

Date: Nov 28 2008 No: 279

Press Release

For release: Immediate

Boys tell councillors – “this is what Fleet needs.”



TWO small boys enthralled councillors and officials as they outlined what they and their schoolmates would like to see in Fleet.

The boys, Seth Husband and Matthew Brook (both eight), had been invited to the Fleet Town Centre Working Party at the Civic Offices to tell members the views of the School Council at Heatherside Junior School in Fleet. This followed a visit to the school by councillors during Local Democracy Week in October.

They told working party members that while there were many good things about living in Fleet it was felt that vandalism was on the increase and there was too much graffiti.

They revealed that seven children in their class had experienced theft of some sort over the last two years.

And they suggested that Fleet Pond might benefit from swings and slides or even a steam train to take visitors around it!

Another idea was a skate park to be used only by younger children –the one in The Views was described as “a bit scary.” Panel chairman Cllr Richard Appleton said having sessions restricted to younger skaters might be looked at.

The school children also thought that Fleet would benefit from a cinema or a bowling alley –which they could visit on foot rather than having to be taken by car.

“There’s some unused office buildings that could be knocked down and turned into a bowling alley or cinema,” they offered helpfully.

They also asked for more public litter bins including those designed for cigarette butts thrown down by people who now have to smoke outside.

Afterwards Cllr Appleton said: “The children from Heatherside have put a lot of excellent work into this project. They have provided valuable information to help us as we look at the long term future of Fleet town centre.”

The panel is examining the area from Kings Road to the Oatsheaf crossroads. It will be consulting businesses and residents to gather their views and the school presentation will be included in that.

ENDS

Picture shows Matthew (left) and Seth making their presentation.

Further information: Contact Viv Evans on 01252 774425 or email viv.evans@hart.gov.uk, or (school project only) Penny Bradley on 01252 774157 email penny.bradley@hart.gov.uk