

SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES



**FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL
ON WEDNESDAY 5 MAY 2021 AT 5PM
@ MICROSOFT TEAMS**

ITEM	NOTES
1	<p>Open Meeting Madi opened the meeting and welcomed guest speakers to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maggie Atkinson, Safeguarding Advisor for the Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (Children and Adults) • Marion Simakungwe, Southend YMCA • Jamie Allen, Trainee Educational Psychologist
2	<p>Attendees: Madi, Eliana, Esha, Aila, Nizle, Noel, Merril, Bayley, Chelsea, Jacob, Heidi, Claudia, Joshua, Marion, Grace and Ollie Apologies for Absence: Ruth, Sude, Sophie, Zachary, Jess, James and Alyssa Madi welcomed new members Claudia and Heidi</p>
3	<p>Members reviewed and agreed YC minutes from 5 April 2021</p>
4	<p>Youth Mayor, Deputy Youth Mayor & Member of Youth Parliament Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madi – Attended Officer and LGBTQ+ committee meetings and was also interviewed by the Leigh Times about the keyworker project. • Nizle – the worry box project has been completed and the webinar is now available on the Your Say Southend website Nizle thanked everyone who was involved with this project.
5	<p>Youth Council Officer updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noel, Junior Environmental officer- Noel is keen for the Youth Council to support the keep Britain tidy campaign and is looking at arranging this for an evening after school. There is a submission form for the Youth Council to complete. • Chelsea, LGBTQ+ Officer – The committee are working on some resources for schools. The committee also met with Brook the new sexual health provider and they will be attending the next Youth Council. Bayley will also be contacting Southend Pride about the Youth Council's involvement. • Other updates – as a follow up to the Youth Council meeting in May, project meetings were also arranged with Stuart Hastings who is leading on the Strategic Vision project and the domestic abuse team and details and minutes have been circulated to members.
6	<p>Youth Council members questions and proposals Members were invited to pose questions and suggest ideas for new projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marion proposed that the Youth Council meets with Hayley from the Focal Point Gallery to discuss the Climate Action campaign. • Noel suggested the Youth Council could to a project to look at getting more cycle paths. • Action: Lucy to add these new ideas to the Officers meeting agenda on 12 May 2021 to discuss next steps.

7	<p>Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Maggie is the Safeguarding Advisor for the Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (Children and Adults). Previously she has worked as the Children's Commissioner focusing on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, she then went into consultancy and now chairs the Southend Safeguarding Partnership. Maggie's job is to get partners to work together and if there is a tragedy to ensure they work together to make things better for children and young people. Maggie is keen to work with the Youth Council and strengthen youth voice in Southend arrange a follow up meeting with the Youth Council.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to share details of the worry box project with Maggie and arrange a follow up meeting.</p>
8	<p>Educational Psychology Service Jamie introduced himself to members, he is a trained Educational psychologist and works with young people, schools and parents to support young people's education. Jamie also worked with Nizle on the worry box project and Nizle thanked him for his support.</p>
9	<p>Youth Mayors' outgoing speech Madi said it had been a bizarre term of office and a full term of virtual meetings! Madi thanked current and new members and Lucy for their support. Madi said she'd had an amazing time in the role and one of her highlights was the celebration of black lives virtual event. She said it has been great to see ideas develop and the impact of these on the community.</p>
10	<p>Deputy Youth Mayors' outgoing speech Nizle thanked Lucy, Madi and the officers for the opportunity and thanked everyone for working as a team. Due to this she was able to have significant achievements in her term which included the worry box project.</p>
11	<p>Youth Mayor Elections Lucy introduced the Youth Mayor Candidates Madi Faulkner-Hatt and Nizle Biju and they both gave a short speech.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madi Faulkner-Hatt – Madi said that she had learnt so many new skills and made lots of connections already, she would like to pursue. This includes the North Sea Commission work as well as the environmental and the LGBTQ+ projects as well as continuing with the #knivesoverlives project. • Nizle Biju – Nizle said that this would be the last time she would be able to stand due to further education. She would like to focus on supporting children and young people's mental health through the worry box and will also focus on safety in the community and has plans for a community based film project. <p>Members voted on strawpoll and Lucy announced Madi as Youth Mayor and Nizle as Deputy Youth Mayor. Everyone congratulated Madi and Nizle.</p>
12	<p>Debate Bayley hosted the debate with the following topic prepared by Eugene, 'Has the government done enough to ensure the acceptance of minority groups in the education system?' Members discussed and made comments and then voted on strawpoll. Bayley announced the results, yes, 1 and no, 10.</p>
13	<p>UKYP campaigns Ollie gave a run through of the UK Youth Parliament campaigns for the year, they have three main campaigns this year; Mental Health, Stop Plastic Pollution and Transforming Education. Ollie will be leading this with the support of members so there will lots of opportunities for you all to get involved. As part of the Stop Plastic Pollution campaign Ollie has sent a letter to local MPs asking for their support.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to share campaign resources with members.</p>

14	<p>Racial Inequality Tackled in Education</p> <p>Marion gave a speech about The Racial Inequality Tackled in Educational Settings Charter. The charter includes pledges for schools to work towards. On the site there is the option for members to be an ambassador and for schools to sign up. Members were encouraged to share with their schools by clicking on the link. Please note that St Bernards & Southend High School for Boys have already signed up. Members then went into breakout rooms to discuss this topic further. Members felt that more should be taught in schools and that it should be a permanent fixture in the curriculum, a cultural appreciation day was also suggested.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to email out Charter link for all members to promote.</p>
15	<p>Youth IAG: Sacha promote the Youth IAG which is taking place on 28th May 5pm.</p>
16	<p>Next meeting TBC</p>

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