



SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 13TH December 2023 AT 4.45PM
@ COUNCIL CHAMBER

Apologies for Absence:

Ayo

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

Tom: Meeting on Monday with Claire Shuter about election cycle and updating process.

Madi: People's Scrutiny – YC have an active role, and the organization thanks the YC for their help in the Free School Meals campaign. If interested, Madi can send the transcript to members.

Edward: Committee meeting for campaign was successful, and thanks everyone for their help.

Officer and Committee Updates:

Health and Wellbeing (Miles): The Neurodivergence meeting was successful, with changes to the content and structure of the information pack.

NEXT MEETING: 3rd January 4.30-6pm

Youth Council Champion Scheme:

Aims to engage community building within Southend.

Each academic year, one adult and one child champion will be chosen from each school.

This is a way to promote the Youth Council and its campaigns.

Meeting in January with members from each school for next steps.

Aims to launch by the end of January.

Farewell email from James Finn:

Thank you email read out to members from former member James Finn, who helped massively with the website, among many things.

Good luck to James in the future!

Officer elections:

- Chancellor: Jocelyn
- Press Officer: Josh
- Minute Taker: Isla
- Schools Rep Coordinator: Lily-Rose
- LGBTQ+ Officer: Apollo
- Environmental Officer: Tristan
- Speaker: Noah
- Health and Wellbeing Officer: Anelie

Congratulations to all new officers and thank you to last term's committee.

Election Cycle Consultation:

Southend currently has 17 wards, of which three councillors are elected from each. This is done in Thirds, however the question is:

‘Should we change the number of times members of the public in Southend are invited to vote for local councillors?’

OPTIONS: elections in Thirds or ‘All Out’ (all elections at the same time)

The consultation is live until the 15th January 2024 and is open to ages 15+. Either use the QR code or vote using paper forms from libraries or the Civic centre.

Break and Colouring Competition:

Congratulations to Emmanuella who won the competition.

Shadow Member of Youth Parliament Opportunity:

MYP is now a 2 year role, this cycle ending in March 2024. This means a new MYP will be elected, so Madi has offered to provide the new MYP with a Shadow role to shadow Madi until March.

MYP elections: anyone aged 11-18, recommended Year 9 or above.

Membership of Youth Council:

Ideas: allow new members to join, however members must reserve a spot at meetings, or stop new members from joining.

Views from Members:

- Create a process plan to figure out who isn’t an active member anymore
- Referral system/RSVP to meetings via website
- Set up a waitlist for members
- Elections for membership in YC
- Other members of staff to attend meetings (allows for larger numbers)

Conclusion: members do not want to shut off the YC to new members.

Welcome to the UK and Receiving of Donations:

Ilda Stafa gave a speech about the organisation.

There are currently over 650 families being helped by the organisation in Southend, with 120 students learning English via the charity.

They are very grateful for all donations – thank you to anyone who contributed.

Festive Quiz:

Madi created and held the annual Christmas Quiz – thank you to Madi for organising this.

Teams: The Gingerbread Men VS The Tinsel Spinsels

Congratulations to the Tinsel Spinsels for winning!

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