

Broxbourne Youth Council Meeting

18th November 2020

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Lloyd Evans, Ethan Yardley, Adesola Adewale, Daniel Akinbogun, Gabbie Newallo-Ragbir, Thomas Jennings & Dylan Ways

Apologies: Luke Mobbs, Leon Vaughans, Tate Lambie, Linton Sutherland (YCH Services for Young People)

Facilitators: Yannick Mensah & Oliver Brady (YCH Services for Young People) Emma Elsafty (Broxbourne Borough Council)

1. Welcomes and Introductions

2. YSG Feedback

Both Ethan and Adesola gave their thoughts on the meeting that happened the day before. Both agreed it was very interesting and productive, especially Adesola as this was her debut at this meeting. In short, YSG stands for Youth Strategy group which is a meeting that brought together lots of different organisations to discuss provision for young people in the area. The main point to take from the meeting was that youth provision in the area during the Halloween period seemed to work as crime was down. Furthermore, after being impressed by other organisations present, it was agreed that we would like to invite people from Herts Mind & Catalyst Housing to guest speak at a future meeting.

ACTION: To send out YSG minutes to Council Members & to invite said persons to future youth council meetings.

3. Feeling Good Week

From the previous meeting, council members had decided on two ideas for their application. Here, council members looked to further expand their ideas before formally completing an application for funding.

The first idea was apply for funding to receive mental health training, after which the council would deliver mental health first aid sessions to young people. Oliver stated that there is someone from YCH who is qualified to deliver this training to the council, as we can do it for free, it might not be worth applying for funding. This prompted a further discussion around what we could do virtually, and it was decided that the council would like to host virtual events each day of Feeling Good Week. Daily sessions would be no longer than an hour and a half, and include things like virtual workshops on mental health, fun and games session, physical activity session and a mental health poster competition. Council members liked this new, developed idea.

The second idea was a “wellbeing day”. To be hosted at one of YCH’s Young People’s Centres. This idea wasn’t discussed at such great length as council members a generally

quite happy with this idea. Although, it was suggested that we should make leaflets for the event, giving demonstrations on how to spot poor mental health & presentations on such things. Council members also highlighted the fact that young people in schools are taught how to “handle a situation” or “what to do in a crisis” and never ways to positive mental health. They believe that this is something the council should do on the event and it would be incorporated in the form of another demo or presentation.

After discussing both ideas, it was also suggested that a positive mental health poster competition should be the main thing of either ideas and should be done either way.

ACTION: Start application.

4. Accessibility & Social Media

Essentially, this was a point by point discussion to find out what has been happening with actions from past meetings around our ideas for social media. Below was a list of points that facilitators wanted the council to comment on.

A. Broxbourne Youth Council Email

Emma was asked whether the Youth Council’s email was still active and if we could use it. After some digging, she suggested that it could still be active. However as safeguarding issue, it might be better if we link the inbox directly to Emma’s, so she gets the email from the public, she then asks the council before she replies through the Youth Council email. Council members liked this idea.

B. Goffs Lane Litter Pick

It was agreed in past meetings that we should share the fact we completed a litter pick. Ethan commented that he has not posted as he does not currently have any pictures of the event. Oliver then emailed them directly to Ethan for posting.

C. Cabinet Member’s Introductions on Social Media

After liking what Epping Forest Youth Council do with their council pictures, it was suggested in past meetings that we should share a picture and short introduction to each new cabinet member. It was agreed that this should be completed at the cabinet members meeting – when it is arranged.

D. Lockdown Concerns for the Community

It was agreed in past meetings that the council should post online some positive ways to mental health. Council members were asked what has happened with regards to this and if they have done anything further. They have, Ethan has made numerous slides on ways to mental health and posted this on Instagram during the meeting. Council members were very happy with Ethan’s work.

E. Extra support

In light of Ethan suddenly having lots more to do on social media, it was raised whether he should have any extra support from both facilitators and other council members. Adesola volunteered to take over the twitter feed to relieve Ethan of some work.

5. AOB

1. Year Plan Survey

Oliver raised the point that in past meetings, the council have looked at developing a year plan. Oliver asked if council members have completed any information gathering to help the development of this. They hadn't, so it was suggested that each member comes to another YCH online session for as little as fifteen minutes to ask the young people in that session if there is anything they would like to see the Broxbourne Youth Council deliver. This was agreed and each council member gave a day they were available to do so.

2. Home Grown Music

Effectively the youth division of the charity Grow Cheshunt, Lloyd wanted to promote what Home Grown Music are doing at the minute. Currently, they are hosting open mic nights with the next one being on the 12th of December. Submissions for this event will open on December 5th and to do so, email or direct message the page on Instagram. Lloyd asked the council to both promote the event and if any council members would like to participate.

ACTION: To promote the open mic night

Next meeting is 25th November 2020 on Microsoft Teams