

Weston-super-Mare Youth Council Meeting Notes

A.	Date of meeting: 08/10/2024
B.	Meeting Start Time: 18.03pm
C.	Where is the meeting: YMCA Youth Hub, Lower Bristol Road.
D.	Attendance – Kelly (KH) Sammy (SG) Oliver (OM) Ian (IR) Mylee (MRD) Eleanor (EH) Ellis (ER) New Members – Elektra (EC), Shannon (SC), Ash (AO), Eric (I) Alli W (AW), Sam B (SB)
F.	Welcome – EH welcomed the new members to the Youth Council.
1.	Apologies for Absence – Zac (ZR) Natalie (NM)
2.	Declarations of Interest – None
3.	Notes of Last Meeting – All Approved. Proposed- OM Second- SG
4.	Youth Council Introduction- EH asked all members (above) to introduced themselves to the new members- Also present was - Chrissandra Boxley (CB) - Head of Area Art, Graphics & Fashion -Loxton Campus Crystal Bliss (CBL) – Lecturer of Level 1 Art - Loxton Campus Sandra Bull (SBU) – Assistant principle - Loxton Campus Sam Bishop (SB) - Democratic service Manager – Weston Town- Council
5.	Upcoming events- EH informed members of the up and coming events- - Weston Carnival – 8th November – 4.30pm -6.30pm – there is an opportunity to open the Youth Hub to young people aged 11-18 years to come and meet their friends in a safe place before the carnival. We could provide hot chocolate and biscuits? AW asked if the youth council would like to run this event? EH & OM said it was a good idea - All members agreed. - AW reminded everyone to let her know if they are available to help. - Remembrance Parade - Grove Park – 10th November 10.30am 11.45pm. Eleanor will be laying a wreath; all members are welcome to be there. - Christmas lights switch on – 23rd November - Italian Gardens – 5pm – 6pm; again, all members welcome. - St Peters Church Carol service – 15th December – 3pm 4.30pm. YMCA have supported this event for several years, would the Youth council like to attend?

	Please let AW know if you will be attending any of the events.
6.	-Well-being event - AW explained that all five of the organisations that were asked to attend have now confirmed for next weekends event. AW asked if anyone knew if ZR had managed to organise the music? OM said yes, he had and would provide a soundtrack for everyone to hear before the event takes place via the whatsapp chat. MRD asked about when they would be putting the goody bags together. AW said everything had arrived and they could put them together at the working meeting later. KH said he would try and make it to the day. IR said the MP Daniel Aldridge had confirmed he would make sure he popped in for an hour on the day. OM confirmed the Mayor would also be coming. EH told those members that were coming to help should be there for 1pm.
7.	Fundraiser – EH said It was mentioned at the last meeting about a young person’s music event as a fundraiser. AW said that we could potentially put a young person’s music event on as the Weston Town Council had offered us the a night at the Blakhay theatre next year, potentially in February half term (TBC) She asked members if they wanted to confirm this as their main 2025 event? OM said it was a shame that ZR wasn’t there as he was very keen to see this event take place. SG said that was a very short time to organise would we be able to do it in that short time. AW said they could, however she will need to confirm the date first. KH asked if it was open to all young people and college students? CB said the College members could help with marketing IR asked if the Blakhey’s lighting issue had been resolved and KH said how many bands would be able to perform. AW explained that she didn’t know the answers to the above questions right now, but it may help to ask Sally from the Blakhey Theatre and Fay Powell to the next meeting. ER said that was a great idea, AW asked OM if he could invite them both to the next meeting and if everyone could think of some questions they will need to ask them as they would have organised lots of events like this. - OM – to Invite Sally from Blakhey Theatre and Faye Powell to next meeting - All members - to make a list of questions to ask regarding how best to run the music event.
11.	Any Other Business Wellbeing Bench – Due to the inclement weather the painting of the bench was called off. A new date is needed. - AW to speak with Faye Powell to see when the best time of year would be best.

	IR mentioned the bins problem again, so many across the town are over flowing. Have we a date for litter picking. AW said she was waiting on confirmation from Debbie Apted. Members need to work together to build up a picture of how big the issue is by making a note of the bins that are a problem, and even taking photos as proof. SG said Fly tipping is getting really bad again, especially around where she lives. ER asked if we could join together with other litter picking groups? AW said of course and if they knew some to send to AW. - IR & ER to send the names of the litter picking groups to AW. Member Videos – OM mentioned that we needed more members videos to promote the youth council. AW said that it was on the Agenda for the working meeting later so it can be discussed further. Stepping Down- KH explained to the youth council members that college work was taking up a lot more of his time and he may need to step down from his role as Vice Chair. He would seriously think about it and let everyone know before the next meeting. Water Park, AW asked the members if they had noticed the refurbishment of the water park and if they had used it in the past? EH said no as she thought it was mainly for families. AW explained that if used properly young people could use it after 4pm for free. EI said there is more spaces needed for young people to use. IR agreed and said we need to be promoting these places to young people. AW informed the members that some young people had targeted the park over the last year causing significant damage, so how could the youth council promote the park as a safe space and help to reduce the damage that is caused? ER suggested making a video to help with reduce the vandalization. OM suggested fundraising events with the Town Council to promote the park. SG suggested having Spaces to put art on, having times for different ages, EC suggested Collaborating with an artist – having an art shed where students could show their talents? AW- suggested that is all mentioned to Fay Powell and that the youth council would like to get involved in the water park if she is able to attend the next meeting. Fundraising - CBL said that the college members could help with fundraising by making Poppies to sell. Art students could work on some ideas and send them over to the members to agree on some designs. All members said that was a great idea. - CBL to send over designs for the members to look at.
12.	EH thanked everyone for attending the meeting and closed the meeting. Date of Next Meeting – 12/11/24