

Minutes of: YOUTH CABINET

Date of Meeting: 2 February 2015

Present: Councillors K Hussain, D Jones, O'Brien, N Parnell and S Southworth

Also in attendance: Jennie Clegg - Gibson
Lizzie Cooke
Georgia Davies – Smith
Caitlin Hay
Molly Healy
Anna – Louise Howarth (in the Chair)
Daniel Hulme
Emily Kay
Harriet Potts
Alicia Robinson
India Taylor

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Hayley Taylor

YC.1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

YC.2 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

It was agreed:

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Youth Cabinet held on 11 December 2014 be approved as a correct record.

YC.3 **YOUTHFORIA UPDATE**

It was reported that Lizzie, Emily, and Anna had attended the last Youthforia meeting which had been held at 42nd Street which is a charity supporting young people with their emotional health and wellbeing as is based at Great Ancoats Street in Manchester.

The event had included a workshop looking at stress relieving techniques and a debate on mental health.

Emily explained that the meeting had been her last Youthforia meeting due to the fact that she would no longer be Bury's Youth MP as the next election would be taking place on the 26 February.

YC.4 **YOUTH CABINET CAMPAIGNS**

It was explained that the Youth Cabinet was currently promoting two campaigns:-

- Pastoral Support
- Work Experience

Those present were asked to continue with the promotion of the two campaigns within their schools and colleges and it was also explained that the Head Teachers' group BASH had been made aware of the campaigns so would be happy to discuss promotion options within their high schools.

It was agreed:-

That work to promote the campaigns would continue.

YC.5 YOUTH PARTICIPATION STRATEGY UPDATE

Kate explained that the Youth Participation Strategy had been ratified at the Children's Trust Board. The Board would be asking for updates from all associated services every 6 months.

YC.6 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN - EARLY HELP FOR EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING/DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Kate Allam explained that as part of the Children and Young People's Plan information was being collected to highlight how much young people (11 – 19) know about services available to them in their area to support and help provide early help around emotional health and drug and alcohol issues.

Those present were asked to split into groups and answer the following 3 questions:-

1. Where do 11 – 19 year olds go for advice and information?
2. Give examples of what is working well and what is effective about it.
3. Are there gaps in information and advice? How could these be addressed?

The groups were asked to feedback and the following information was given:-

1.
 - Friends, parents, other adults.
 - Internet
 - School / college counsellors, Relateen, Pastoral Support.
 - Street Pastors, NHS Choices, Bury Directory, Childline, Connexions, IAPS/CAMHS
 - Streetwise/Early Break.
2.
 - Holy Cross Counselling system is good – it is reliable, easy to access and you can talk confidentially
 - Internet is anonymous and accessible
 - Bury church pastoral system is confidential and they are easy to talk to.

3.

- Don't know what services there are/how to access them.
- On the internet some of the information is not correct and there is no way of knowing if you can trust a site
- Teachers need to be better educated about drugs, not just telling pupils not to take them.
- Pastoral support in schools needs to be separate from teaching staff so that you can talk confidentially
- Should be experts/specialists in schools not teachers
- Cuts to funding
- Waiting lists take too long especially for CAMHS. Help needs to happen when it is needed.
- Help needs to be structured to the individual.

It was agreed:

That the information collected would be forwarded to the relevant officer.

YC.7 UKYP - ELECTION UPDATE

It was reported that there were 11 candidates standing in the next UK Youth Parliament to become Bury's MYP.

The 11 were:-

Emily Branney
Lizzie Cooke
Georgia Davies-Smith
Caitlin Hay
Molly Healy
Anna-Louise Howarth
Nathan Hughes
Angel Muramaa
Nicole Parry
Bilal Qureshi
Mayaan Rubb

The election was due to be held on Thursday 26 February and voting would be taking place in high schools across the borough, colleges and in Bury Library.

Posters and DVDs had been produced with information on each of the candidates. These had been sent to schools and colleges.

It was agreed:

That the information be noted

YC.8 THE BIG DEBATE - EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE

EUTHANASIA

Should euthanasia and assisted suicide be legalised in the UK?

All of the young people present were asked to decide whether they felt that euthanasia and assisted suicide should be legalised in the UK.

A debate took place and the majority agreed that euthanasia and assisted suicide should be legalised.

It was agreed:

That the debate at the next meeting would be

YC.9 POUNDLAND/POUNDWORLD

It was reported that the shops Poundland and Poundworld in the Millgate in Bury had introduced a policy which restricted the number of young people allowed into their stores at any one time. It was felt that this was unfair.

It was asked whether the stores could be contacted on this issue to see if anything could be done to work around this.

It was agreed:

That a letter would be sent to the stores to ask for a statement on the policy.

YC.10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was reported that the next meeting of the Youth Cabinet would be held on Monday 23 March 2015 at 5pm in the Council Chamber. Food would be available from 4.30pm in the Lancaster Room of the Elizabethan Suite.

Anna-Louise Howarth
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 5.00pm and ended at 7.00pm)