



HERDINGS PARK YOUTH SHELTER

The young people of Gleadless Valley raised a petition earlier this year objecting to the removal of the youth shelter from Herdings Park. They were annoyed it had been removed without any discussion or communication with them. As a result of this some young people decided to voice their concerns via a petition which approximately 200 young people signed. The petition centred around them asking why it had been taken away and calling for a permanent shelter to be installed.

A group of 6 young people, ranging in age from 9 to 18 years, attended the South Community Assembly meeting on Thursday 6th October at TARA building on Gresley Road. They presented the petition at the meeting and unfortunately couldn't stay for the whole meeting. The young people didn't have to wait long for the decision to come through.

The SCA Committee decided in favour of the request and allocated funding for a new youth shelter to be installed. The young people are absolutely delighted at the result and have expressed their many thanks to everyone who decided in favour of this. They are now eagerly working with Parks and Woodlands Department on the design, location and colour of the Youth Shelter.

A letter received from SCA stated that it was the direct positive action of the young people that influenced the Councillors' decision to allocate the funding.

This process and result also empowers young people to continue voicing their concerns, wishes and needs whilst knowing that they are given equal and fair treatment at adult-led, formal meetings. The Project hopes this is the start of a mutually beneficial relationship between young people and their local members.