

Southend Youth Council

Minutes from 5th September 2018

Present: Charlotte (Press Officer); Nadia (co-Speaker); Jasmine (Website Manager); Zia (Chancellor); Marco; Felix; James (co-Speaker); Isreal (Deputy Youth Mayor);; Amy (Clerk); Eugene; Andy; Alex (Member of Youth Parliament)

Apologies: Maise (Youth Mayor)

Deputy Youth Mayor Updates:

- Attendance at Southend Carnival, SYC shared their float with the Southend 2050 campaign and many members helped out on the float
- MH report still in progress (see 'Mental health Campaign Update' for more info)

Member of Youth Parliament Updates:

- Continuing work on religious tolerance campaign
- Attended Annual Sitting in Nottingham in July
- Meeting planned with Simon Leftley, Deputy Chief Executive

Debate:

- 'Should we ban words that cause offense?':
 - *Action: unanimous agreement*

Integrated Sexual Health Services talk from guest speaker Osama Oluwadare:

- Wanted to consult young people on their plans for reforming the sexual health services in Southend
 - The Youth Council gave their opinions on proposals made by the ISHS and developed ideas for a tender question.

Guest speaker Cllr John Lamb, Leader of the Council:

- Cllr John Lamb wants the Youth Council to scrutinise council policy
 - Southend constitution to change to allow for this change, Cllr John Lamb to propose idea to Council. All YC members welcomed this approach.
 - Possible training for YC members.

Mental Health Campaign Update:

- YC members, Isreal, Jasmine, Marco and Amy analysed the data over the Summer holidays. Currently a 5,000 word draft report which needs to be finalised.
- Report includes draft Charter which YC would like schools to adopt. YC members would like to attend a future Head teachers meeting.
- A project group has been set up and they have been invited to present the report at the People Scrutiny Committee in October.
- **Next MH project meeting: Room 4, Civic Centre, 12th September from 4:30pm - 6pm**
 - *Everyone to be emailed a copy of the draft report in advance*
- Isreal stepping down as chair
 - *Marco nominated as his successor; no contest from any members.*

Outgoing speech for Deputy Youth Mayor:

- Isreal not standing for re-election in next month's SYC meeting as he is leaving for university. Isreal gave a speech about his YC memories which was enjoyed by all. Justine thanked Isreal for his contribution to YC and everyone wished him well for the future.

Youth Mayor elections:

- Youth Mayor elections next month. YM workshop facilitated by Justine and Lucy following YC meeting for all interested members.

Make Your Mark:

- A number of schools have pre-registered to take part in the elections. Packs sent to all schools which have not registered.
- Voting open from 22nd August-10th October. YC members to support with voting at schools or any clubs they may attend. Ballot slips and covering letter to be collected at the end of the meeting and to be returned at next YC meeting.

AOB:

- Skills Conference indefinitely postponed
 - Money still set aside
 - Aim for it to still happen at some point next year
- Southend 2050 are running a competition for schools, letters to be collected at the end of the meeting and YC members to distribute to schools.

Next meeting: Wednesday 3th October at 5pm in the Council Chamber of the Civic Centre.