjourned at 6.35pm

The Chair invited members of the public to raise any questions or statements they wished to make.

A member of the public, referencing the Alexandra Arts Centre asked a series of questions, enquiring to; the indicators used to evaluate and measure success, how the theatre would distinguish itself from other

cultural and regeneration projects, and the eventual estimated economic impact of the theatre.

Cllr. Nash, who is also Chair of Arun District Council's Economy Committee, comprehensively answered these questions summarising and referring the individual to information that exists in the public domain.

The Meeting was reconvened at 6.42pm

35. CONSIDERATION OF YOUTH & YOUNG PERSONS BUDGET 2026/2027 APPLICATIONS – MIN. 24.2 REFERS

The Committee Clerk's report, which was not available to publish ahead of the meeting (attached as **Appendix 1**), was **NOTED**.

It was summarised that nine applicants had applied for a total of £36,590.12. The Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/2027 was confirmed as £25,000, which included an earmarked underspend of £4,362.50 from the 2025/2026 budget.

Members considered the applications received with regard given to the criteria set and awarding policy.

Members, having debated the various applications given the significant oversubscription of funding requests, **AGREED** the awarding of the Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/27, as summarised and attached to the Minutes as **Appendix 2**.

The Meeting closed at 7.10pm

**BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE
COMMITTEE – 18th AUGUST 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 5 - CONSIDERATION OF YOUTH & YOUNG PERSONS
BUDGET 2026/2027 - MIN. 24.2 REFERS**

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE CLERK

FOR DECISION

BACKGROUND

At the Environmental and Leisure Committee Meeting of 13th July 2026, Members agreed that a deadline date for receipt of all applications to the Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/2027, be set for 5pm on Friday 7th August 2026, with an Extraordinary Meeting of the Committee to take place at 6.30pm on 18th August 2026 (Min. 24.2 refers).

The application and funding stream, as previously, was promoted on the Town Council's website.

The total budget available is £25,000, including an earmarked underspend of £4,362.50 from the Youth & Young Persons Budget 2025/2026.

At the time of closing, 9 (nine) applications had been received, collectively totalling £36,590.12.

Members were subsequently invited to view the confidential supporting documents corresponding to each application in person at the Town Hall, the week commencing 10th August 2026, to allow sufficient time for consideration and ask questions of the Committee Clerk.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

39 Youth Club – funds requested - £6,000

Introduction

Provides young people of age ranges, 9-18, up to 25 with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability), with free and inclusive weekly activities, offering a safe and supportive environment, where young persons can socialise, access trusted adults, and partake in a range a structured activities.

Reason for Funding Request

Fund IT equipment inclusive of 2x laptops, 4x tablets and 1x desktop, all with Windows 11, as specifically requested by the Young Persons, to enable additional research, homework, and importantly, write CV's and applications for college or university.

Bognorphenia – funds requested - £3,000

Introduction

Bognorphenia Singers, supports young people, of 6-16 age range, who are neurodiverse, with learning disabilities, low self-confidence, or have experienced trauma through music and a programme of songs, self-selected and chosen, to strengthen wellbeing, singularly and collectively, and support future work opportunities.

Reason for Funding Request

Support, free weekly music opportunities, and events for young persons of 6-16 age range, inclusive of all abilities, with either learning disabilities or those who have experienced trauma.

Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre – funds requested - £3,000

Introduction

Support children, young persons and families, of different backgrounds and abilities through a provision of free or low-cost activities and services in a safe community space to progress and achieve their own personal goals through joint projects and mentoring.

Reason for Funding Request

Support a new initiative "Girls Who CAN". A monthly creative wellbeing programme supporting young women aged 10–18 who experience anxiety, isolation, neurodiversity-related challenges, self-harm, and suicidal thoughts. Through structured, trauma-informed creative sessions.

The programme, of 10 months, helps girls regulate emotions, build confidence, and reconnect with peers in a safe, supportive environment.

Making Theatre Gaining Skills – funds requested - £5,000

Introduction

An arts training enterprise offering young people, of all abilities, including those with mental health issues or learning difficulties, opportunities in pop-up theatre ranging from professional work experience and creative skills training.

Reason for Funding Request

Support and contribute to the proposed 5th Bognor Puppet Festival scheduled for 29th May to 4th June 2027, at three venues: Alexandra Arts Centre, Bognor Library and Bognor Makerspace.

Target age range is 2-10, offering a mix of ticketed and free shows (4 number), plus walkabout shows, to enhance accessibility for all.

Rox Music & Art – funds requested - £3,000

Introduction

Aim, to advance the education of individuals and groups in developing their artistic potential to both perform and exhibit through the promotion of arts in the community, providing opportunities and experience.

Reason for Funding Request

Fund the fixed annual rental of current equipment storage facility shipping container, used primarily by Rox, and by others, to deliver community arts and cultural events, either as stand alone, or in partnership with Bognorphenia and South Downs Music Festival, generating tourism and revenue into the town.

Rox Music & Arts, strives to provide young people with hands on experience in a professional environment, and to aspire to artistic development.

Saltwater Creations – funds requested - £1,450

Introduction

Deliver community-based activities to connect participants, with themselves, others and the environment.

Provides young people aged 4-25, with a mix of face-to-face, experiential, lived experience, arts workshops and activities based, and inspired by, the local coast and ocean – outdoor environments.

Reason for Funding Request

Deliver 10 number free sessions, up to 20 people per session, over the next 12 months, at local and participating youth clubs, schools and community / public venues, offering beach-based art, craft workshops, beach clean and beach junk workshops.

South Coast Skate Club – funds requested - £2,700

Introduction

Provide access to positive activity, and support physical and mental wellbeing, for young persons of differing backgrounds, and social standing.

Reason for Funding Request

Fund free skateboarding activities: Comprising 14 two-hour lessons, and 2 four-hour training sessions, with refreshments, at Rock Gardens Skate Park, during the holiday periods. Aim, to support and work with circa 12-18 children per session equating to 216 children in total.

South Coast Sports Coastal – funds requested - £10,000

Introduction

Deliver activities and opportunities for children and young people, by removing the barriers to participation and support minority, inactive and disadvantaged groups, in partnership with other likeminded organisations and delivery partners.

Reasons for Funding Request

In total, £10,000 to support two primary activities:

1. £5,000 to provide "active opportunities, work experience and voluntary training opportunities" to 11-16 age range.

Operating from The Phoenix Centre, offering initially "digital badges", and if "earnt" through diligence, paid tangible work opportunities, via local partners, gaining Safeguarding qualifications and life skills, in leadership, women's health and sports.

Intention, provide a free lunch during holiday periods in partnership with UK Harvest.

2. £5,000 to continue support of high level SEND pre-school community. Providing activities and physical literacy development via partnerships with local nurseries and the Phoenix Centre in holiday and term times.

Young Persons Shop – funds requested - £3, 440.12

Introduction

Offers free and confidential emotional and mental health services to those aged 11 to 25, at various local centres including The 39 Club, Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre, and Chichester Centre.

Reasons for Funding Request

Offer two initiatives - Counselling Service, and Wellbeing Programme.

1. Counselling Service, delivered by trained Youth Worker or Counsellor comprise of 3-hour weekly Emotional Support sessions, offered as a drop-in session, without charge, during term time after school between 3:30-6:30pm, at The 39 Club, until end of March 2027, enabling participants to talk though and share, a range of emotional issues, ranging from anxiety, self-harm, isolation, body image, eating disorders, etc.
2. Wellbeing Programme offers free holistic sports and outdoor workshops including boxing, skateboarding, paddleboarding, PT, yoga and sailing.

DECISION

A total of £35,590.12 has been requested from the 9 applicants.

From the total £25,000 available in the Youth & Young Persons Budget 2025/26, Members are asked to **AGREE** what level of funding to award, if any, to the applicants listed below:

- o 39 Youth Club?
- o Bognorphenia?
- o Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre?
- o Making Theatre Gaining Skills?
- o Rox Music & Art?
- o Saltwater Creations?
- o South Coast Skate Club?
- o South Coast Sports Coastal?
- o Young Persons Shop?

Extraordinary Environmental and Leisure Committee 18th August 2026
Agenda item 5 - Appendix 2

Item	Applicant	Fund Requested Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/27	E&L Decision of Youth & Young Persons Budget 2026/27	Comments
1	39 Club	£6,000.00	£3,500.00	
2	Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre	£3,000.00	£2,500.00	
3	Bognorphenia	£3,000.00	£2,500.00	
4	Making Theatre Gaining Skills	£5,000.00	£4,000.00	
5	Rox Music & Art	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	
6	Saltwater Creations CIC	£1,450.00	£1,450.00	
7	South Coast Skate Club CIC	£2,700.00	£2,200.00	
8	South Coast Sports Coastal CIC	£10,000.00	£2,500.00	
9	Young Persons Shop	£3,440.12	£3,350.00	
	Total Funds Awarded		£25,000.00	
	Unallocated against Budget		£0.00	