

Youth Council Meeting Minutes 14/5/07  
6-8pm Boardroom, The Metrodome

Members present: Stacie, Lizzie, Amy S, Jamie, Ash B, Hayley, Amy W, Bethany, Shari (Chair), Ash T, Aaron, Sam, Matthew, James, Becki, Jacky, Kieran, Katie (Vice Chair), Emily M, Tili, Osman.

Workers Present: Clare (co-ordinator), Karen, Ricky, Emma, Diane (MV)

Visitor: Andy Fleming Participation and Inclusion Manager

Apologies: Omar exams, Brendan exams, Sarah family illness, Kelsey family illness, Emily H family bereavement.

Introductions: Chair introduced Will Heathcoat, Will was in attendance to observe the meeting as he was considering putting himself forward as co-optee to represent Penistone 6<sup>th</sup> Form on the youth council. All members introduced themselves and their area.

Minutes: Amy W proposed, Ash T seconded, minutes passed as a true record

Requests: Chris Hamer from Road Safety Panel in Council has requested that he be invited to a youth council meeting in order to gather members views around road safety issues. He asked how members would prefer him to present his information; a discussion with members took place, it was agreed that the presentation should be informal using PowerPoint/flipchart with time for discussion and question and answer session. Members allocated 45mins max to this as an agenda item. Ash B proposed this has a way forward, Amy W seconded this, all members agreed.

Clare would pass this info onto Chris and invite him to a June meeting.

School leaving age questionnaires: The Chair explained that the Government were considering increasing the school leaving age to 18, a consultation questionnaire on the issue was handed out for members to complete. Clare would ensure these were sent back to the relevant place. The Chair asked if anyone had any points to raise from the questionnaire; Will agreed with increasing the age and explained some of the benefits, Ash T raised the issue about text books for post 16 education being costly and also the issue of transport being costly, Will agreed with Ash T's points and also mentioned costly trips and visits.

Vote for Secretary: The chair explained that the vote for Secretary to the youth council would take place and asked for nominees to come forward, Jamie Swift came forward, Clare checked that no one else wanted to nominate themselves, it was agreed that Jamie would automatically be given the position. Bethany proposed this, Becki seconded this, all members agreed as a way forward. Clare explained that Jamie would begin his role at the next meeting and that she would provide the necessary stationary for him.

Feedback from UKYP Regional Meeting: Jamie, Ash T, Bethany and Hayley gave feedback from the regional meeting that took place on 12/5/07 in Leeds. Jamie and Hayley attended the Transport sub group, where discussions took place around concessions cards and reduced fares, Jamie also came up with the idea of creating a questionnaire around transport to take out to constituents. Ash T and Bethany attended the Sexual Health sub group where discussions took place around a grab bag for young people that would contain information around a range of sexual health issue.

Visitor: Andy announced that the decision about youth councils involvement in UKYP had made after consulting with others at the regional meeting. The Barnsley's MYP's could attend the next regional meeting in June and also attend the July National Sitting in Glasgow, a review would then take place after the sitting to decide further involvement with UKYP. Andy also invited all members to the YOF event at the Citrus Rooms on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Questionnaire idea: Clare asked if members would be interested in taking Jamie's idea forward and design a questionnaire around transport for young people in Barnsley. The idea would be for a working group to meet next Wed to draft the questionnaire, Clare could then type up, print a copy it, members could then go into town centre in Spring bank holiday (with support of workers) and ask young people to fill it in.

Jamie proposed the idea, Amy W seconded all members agreed as a way forward.

Katie raised the issue about the problems young people with mobility problems and disabilities face around transport, Katie gave the example that people with disabilities are sometimes treated badly on transport due to drivers not being trained to deal with disabled people, she thought that all drivers should be trained to deal with issues around mobility and disability.

Clare asked for some volunteers to form the working party which would meet at 5pm at Metrodome on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Katie and James gave their apologies but agreed to give Clare ideas in break time. Jamie, Sam, Emily M, Ash T and Amy s volunteered, Clare would send a letter out as a reminder.

Barnsley Youth Website: The chair explained that the website was in the process of being updated and asked for suggestions from members about how it could be improved, suggestions were as follows:

- Less blue
- Questionnaires on site for young people to fill in
- Put issues raised in meetings on site for young people to comment
- Forums, where members and other young people can join and talk to one another
- Members to be able to personalise their own pages
- Photos and videos
- Issue; site blocked in some schools

Clare asked for volunteers to be on a working party for the website, the first meeting would take place at her offices because of computer access. A minibus would pick up from the town hall at 1pm and return at aprox 4pm.

Members interested: Jamie, Emily M, Sam, Bethany, Matthew, Osman, Becki, Hayley, Stacie, Lizzie, Amy S, James.

Clare would send a letter as a reminder.

The chair asked if all members to go and have their photo taken with Emma.

Cabinet Presentation: The chair explained about a survey done at the end of 2006 by the youth council, the council cabinet would like feedback on the findings from the youth council, Clare explained that only 4 members would be needed to work on this and then present it, probably in July. Lots of members put themselves forward, Clare put names in an envelope and Sam, Emily and Matthew pulled them out at random, Jamie, Becki, Stacie and Matthew names were pulled out. Clare would set up a meeting over next month and send out a letter with the info.

Youth Council Constitution: The Chair explained that Care had made all requested amendments, members to look over the amended constitution, Tili proposed the version to be passed as the new version, Sam seconded, all members agreed.

A.O.B: The Chair asked members to think of agenda items for future meetings, any ideas needed to passed on to Clare. Amy W asked for 'graffiti walls' to be put on a future agenda. Katie asked if she could do a presentation around 'equal rights' at a future meeting. The Chair explained that the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> May would be the last training session, this was being delivered by outside facilitators around team work, team roles and responsibilities, therefore it was really important for all members to attend.

Clare asked what Will thought of the meeting he said he had enjoyed and would like ot become a c-opted member to the youth council. The Chair asked if members agreed to Will becoming c-opted to represent Penistone 6<sup>th</sup> Form. Matthew proposed this as a way forward, Sam seconded this, all members agreed. Will was formally welcomed to the youth council.