



SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 10TH January 2024 AT 5PM
@ COUNCIL CHAMBER

Apologies for Absence:

Sarah, Eva, Charlotte, Akshara

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

Tom and Edward: received their official chains as YM and DYM, attended the Civic centre carol service. There has also been massive progress on the website.

Madi: Also attended the carol service, will meet with the local MP on 12th January about free school meals, setting up a meeting with Michael Marks.

Officer and Committee Updates:

Annali and Noah: planning on holding workshops for mental health, for example art therapy sessions.

Neurodivergence (Miles): Next meeting is the 25th January, 4:30-6pm

Finance Campaign (Jocelyn): started the Finance Survey analysis for young people, wants to hold a meeting with members to discuss further

Youth Council Champion Scheme:

There will be a Teams meeting with members from each school on 18th January informing them about the scheme. Schools who have declined are: St Thomas Moore, Westcliff Boys

Debate:

This month's question: 'Should politicians be allowed on I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here?'

Points for Yes:

- One person's actions shouldn't define everyone else's chances
- Telling someone they can't participate because of their opinion is biased
- What do you define as a celebrity?

Points for No:

- Matt Hancock left his constituents to make money
- The politicians on the show have done very damaging things, therefore can easily offend people with both what they say and by being on the show
- Nigel Farage was the highest paid Celebrity on the 2023 show

Essex Schools Young Eco Protectors:

Mission Statement: for Essex schools to join together and raise awareness about environmental issues and reduce plastic in schools.

2024 Green Week: week beginning 25th March. This year's theme is 'Biodiversity'. Examples of activities were bug hotels, tree planting and wildflower planting.

Members wrote down ideas for Green Week 2024 events.

Financial Survey:

Jocelyn has received analysis feedback from Lucy and wants to send out educators survey.

<p>Wants to hold a meeting about analysis which could be run alongside the YCC Scheme launch. After analysis of both surveys is complete, Jocelyn wants to present findings to councillors to try and bring the matter into school lessons and raise awareness.</p>
<p>MYP Elections:</p> <p>The three candidates presented a 2 minute speech. Well done to all three for standing.</p>
<p>MYP Announcement:</p> <p>Congratulations to Jocelyn for being voted in as the new MYP for Southend!</p>
<p>Membership of Youth Council:</p> <p>Views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A waitlist shouldn't have to be inputted as it will discourage new members • Make apologies for absence stricter • Have a check-in with new members after a few months whether they want to carry on attending meetings • RSVP to events for ideas on numbers and whether another member of staff should be present
<p>Safety Survey:</p> <p>Run by Commonplace, an Essex survey aimed at placing measures in areas that Women and Young Girls feel uncomfortable to prevent this. Survey closes 28th January.</p>
<p>Make Your Mark:</p> <p>29th January – 1st March</p> <p>There will be 10 issues on the ballot paper for young people to choose the most important topic to focus on. Southend is aiming to be the Number 1 contributor to the survey, after being 2nd last year. Make sure to push for this to be completed in your school!</p>

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