

Minutes of: YOUTH CABINET

Date of Meeting: 9 July 2015

Present: Councillors Harris, D Jones, Kelly, O'Brien and Walker

Also in attendance: Nicole Parry (in the Chair)
Emily Branney
Jennie Clegg - Gibson
Georgia Davies - Smith
Caitlin Hickman
Emily Kay
Harriet Potts
Bilal Qureshi
Kate Allam
Andrea Tomlinson

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

Apologies for Absence: Councillor N Parnell

YC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared by those Members present at the meeting.

YC.3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was agreed:

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 15 June 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

YC.5 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute YC.3 of the last meeting of the Youth Cabinet held on 15 June 2015, with reference to the letter that had been written by two of its youth members on behalf of the Cabinet.

The letter was asking two pound shops in Bury Town centre to explain their policy to refuse entry to more than two young people in school uniform at any one time.

The Cabinet asked whether the letter had been sent and it was confirmed that it had.

Further to Minute YC.4 of the minutes of the last meeting, those present were reminded that the Walking Rainbow would be taking place on Sunday 12 July from 12.30pm onwards.

YC.6 CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE 2015

It was reported that the secondary/tertiary age Circles of Influence had taken place on Monday 22 June and the Primary age Circles of Influence had been during the week commencing 8 June.

The events had brought together young people from across the borough and given them the opportunity to discuss issues relating to them and their peers. They also allowed for questioning of decision makers and officers from all different organisations across the borough.

The High School Circles of Influence worked around 5 different themes:-

- Education
- Health
- Places to Go
- Culture
- Additional Barriers

The following issues had been highlighted under each topic:-

Education - life skills, practical housekeeping, budgeting, skills for independence, preparation for work.

Health – Mental health – reducing the stigma, drugs and awareness of current trends such as novel psychoactive substances (more commonly called legal highs), e-cigarettes and their use amongst young people.

Culture – online safety, all young people should have to undertake an e-safety course, mentoring, confidentiality.

Additional barriers – cohesion, bridging the gaps, volunteering opportunities for under 18s

Councillor O'Brien had attended the event and reported that he felt there had been a good turnout and the discussions had been positive. He had been impressed with the group work that had taken place.

It was explained that a report from each of the events would be produced and these would be presented to a future meeting of the Youth Cabinet.

Kate thanked all those present who had attended the Circles of influence event and contributed to the day and those that had helped to facilitate at the Primary event.

YC.9 UKYP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Bilal Qureshi, Bury's Member of Youth Parliament reported that he had been asked to help with the UKYPs campaign relating to mental health.

Bilal explained that he had been asked to complete a form setting out what services Bury schools offer to support young people in relation to mental health.

Bilal asked those present to come up with some questions that could be included in a questionnaire and then sent to all Bury high schools pastoral teams.

Those present were asked to give feedback and the following questions were suggested:-

- What support is available in your school?
- Is there a trained counsellor in your school?
- If yes, how many hours of support do they provide per week?
- How to pupils access the services available?
- How do you make people aware of what help and support is available/

It was agreed:

That Kate would produce the questionnaire based on the questions set out and forward to the schools.

YC.7 THE BIG DEBATE

The British Monarchy

All of the young people present were asked to decide whether they felt that the British Monarchy should be abolished

A debate took place with a vote at the end and the majority agreed that the British Monarchy should be retained.

It was agreed:

That the debate at the next meeting of the Youth Cabinet would be:

Are university fees in the UK fair and should they be kept or abolished?

YC.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Youth Cabinet will be held on Tuesday 20 October 2-015 at 5pm in the Council Chamber (food available from 4.30pm in the Balcony Bar).

**Nicole Parry
Chair**

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