

Civic Centre,  
Arnot Hill Park,  
Arnold,  
Nottinghamshire,  
NG5 6LU



**Gedling Youth Council**

# Agenda

Date: **Monday 4 July 2022**

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Time: **5.30 pm**

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Place: **Chappell Room**

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For any further information please contact:

**Jane Ansell**

Community Investment Manager

0115 901 3698

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Supported by:



# Gedling Youth Council

## Membership

Leyla Abass  
Kadie Bullivant  
Taylor Chaplin  
Imogen Clunie  
Chloe Dring  
Lauren Eley  
Kieran Frankland  
Sophie Fuller  
Ruth Harding  
Daniel Hanlon  
Abigail Hutchison  
Aimee Kimpton  
Eleanor Lumb  
Fatimah Malik  
Muhammed Malik  
Dylan McDonald  
Caitlin O'Connor  
Stan Riley  
Halle Sibanda  
Lilly Stevenson  
Rhiannon Whitmore

Councillor Kathryn Fox  
Councillor Viv McCrossen

# AGENDA

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1 **Welcome, apologies received: Muhammad Malik, Chair**

2 **Minutes of last meeting**

5 - 9

3 **Group Chat discussions - points raised by members**

4 **Feedback from the Lord Lieutenant's Garden Party Saturday 25 June**

5 **Appointment of incoming Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer - expressions of interest as follows:**

Nominees will be asked to speak on their suitability for the role, following which a secret ballot will take place.

Vice Chair:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Halle Sibanda  
Aimee Kimpton  
Kieran Frankland  
Sam Boulby

Fatimah Malik  
Leyla Abass

Caitlin O'Connor

6 **MYP manifesto pledges - feedback from Chair's meeting Monday 27 June**

7 **Youth Council Members future focus, subjects for discussion and guest speakers:**

Request from young person to speak on Period Poverty

8 **GBC Updates: Gedling Young People's Consultation Action Plan**

Young People's Health and Wellbeing, including mental health

Sophie Fuller GBC Work Experience 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July

9 **Future meeting dates: All 5:30 - 7:30pm in the Chappell Room, 1st Floor, unless otherwise stated on the agenda:**

- 19 September 2022
- 20 February 2023
- 21 November 2022
- 24 April 2023

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## **Minutes of the Gedling Youth Council 2022 – 2024 Inaugural Meeting**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**5.30 - 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre**

### **1. Welcoming Address: Overview of Gedling Youth Council – John Clarke, Leader of the Council**

Councillor Clarke congratulated the Gedling Youth Council on their outstanding work to date, and encouraged new members to take part in as many opportunities as possible during their three year tenure.

### **2. Gedling Youth Council's Achievement of the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire's Young People's Volunteer Award 2020 - Deputy Lord Lieutenant Jean Pardoe OBE**

DLL Jean Pardoe gave details of her citation and recommendation of the Gedling Youth Council for the Award, and wished members well for the future.

### **3. Working with the Gedling Youth Council – Cllr Viv McCrossen**

Cllr McCrossen gave an overview of the achievements of successive Youth Councils, and shared her positive experience of working with members in recent years.

### **4. Appointment of incoming Chair – new Gedling Member of Nottinghamshire Youth Parliament (MYP) Muhammad Malik - Halle Sibanda, Acting Chair 21/22**

Halle formally handed over as Chair to Muhammad Malik following his successful appointment as MYP for Gedling, and praised his hard work and vision for the Youth Council.

### **5. Opening address: Muhammad Malik, incoming Chair**

Muhammad formally accepted the role of Chair and gave an overview of his hopes and plans in the new role.

### **6. Announcement of incoming Youth Mayor**

Fatimah Malik was formally nominated for the role of Youth Mayor 2022/23, pending appointment at the Annual Council AGM and Mayor making ceremony on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

### **7. Nomination of incoming Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer – expressions of interest**

A number of members put forward expressions of interest for the above roles. Further nominations to be gathered via email. Appointments to be made at the next meeting.

## **8. Youth Council Members future focus, subjects for discussion and guest speakers**

A general discussion highlighted the following possible areas of focus and guest speakers:

- Affordable, safe transport for young people
- Mental Health: Work with schools and agencies to improve access to support
- Campaign to address bullying and discrimination – scrutinise how bullying is addressed in schools and other settings, advocate for better ongoing support to deal with the aftermath of bullying
- Careers event/Employability skills building session at an off-school site location – assistance with UCAS Applications, CV writing, Careers advice
- Respond to the areas raised by young people in the Gedling YP Survey
- Young People's safety: Invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to address the Youth Council; explore a Youth Crime Commissioner or Champion role

## **9. GBC Updates: Gedling Young People's Consultation Action Plan**

Jane Ansell flagged some areas of work being progressed as part of the YP Consultation Action Plan, including YP mental and physical health and wellbeing, YP leisure and holiday activities, youth zones at the Council's events, work with young people at risk of disaffection.

**The meeting closed at 6.45pm and was followed by a buffet tea.**

## **Appendix 1: Summary Opening Addresses and Achievements to date**

### **Inaugural Gedling Youth Council Meeting 2022 – 2024**

#### **Overview**

Gedling Borough Council elected its first Youth Council in April 2014.

The Gedling Youth Council is a voluntary body of young people who are nominated from within their schools and serve an initial term of 3 years, having the option to stand again whilst ever they are within the required age range.

The role of the Gedling Youth Council is to:

- Investigate local issues and concerns
- Look at how local authorities spend their money and ask questions
- Tackle big issues, such as bullying and careers advice in schools
- Examine the quality and value for money of local services to young people and make suggestions for improvement
- Fundraise for activities for young people, or for projects that matter to them
- Make recommendations to service organisations on how best to engage with young people
- Work with Councillors, MPs and local organisations to improve the area for young people

#### **Cllr John Clarke, Leader of the Council**

Over the last eight years, the young people have exceeded all expectations, not only acting as a consultation forum for the Council and partners on key services to young people, but also instigating and delivering their own campaigns aimed at improving the wellbeing of young people in Gedling. As new members become familiar with their roles, they will continue this invaluable work and gain a range experience to further their own development in the process.

The hard work and dedication of successive Youth Councils over the years resulted in the Gedling Youth Council achieving the Lord Lieutenant's Young People's Volunteering Award in early 2020.

#### **Jean Pardoe, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire**

In assessing the nomination of the Gedling Youth Council for the Lord Lieutenant's Young Volunteering Award, I was delighted to meet with the members in early 2020 and hear about their campaigns.

Gedling Youth Council is a well-established voluntary body of young people drawn from schools across the area. Their role is to investigate local issues and concerns on behalf of their peers and act as a consultative group, making recommendations to service organisations such as the Gedling Council and the Police in order to improve

their engagement with young people. Members commit to serving for an initial 2 years and included the Borough's first Youth Mayor who, alongside the Mayor of Gedling, has hosted an overseas delegation alongside other Youth Council members, winning great praise from their guests. 25 young people are involved and the group has been active for 8 years. Although supported by an adult worker, they have considerable scope to set their own agenda. The work of the Youth Council is widely respected both within Gedling District Council and beyond. Their influence has undoubtedly had an impact on improving services and on raising the profile of young people in civic society. This local success story is highly and widely regarded, as was exemplified in 2019 when the retiring chair won the Pride of Gedling Award.

I therefore had no hesitation in recommending Gedling Youth Council for the Lord-Lieutenant's Award or Promoting Voluntary Service.

### **Cllr Viv McCrossen, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities**

Every year, the National Youth Parliament Initiative runs a campaign called 'Make Your Mark', a national ballot to determine the top 10 manifesto priorities to be taken forward by the National Youth Parliament. In 2019, the Gedling contribution to the Countywide ballot was over 25%, thereby demonstrating the Gedling Youth Council's wholehearted commitment to furthering democracy, citizenship and proactive involvement in decision making around the welfare of young people.

Key priorities for the Gedling Youth Council have included Mental Health, loneliness and isolation, young people's personal safety, intolerance and wider forms of bullying. In March 2019 the Youth Council designed and hosted an Intergenerational event, inviting the Gedling Seniors Council and members of community groups serving the older community to join them in a structured conference to discuss six key subjects of concern to them:

- School life
- Bullying/Cyberbullying
- Prejudice and Discrimination
- Loneliness and Isolation
- Mental Health
- Knife Crime, fear of crime

In designing the event, young people worked collaboratively with older people to come up with a vibrant format for the event incorporating poetry, jokes, theatrical props, keynote speeches and a mindfulness session, with attendees additionally speaking to camera to express the common pressures and concerns felt by both generations.

The outcomes of the conference have been compiled into a **Manifesto for Development** on these six subjects, to be shared with key influencers and decision makers.



One of our members, Eleanor Lumb, fulfilled the role of Countywide Young People's Health Champion from 2018 - 2020, meeting regularly with the Nottinghamshire Public Health Commissioner to advise on an action plan for Young People's health.

In June 2019 Gedling elected its first Youth Mayor, one of only three Youth Mayors in the County, who acts as a role model and example of citizenship for young people in the Borough.

Amongst many other successful engagements, our first Youth Mayor Abigail Hutchison hosted a School Twinning Delegation from Rotenburg, alongside the Mayor of Gedling and other Youth Council members, and all were widely praised for their conduct and positive engagement with the guests.

Both Abigail and current Youth Mayor Muhammad Malik have given presentations at Mapperley and Arnold Rotary Club, to local Gedling Business Club meetings, and represented young people at annual Remembrance events in the Borough. Muhammad and the Youth Council also led a successful Climate Change campaign, inviting all Gedling primary schools to sign up to 'Kids Against Plastic' and reach zero single use plastic status.

During their involvement with the Gedling Youth Council, members have presented to formal Council meetings on their most personal concerns, showing great honesty and courage in the process, and having an inspirational impact on Elected Council Members and Senior Officers alike.

As Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities, it has been a privilege to work with these exceptional young people over the last three years on enhancing young peoples out of school activities and in delivering the Young People's consultation in 2020/21. I look forward to working with them in taking forward an action plan in response to the consultation in 2022.

Gedling Youth Council is widely regarded as one of the best in the County, and also enjoys the most diverse representation, comprising over the years of representatives of local Schools, Youth Clubs and Disability Schools and a strong multicultural mix of young people. Meetings consistently have the highest attendance of Youth Forums across the County, and as a result previous Chair Florence Orchard was the overall winner in the Annual Pride of Gedling Awards 2019.

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