



**Minutes of Youth Council Meeting
Tuesday 10 August 2021
Minutes**

Chair: Sonny

Vice Chair: Martin

Apologies: Archie, Lauren, Bianca, Natalie, Oscar, Samantha, Simran, Cameron, Jamie, Megan, Wendy Cockbill (Officer)

Attended: Daniel, Martin, Sonny, Tomor, Sydnae, Alec, Riya, Zaara, Aliza, Finlay, Matthew

Absent: Sonny, Frank

Officers: Gill Wallis, Vanessa Gayton, Di Gilson-Butler

1. Registration

2. Introductions and Welcome by Chairman, Sonny

Sonny welcomed all to the meeting.

Diane explained the housekeeping: all Youth Councillors should arrive 15 minutes early for signing in and getting to the room, the muster point in the event of a fire is on the green at the front of the Civic Offices. Youth Councillors to bring their iPads to all in-person meetings.

3. Updates from schools

Epping St. John's has had their first sports day since Covid.

Davenant had a charity walk on the penultimate day of school and raised lots of money for the Whipps Cross Hospital Acorn ward. They also had a great sports day. Some new buildings are being built to improve the quality of learning and to be more energy efficient. Debden Park High School had a great turn out at results day. New teachers are joining in the new academic year. All students are required to test for Covid the week before school starts.

King Harold have also had a very successful results day. Tomor has left KHA and will be attending Harlow College.

Roding Valley will have a new music teacher in the new academic year.

The Ongar Academy Mr Osbourne HT has left.

Braeside were looking forward to GCSE results.

West Hatch dance teacher has left. A new block has been built to include sports and dance.

4. MiLife C19 updates

Debden Park, The Ongar Academy, Roding Valley and Davenant Foundation will be starting MiLife C19 in the new academic year.

West Hatch, Epping St Johns and Braeside have begun registering pupils. MiLife PowerPoints have been shown to forms along with the MiLife C19 launch film.

Teachers are wearing the MiLife C19 face masks and the student notice board at West Hatch has been updated to include both EFYC and MiLife C19 information.

Ongar Academy and King Harold have yet to confirm a start date.

5. Independent Advisory Group (IAG)

The Youth Council have 3 members on the IAG group. They feel that they are making a positive difference by having a youth representative at the meetings. Their roles are to actively contribute to the discussions that are current. They will be reporting on MiLife C19 at the next meeting in September.

6. Young Commissioners

The Young Commissioners have completed their initial grants training and will soon be doing safeguarding training. They have begun assessing the grant applications submitted by local groups. Essex have £16,000 to commission youth work and services in the district.

7. EFYC summer activity updates

The group talked about what they have gained, experienced and contributed over the summer activities.

Enjoyed meeting new people and learning new skills

Confidence has improved

Enjoyed connecting with others and improving public speaking skills

The whole experience has been great and it was interesting to learn about other - people's family history at the Heritage Day.

Looking forward to taking part in more activities.

Enjoyed getting the opportunity to represent young people and make a difference in the community.

Enjoyed the opportunity to socialise and see others' confidence grow.

Enjoyed the Museum visit and found it really informative.

8. Youth Conference

Please save date. The Epping Forest Youth Conference will be held on Friday 19th November 2021. All secondary schools will be invited to attend by sending 8 young delegates with a teacher. Mathew suggested the environment as a topic as it is very prevalent. Sydnae suggested a debate as they enable everyone to have their say. Daniel suggested a debate about whether school strikes and protests are the way to get real climate justice. He also raised the idea of a teacher workshop for Headteachers about how to save the planet while also saving money, which can then be reinvested in children's

education. Martin offered to spend his Jack Petchey award money on the Youth Conference. Sydnae also raised the idea of having guest speakers to share their experience.

Action: Everyone to watch the 2019 Youth Conference

https://eppingforestdc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/457041

9. Updates from Di and Wendy – IMPORTANT DATES

i) Brighton and Hove Beach Clean-up. On Tuesday 17th August the Brighton and Hove Youth Council have organised the event and invited EFYC members to join them. There will be 2 coach pickup points (in Epping and Loughton)

Action: Please be on time for the coach. **Uniform to be worn and wear appropriate footwear and clothing.**

ii) CanalAbility Away Day – 19th August – Wendy has decided to use her Jack Petchey Leaders Award money on an away day on a canal boat. This is a social activity. There will be two boats. Youth Councillors will experience working the locks along the river and how the boat works. It is a four-hour trip along the River Stort, departing from Harlow. **Non uniform.**

iii) Frank has volunteered to spend his Jack Petchey award money on High Viz jackets for the Youth Councillors.

10. Any other business

Harriette and Max have recently resigned from the Youth Council.

Special thanks go to Harriette for serving 3 and half years as a Youth Councillor for the Ongar Academy and as an independent Youth Councillor, as she moved schools to attend Chelmsford County High. With year 13 commitments looming, Harriette will spend her time focusing on her schoolwork.

Max has served 14 months representing Epping St Johns School. He has recently taken up sport and training will be held on the same evenings as EFYC meetings; therefore, it was a difficult decision to make but he has chosen sport. We wish him a successful future too.

The Youth Council formally thanked them for their contribution and wished them good luck for their future.

The meeting ended at 17:07hrs

Date of Next Full Youth Council meeting:

Tuesday 7 September 2021 at 19:00 – 20:30hrs

Venue: Civic Offices, Ground Floor

