

Minutes Youth Council Meeting
12th November 2003

Present: Ryan & Jerome joint Chair, Tiffany, Danielle, Jenna, Ali, Sophie, Stephen, Elliot, Alex, Holly

Workers Present: Clare Archer, Andy Fleming, Sally Sagar, Youth Forum Support Workers (YFSW)

Guests: Rachel Roylance Community Planning, Peter VAB

Apologies: Charlotte, Kayleigh, Chloe, Sally, Martyn

Absent: Shelley, Brett

Minutes: Proposed Alex, Seconded Tiff

Chair for next meeting: Stephen

Matters Arising: Ryan Ansell announced he was leaving the Youth Council due to work commitments. He wished everyone all the best. All the Youth Council thanked Ryan and wished him luck for the future. Everyone gave him a massive round of applause.

Andy spoke about the progress being made with the visit to Germany. He said he would continue looking into the visit, costs, times to visit etc.

Members agreed the best time to visit Germany, School and College wise would probably be in the Easter holidays. We agreed to continue the discussion when Andy had more information.

Clare announced that the evaluation residential would be taking place after Christmas and asked the members when would be the best time to book it, all members agreed February half term would be the most convenient.

Clare also announced that training for the Scrutiny Commissions was in the process of being organised for all members, so that everyone had a clear understanding.

Area feedback:

Area 1; Elliot had been busy completing his Youth Achievement award.

Area 2; Alex and Ryan had been collecting suggestions from young people in their area, through suggestion boxes in youth clubs and School. Alex had been involved in the One Barnsley presentation (around Youth Summits) and felt it had gone really well.

Area 3; Danielle has been involved in OFSTED peer inspection training, also she visited a really good youth project in Hull on a training day with the Health Project she has been involved with. The man who runs the project seemed interested in the Youth Council and would probably come to talk to us on how to set up a similar project.

Area 4; Holly had been involved in the Lifelong Learning Partnership Presentation (around Youth Summits) which she had enjoyed. Also some of the Youth Summit Education Action Points are being addressed at her School (Holgate).

Area 5; Jerome has been involved with the Primary Care Trust in planning how to implement Youth Summit Action Points, also he did the One Barnsley presentation which he felt went well and gave feedback on the Youth summit at the local Area Forum . Jerome also discussed the idea of Youth Councillors being Co-optees of the area forum with the Area Forum officer.

Area 6; Stephen and Kayleigh did a presentation on the Youth Summit Action points to the Area forum. Stephen felt it had gone well, Clare informed him that they had published an article in the South Yorkshire Times about it.

Area 7; Sophie is on a steering group in Hoyland to feed issues in the local area back to young people. Clare spoke on behalf of Charlotte about the Youth Council Surgeries she was planning alongside the YFSW.

Area 8; Jenna had been involved in the presentation at the Childrens Trust launch and One Barnsley. She had organised a young persons politics night for Halloween, some of the Youth Council, the local MP's and Barnsley Councillors had attended. Also Jenna had been invited to a meal at Ardsley house where she had met John Prescott. Also the Police have asked her to be a representative on one of their boards.

Area 9; Tiffany raised issues that had arisen at a Speakout about a Football pitch in the local area. Also Tiff commented on one persons remarks on the website being quite challenging about the youth Council, Clare told people to respond and assured members she would keep an eye on this, to ensure the comments didn't get offensive.

Youth Councillors and support going into Youth Units: Clare introduced the new YFSW's and explained that now there was a full staff team, there is support in every area for Youth Councillors. Clare explained that all staff had been briefed on supporting members in Youth Units and that Youth Councillors should try and get out to their constituents as much as possible, also that suggestion boxes would be in every unit so that members could pick up suggestions. Clare agreed to post out staff contact numbers to all members.

Any Other Business: Rachel and Peter congratulated the Youth Council on their success with the Youth Summits. Rachel explained that the Youth Summit Action Points have made a massive impact and key decision makers are really taking notice of them. She also explained that when the points are prioritised into workable projects that funding would probably be available. A working party on the Youth Summits as part of the Social Inclusion group has been set up and would like a member of the Youth Council to be involved. Jenna expressed an interest. Clare agreed to follow this up.

Debate: The Youth Council debated; 'To be successful and have a good career, do you need qualifications such as a degree?'

Discussion: The Youth Councillors and YFSW's got together in area groups to discuss ways forward with the action points and planning and organising future projects.