Full Youth Council meeting

1 February 2020

Chair: Di Gilson Butler

Attendance:

Riya Bhargava, Frank Cullis, Martin Prinsloo, Oscar Prosser, Daniel Turner,

Apologies:

Bianca Nedelcu, Alec, Finlay, Lauren, Natalie, Sonny, Zaara, Aliza, Isabelle Cray (Officer), Vanessa Gayton (Officer)

Absent:

Cameron Khadem, Sammy, Matthew, Archie, Sydnae

Officers:

Di Gilson-Butler, Isabelle Cray (Apologies), Vanessa Gayton (Apologies)

Item 3: Guest speaker Luke Lowrie from the Red Balloon Foundation (RBF)

Luke Lowrie introduced the numerous environmental projects that RBF are supporting and hosting. RBF are currently running a 10-week course about advocacy, volunteering and fund raising. Project work includes community litter picks. Other work has been to raise awareness of Child trafficking, writing to MP and visiting Parliament to attend a select committee to discuss concerns raised.

Another project has been to lobby Transport for London TFL about air pollution. Bus routes are causing major pollution, as they wait at bus stops directly outside playgrounds. RBF have been fund raising to plant hedges to help filter the air pollutants.

RBF are a registered college on the ASDAN network. They can award qualifications and certificates. ASDAN offers short courses of 6 modules that can be completed in 10 - 60-hour period. The course topic; the impact on climate change in the local and wider community, includes practical challenges, such as measuring air quality. RBF

invite Youth Cllrs and their schools to take part in the course. It can be delivered in school or to a youth group.

RBF also support International projects. They are visiting Mexico in the summer 2022, to help the homeless living on the US and Mexican border, to build houses. RBF will also be taking a team to Ghana in late 2022 / early 2023, to work on water poverty. Villagers have been selling the well water that has been built by international aid. RBF will be working to provide families with water filters, transforming puddle water to pure drinking water.
Action: Volunteering opportunity in Mexico. Website goes live on Thursday to register interest. Information about volunteering work in Ghana will be available May 2022.

Item 4: Youth elections 2022 update

Braeside school received a virtual assembly on 24 January by Di, as currently there are no Youth Council representatives at Braeside school.

Chigwell school, Zaara and Cameron to speak with Mr Gower. Assembly is likely to be held on Thursday 3 February.
Action: Zaara and Cameron to speak with Mr Gower urgently for an update on assembly dates and election date.

Debden Park High school. Daniel delivered an assembly to year 9 pupils and the school arranged a virtual assembly for all years but year 7. General feedback was the EFYC promotional film was good and Daniel received a lot of Interest from pupils. School has confirmed their **election date 24th February**

Davenant. Oscar and Martin reported they had made a film to present to all year groups. Their **election date is March 8th**

Epping St Johns received a virtual assembly on 18 January by Di, as currently there are no Youth Council representatives at ESJ.

King Harold Academy update, Ms Williams and the Head Girl Ruby, delivered the presentation to the school, they were very optimistic about recruiting Youth Council candidates.

Roding valley High. Lauren confirmed by text that the virtual assemblies have been filmed.
Action: Frank to speak with Ms Dyer urgently for an update on assembly dates and election date.

Ongar Academy. Finlay, Sammy and Sonny have delivered the assemblies to all years but 7, on week commencing 24 January.
Action: Finlay, Sammy and Sonny to speak with Mr Cooper urgently for an update on the election date.

West Hatch High school update by Riya. Aliza has filmed the virtual assemblies and sent it to the form teachers. Action: Aliza and Riya to speak with Mr Towsey **urgently for an update on election date.**

Item 5: EFYC Annual report to Overview & scrutiny committee.

The report will include up to date information about the Youth Council elections. To date an expression of interest to present are; Daniel, Sonny, Martin and Finlay.
Action: Youth Councillors to contact Di by 15 February if they wish to present to the adult councillors at O & S.

Item 6: Feedback from schools

Schools are currently experiencing high levels of staff sickness. Schools are also busy with mock exams.

Item 7: Climate Action school challenge updates

Following on from the Climate Action Youth Conference, schools are invited to report back about their achievements to the Youth Council meeting on 1st March.

Action: Daniel to speak with Mr Moor at DPH for an update
Action: Martin & Oscar to speak with Ms Hodgkinson at Davenant for an update
Action: Frank to speak with Ms Richards at RVH for an update
Action: Di to speak with Ms McGrath at West Hatch High for an update
Action: Di to speak with Mr Ahmed at ESJ for an update

Item 8: We R Safe film update

Di and Vanessa met with Lorna and Alan from the Press and Media team, Essex Police. The Police reps cannot endorse the We R Safe film as they were not aware of the 6th film, but they expressed their interest in working with the EFYC to promote young people's stories, using the police channels.
Action: Lorna and Alan to attend a Youth Council meeting during half term. Date TBC

Item 9. EFYC Youth Council Cup virtual presentations.

The cup winners will each receive a certificate from the Chairman of the District Council in March when the Civic Awards are presented.

The EFYC Cup 2022 was awarded to Daniel Turner. Dan has shown outstanding commitment and drive, he has grown in confidence and maturity. Dan is always willing to learn and takes on extra tasks to improve himself. He is an outstanding Youth Councillor as he goes the extra mile. Dan has 95% attendance

The EFYC Cup 2022 was also awarded to Martin Prinsloo who has shown outstanding commitment and drive. He is extremely confident in all that he does. He is ambitious, hardworking and passionate about his work as a Youth Councillor. Martin has 100% attendance over the two years. He has gone above and beyond by attending external community meetings representing the voice of young people.

Item 10: Feedback from Di

North Weald airfield public consultation results will be reported to the Youth Council on 2 February by senior officers. Youth Councillors to attend this extra meeting from 18:00 – 19:00 on Zoom.

Essex Police Officers Emma Jackson to meet the IAG members for an update on 14 February at 18:00 – 19:00. Sonny and Martin to attend.

Last EFYC meeting for the class of 2020 – 2022. The last Youth Council meeting will be Monday 1 March. Please return iPad, iPad box and charger. Each iPad will be reset to factory settings so please remove anything you wish to keep before this date.
Action: All Youth Cllrs please return iPad, iPad box and charger on 1st March

New EFYC Induction day. Save the date Tuesday 12 April. You will be invited to meet the new Youth Council 2022 – 2024, you will be invited to host a Q & A for the new group and to talk about the highs and lows of youth council work. This will be the last time we meet as the 2020 – 2022 group so bring tissues (for me).
Action: Save the date Tuesday 12 April.

Item 11: Any other business:

None

Next EFYC meeting:	Tuesday 1 March
Time:	19:00 – 20:30
Venue:	Civic Offices (Meet in reception at 18:45)