



SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 17TH April 2024 AT 5PM
@ COUNCIL CHAMBER

Apologies for Absence:

Mia, Hannah, Hannah, Akshara, Annabelle, Sarah, Eliza

Youth Mayor, Deputy Youth Mayor & Member of Youth Parliament Updates:

Tom: Attended self-defence course, organised egg hunt for park day – the day was a great success

Edward: Attended self-defence course, - thanks to all who attended – attended park day

Jocelyn: BYC closure, however, will continue to assist with projects, parliament visit to talk about the Food For Learning campaign. Southend came 2nd for Make Your Mark results, just under 10,000 votes.

Rules for Youth Council:

Respect, Responsibility, Ready

Officer and Committee Updates:

Miles: Organised how they want the Neurodivergence pack to look, thanks to Alice who attended the last meeting.

Apollo: In conversation with Lucy about getting a stall for Southend Pride this year.

C2C Consultation – Abu Siddeeq, Leah Cable, Christopher Nice:

A presentation given to Members about C2C. Information included:

- Survey results show that C2C has one of the highest levels of customer satisfaction in the UK

Members were asked about safety on trains and had the opportunity to ask questions about the service.

- The new Aventura Class 720 trains were the topic of many questions
- Questions about the rise in prices and the new ticketing system were popular

From C2C:

- Follow C2C on social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok
- Download the Railway Guardian app to contact services if anything happens on trains

Thanks to Abu, Leah, and Christopher for attending the meeting – and for our goodie bags!

Wellbeing/Fun break:

A game of Daytime/Nighttime was played, of which both members and guests joined in for.

Private Fostering Awareness – Sue Snoxell:

Members were educated about Private Fostering, where a child under 16 is living with a person who isn't a close relative for 28 days or over.

Members were asked how to promote awareness about this, as it is happening without the council's knowledge.

Ideas:

- Eye catching information
- Posters in schools/Information distributed in form time/Presentations in schools
- PSHE lessons for KS3

Debate:

Question: 'Should we allow only girls or only boys schools?'

Points for YES:

- It's the person's choice
- Lessons – for example PSHE – can be a lot more comfortable
- The Diamond Effect/ more concentration
- They teach the same things as mixed schools

Points for NO:

- Girls shouldn't have to sacrifice their comfortability
- Limited social skills in a same-sex school
- Different subjects in same-sex schools that are considered more feminine/masculine
- People can be with who they want to be

Conclusion: the main problem was around grammar schools, therefore there should be mixed grammars.

Wellbeing/fun break:

Two games of Wink Murder were played, with many dramatic deaths.

Timings of YM/DYM/Officer elections:

Question: Should elections be postponed to September and March (instead of May and November) permanently?

Thoughts:

- More fair for students in exams during May/June
- New school year, new YM/DYM
- Opens up summer to tie loose ends from projects/campaigns
- Majority of YC Members are Year 9-11, therefore all will go through exams during this time

A vote was held, where the majority said that elections should be pushed back to September for YM and DYM elections.

Any Other Business:

Due to exams, Miles will take over the role of Minute Taker for the May and June meetings.

If you have any queries, please contact: LucyBissell@southend.gov.uk or The Youth Mayor on: YouthMayor@Southend.gov.uk