



# SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

**FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY 7th June 2023 AT 5PM  
@ COUNCIL CHAMBER**

## **Apologies for Absence:**

**Charlotte, Josh, Aila, Ayo, Lily C, Khalida, Fabi, Naomi, Mia B, Josh, Tom B, Tristan, Hannah, Sophie.**

## **Guest Speakers:**

**Councillor Helen Boyd  
Natalie Amos – Open Road Southend  
Corinne Johns – Open Road Southend**

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

**Jocelyn attended the Cared for Childrens Council.**

**Jocelyn and Josh attended an introductory meeting with Michael Marks and Rob Polkinghorne.**

**Madi and Thomas attended Mayor Making.**

## **Youth Council Officer & Committee Updates:**

**Matthew Mentioned that the Youth Council have secured a stall at Southend Pride Festival.**

**Noel discussed the litter pick and lavender planting at Priory Park.**

**Introduction from Children's Services, Education and Learning Portfolio Holder: Helen Boyd has been a councillor since 2016, CS+L Lead member. Helen mentioned that young people should have a say in services at the council, also mentioned the importance of voting.**

## **Officer Elections:**

**Speaker – Edward Melville.  
Chancellor – Jess and Akshara stood, Jess was successful.  
Minute Taker – Isla.  
Environmental Officer – Noel and Isabelle stood, Noel was successful.  
Health and Wellbeing officer – Thomas and Miles stood, Miles was successful.  
LGBTQIA+ officer – Matthew.  
School Reps co-ordinator – Delay (to be elected next month).  
Press Officer – Ayo.**

## **Open Road Southend:**

**Open Road is a drug and alcohol support organisation. Corinne and Natalie work with children as young as 8. They provide a variety of services including, Recovery Service, Hidden Harm and Family Support. Their aim is to give an understanding about the effects of drugs and alcohol. They provide workshops in schools and early preventative measures.**

**Action:**

- Provide training for Youth Health Champions.
- Youth Councillors to go back to their schools and discuss the services that Open Road provide – Lucy to send presentation.

**Southend Safeguarding Partnership schools engagement:**

Following the presentation from Southend Safeguarding Partnership, Lucy asked members of the YC to spread the message to their schools and undertake the safety engagement, an email and presentation has been circulated. An email will also be sent to the relevant designated safeguarding schools. The members offered who volunteered were:

Isla (health champion) and Jocelyn – SHSG

Zaha and Hannah Eastwood

Alys – Fitz

Eva and Merrill – St Bernards

Noel and Thomas – St Thomas More

Edward and Noah – WHSB

Esha and Jessica – SHSB

Isabelle – Greensward

Akshara – Belfairs

Deanes (students who live in Southend) - Matthew

Edward's Mum – Shoebury

**Action:** all young people above to approach their designated safeguarding lead and support the survey engagement.

**Vaping Project Update:**

Thomas has been interviewed on BBC Essex about vaping and the survey analysis is being completed by the data team. C2C have amended their posters to now say no smoking or using e cigarettes on trains as a result of listening to the Youth Council.

Vaping on buses – Miles suggested this needs to be addressed.

**Action:** Miles to find a contact for the bus companies.

**British Youth Council Membership:** Madi proposed this spend and everyone agree, this includes British Youth Council and Member of Youth Parliament Membership. Members agreed to pay fee of £630

**Action:** Lucy to make payment.

**Southend Pride – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023:**

Isla has agreed on crocheting pride octopuses.

Badge Making.

Spin the Wheel - Edward to source.

**Action:** Lucy to arrange committee meeting.

**Edward led the debate:**

Should children choose what they would like to learn?

If you have any queries please contact: [LucyBissell@Southend.gov.uk](mailto:LucyBissell@Southend.gov.uk) or  
The Youth Mayor on: [YouthMayor@Southend.gov.uk](mailto:YouthMayor@Southend.gov.uk)