

Ashbrook Youth Group Chair's Report for 2017/18



We had a successful year with fewer challenges as many of the previous year's problems having been resolved.

The club again took part in the Parish events, attending the Parish Council's Remembrance Day March & Service as well as singing at the 'Christmas Lights Switch On'. All young volunteers were thanked for their help during the previous year with an evening during the Christmas period at the Bay of Bengal.

The club's new leader, has proved to be an excellent Leader and have brought many new ideas to the Group and is presently planning a club fundraising event in July at the Nags Head in Borrowash. We must thank the Nags for kindly agreeing to host this event.

The tuck shop is still a great success and along with the Parish Council's grant is our main source of funding. We must thank the Parish Council for their ongoing commitment to the Club and for their kind donations ensuring that the Club can continue to be run on a financially sound basis.

Also, thanks to the adult and young volunteers whose help and attendance on club nights ensured that club numbers could be maintained at the statutory ratios.

We must not forget the Management Committee who's work behind the scene ensures that the Club is able to function in a steady and permanent manner. Great credit must go to Alan Sims for the professional way in which he has performed his duties as Treasurer of the Group and to Jo Cooper and Anne Saint for their professional input.

We continue the rolling programme of updating our rules, policies and procedures to ensure that the Club is run in a correct and proper manner, ensuring that all Club members and staff are able to enjoy their activities in a safe and secure environment. Many thanks must go to Jo Cooper, Anne Saint and Jess Hind for their continuing commitment to updating the Group's rules for club activities. We are presently looking into the possibility of amending the clubs management structures and are carrying out trials which if successful will be implemented at the beginning of the new school year. I know that this work has been supported by all leaders, committee members and the young volunteers who also need to be thanked.

On a more downbeat note, the club is apprehensive about its future activities with the uncertainty of the asset transfer of the Ashbrook Centre from Derbyshire County Council to the local council. To date we have had little information of the proposed timetable and the consequences. We hope however that the Parish Council will respond favourably to our request to meet with councillors to discuss the Clubs future.

Following an enquiry by the club into the building's fire inspection and certification we have been informed by Derbyshire County Council officers that the building is unsafe to use and have therefore suspended all club activities within the building until the position can be clarified. We hope the present problems will be resolved soon and that the group can resume normal club activities as soon as possible.

In summary, we always try our best to run a well-behaved club, keeping the young people of Borrowash and Ockbrook off the streets and out of trouble. Sometimes things work out; sometimes we may fall short but we try. The Leader, Assistant Leader and their Young Volunteers' continue their excellent work on rebuilding club nights and the Management Team, although small, are dedicated to the continuation of the Group.

Phillip Whitt
Chair – Ashbrook Youth Group