



Issue #14 January 2016

# LATEST NEWS

From Fenland's Youth District Council

We were delighted to welcome three new members to the Youth District Council at our latest meeting.  Lucy, Yazmin and Michael all study at Sir Harry Smith Community College and hopefully enjoyed the meeting and we look forward to seeing them again next time.



## Pride in Fenland awards 2016

This year we are a lot more involved in the excellent Pride in Fenland awards. We will be judging all the entries in the Young Person of the Year category and deciding on the winner, and we also have the opportunity to go along to the awards evening itself! Therefore we

would like to see as many nominations as possible in our category. It is open to anyone under the age of 25 and could be a young carer or someone who has helped raise money for charity. The compassion, empathy and commitment shown by young people is often overlooked but it is vital to our local community and deserves to be acknowledged. There is more information and an online nomination form available at [www.fenland.gov.uk/prideinfenlandawards2016](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/prideinfenlandawards2016) The closure date is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 5pm**. Please encourage your friends, peers, teachers and parents/guardians to nominate any young person who has made a positive impact on the lives of Fenland residents.

## It's all change!

In our last newsletter we told you about our internal review and how we were going to change the way we do certain things. One of the areas

we looked at was our small grant scheme, and as a result we are going to update our application and assessment processes to make sure the focus is on improving the lives of young people in Fenland. As from April 2016, organisations will be able to apply for a grant using the application form (as before) but will also be offered the opportunity to attend one of our meetings to explain their application in more detail or can submit a powerpoint presentation. We will also be encouraging young people to complete or help complete the application form. At the same time we will be looking at whether the application is 'value for money' in terms of the amount applied for, the project and the number of young people who will benefit. We will also want the application to demonstrate inclusivity, how it will help young people to develop, motivate others and to positively participate in their local community.

**Contact us** by email at [ydc@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:ydc@fenland.gov.uk) or [sdove@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:sdove@fenland.gov.uk) or telephone 01354 654321 or write to Sharon Dove, Fenland District Council, County Road, March, Cambs, PE15 8NQ

# YDC Grants 2015/16

**The YDC small grant scheme is now CLOSED for fy15/16.**

Due to the overwhelming number of applications received for assessment at our meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016 we have now allocated all of the funds available to us under the scheme for this financial year. While we do always allocate the full amount of the grant fund every year, this year it has happened far sooner than usual. We see this as a sign that our increased publicity is making more voluntary and community youth groups aware of our scheme, but more importantly it shows that there is a need in Fenland for our grant fund and we are delighted that we are able to help young people in this way.

The following organisations all had grants approved at Wednesday's meeting:

**Young People March** were awarded £500 as a contribution towards their fantastic transition project which helps young people with the move from primary to secondary school and teaches them some valuable life skills

**Chatteris St Peters Tennis Club** were given £1000 to enable them to run a junior coaching programme with a qualified instructor from the Lawn Tennis Association

**Ernie's Amateur Boxing Club** will receive £500 to pay for new equipment at the club to help ensure young people aren't prevented from participating if they can not afford to purchase their own equipment.

**St Augustine's Explorer Scout Unit** were given a contribution of £750 which will be used by this new unit to purchase equipment to enable the group to undertake Duke of Edinburgh awards

**Gorefield Playing Field Association** were allocated £279 to purchase a new table tennis table for their new youth club which has only been running three months but already has over 50 members

**Wisbech Police Cadets** were awarded £750 to put towards the cost of a team residential trip which will help the new cadets to learn how to work together and to develop new life skills

**Whittlesey Sea Cadets** will receive £750 which they will use to purchase a number of items associated with starting up a new unit.

*The scheme will open again in April 2016 and as in previous years the scheme is on a first come first served basis for grants ranging from £100 - £1000. Please note we will be slightly amending the application and assessment process from April 2016. Please make sure you read the revised terms and conditions carefully before applying. There is an online application form available at [www.fenland.gov.uk/ydcgrants](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/ydcgrants) or you can contact Sharon Dove on 01354 654321*

*The closing date for applications is **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016** for assessment at the next YDC meeting on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016**.*