

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



Gedling Youth Council

Agenda

Date: **Monday 22 July 2024**

Time: **5.30 pm**

Place: **Council Chamber**

For any further information please contact:

Jane Ansell

Community Investment Manager

0115 901 3698

Supported by:



Gedling Youth Council

Membership

Chair Ryo Reynolds

Vice-Chair Freddie Vokes

Leyla Abass
Sara Agabani
Jude Blakey
Stella Clarke - Youth Mayor
Alex Eggleston
Poppy Greentree
Tilda Hatton
Fatimah Malik
Alex Millar
Charlie Rose - Treasurer
Molly Wright
Lydia Yates - Secretary

Councillor Kathryn Fox - Portfolio Holder for Life Chances and Vulnerability

Councillor Sandra Barnes - Policy Advisor for Vulnerable People

AGENDA

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- 1 **Welcome, refreshments, apologies received.**
 - 2 **Nomination of Interim Chair (AB)**
 - 3 **Minutes of last two meetings 19th February and 23rd April, actions arising.** 5 - 13
 - 4 **Youth Council Members role and responsibilities:** 15 - 16

Completion of Parental Consent Forms and Attendance Register, Code of Conduct (Appendix 1)
 - 5 **Whatsapp Group Chat discussions: subjects members want to raise, and suggestions for areas of focus put forward at Inaugural meeting.**
 - 6 **Youth Mayor Review - Agreed actions (JA)**
 - 7 **Appointment to the Gedling Social Mobility Commission (JA)**
 - 8 **Guest Speaker: Tanya Najuk, GBC Head of Regeneration and Welfare**
 - **Carlton Town Board** – Young People representation
 - **Ambition Arnold:** The Vision Ideas for the Arnold area: consultation
- Comfort Break – 15 minutes, Beeston Room**
- 9 **Guest Speaker Expressions of Interest to attend future meetings: The following guests have expressed an interest in attending the next meeting on 23rd September:**

GBC Planning Policy officers Joanna Gray and Alison Gibson:
The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

Inspector Mark Stanley, Gedling Area Policing Team and colleagues:
Addressing areas of safety concern for Young People
 - 10 **Update on Countywide Youth Parliament: Amy Beckworth**

11 Any Other Business, meeting closes 7.30pm

Future meeting dates:

2024: 23rd September, 11th November

2025: 17th February, 28th April

Minutes of the Gedling Youth Council Meeting

Monday 19th February 2024

5.30 - 7.30pm in the Chappell Room, Civic Centre

1. Welcome, refreshments, apologies received

Apologies received from Aimee Kimpton and Leyla Abass. Freddie Vokes and Cllr Fox would be attending late.

*New members Charlie Rose, Sara Agabani, Molly Wright and Poppy Greentree were welcomed on board (*those in attendance).

2. Minutes of last meeting, actions arising

Minutes of last meeting were accepted as a true record, no matters arising that are not covered on the agenda.

3. Group chat discussions: subjects members want to raise.

None

4. Guests and Guest Speakers: Sean Ryan Kate Whitby, NCC Youth Service

Action Plan mission statement:

‘The Council will work with its partners to provide and promote a range of activities during school holidays that is accessible and engaging to young people of all ages and abilities’

- NCC Youth Club provision activities; priority focus of work with YP to address risks to, and social mobility of YP
- Increase support for local Voluntary Youth provision, especially for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Holiday Activities and Food Programme for young people
- Enhanced young People’s holiday activities – Portfolio Holder Budget
- Events, Intergenerational activities
- Family Food Clubs rollout, engage with Childrens Centre developments

NCC Youth Service colleagues gave an overview of Youth Club provision during term times and ‘Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)’ out of school provision for young people available during holiday periods.

Sean Ryan advised that the HAF programme in Gedling includes 16 local delivery providers during holidays this year. Programmes are designed to ensure that young people are learning and engaging throughout. The programme includes outdoor and

indoor activities, climbing, water sports, music, design, preparing food and learning about nutrition and more.

HAF funding is confirmed for this year and next year, unknown beyond that.

Members put questions to officers:

How are the services promoted, and how are different age groups targeted?

The service is targeted at 13 – 16 year olds, promoted on social media and via youth club networks and on the County Council's HAF Webpage, where parents and young people can search for providers by area via the Notts Help Yourself self-serve portal.

Lack of awareness of the programme / need for better promotion was raised, which Katy Whitby agreed to take back.

What is available for those not wishing to participate in groups and for special educational needs?

Youth Voice and Participation delivered a lot of online activities during Covid, and the youth service will sometimes offer bespoke arrangements for online engagement where resources allow and a need has been raised, however this is not standard. Katy agreed to take this back for further consideration.

What is the criteria for a good HAF provider?

Sean Ryan advised that all providers must have a safety management plan/risk assessment in place, a detailed activity plan, a nutritional food offer, reasonable, clear costings and evidence of quality demonstrated in all aspects of the tender.

Is there a quality assurance feedback system?

Sean confirmed that inspections are carried out, a satisfaction survey and suggestions boxes at youth activity settings. Additionally, young people are trained to carry out visits, make and record their observations on service standards.

The Chair thanked NCC Youth Service representatives for their attendance.

5. GBC Equality and Diversity Policy Consultation – Francesca Whyley, Corporate Director

Fran advised members of the periodic statutory consultation undertaken on the above policy and put questions to members. The following summary responses were given by members:

What is Equality and Diversity?

- Everyone should feel equally comfortable to be themselves and not mask who they are
- Impact on mental health if not the case – people need to express themselves and who they are to be healthy
- Bullying has an impact, educate on that and teach people to be mindful

- Teach people how to actively accommodate different needs and abilities, perspectives – not make or rely on assumptions based on social norms
- Schools and agencies need to give people the tools to be inclusive, not just tell them to be so – this doesn't happen in schools at the moment, or if it does, not very well, improvement is needed.
- Educate the older generation, who may have preconceived ideas and fixed perspectives based on misinformation and historical bias
- Hidden disabilities and other protected characteristics can be attacked subliminally.

What could the Council do to improve Equality and Diversity?

- Wheelchair accessibility to the countryside, parks, streets and town centres.
- Raise awareness of hidden/invisible disabilities, i.e. Neurodivergent conditions
- Public education – media visibility of people of colour, people with disabilities
- Create opportunities for dialogue about different disabilities, races, religion and cultures, and ways/good practice awareness of ways to be inclusive in different Equalities scenarios.
- The Scout movement is very inclusive (shared experience from a YC member)
- Teach people early – the younger the better, but reinforce down the years
- School is the right place and should create space and time for equalities awareness, diversity and good practice.

Fran thanked members for their input, which she confirmed would be taken into account as part of the formal consultation.

6. Guest Speaker Expressions of Interest to attend future meetings:

JA informed members that The Gedling Climate Change Group: interested in attending a meeting of the incoming new Gedling Youth Council after the April inauguration, to discuss a Young People's Climate Change Conference at a local Secondary School later in 2024.

Action: JA to liaise with the group to agree a date for their attendance

Insp Mark Stanley, Gedling Policing Team had also proposed returning to continue dialogue and support promotion of their initiative to address violence towards women and girls and work on other safety issues for young people.

Action: JA to invite the Policing Team to the 22nd July meeting.

Comfort break – 15 minutes

Members retired to the Elizabeth Room for refreshments, and for new members to get to know each other.

7. Gedling Young People's Consultation Action Plan Review

Members reviewed the last three year's work programme, which consisted of calling to account a series of guest speakers from a range of services to address key mission statements in a Response Action Plan to the Gedling Young Peoples Consultation undertaken in 2020/2021.

Completed in 2022 - 2024:

- **Communications** – GBC Comms Team Lead Rob McCleary
- **Social Mobility (link to Employability, Entrepreneurship Equality and diversity in Consultation Action Plan)** - Lance Juby, Head of Service, Communities and Leisure – **Action arising:** nominate YC representative onto Gedling Social Mobility Commission)
- **Environmental Sustainability** - Sim Duhra, GBC Climate Change Office
- **Young People's Safety** – Mark Stanley, Gedling Policing Team Lead, Niki Pekal, GBC Community Safety Officer, Environment
- **Activities for Young People** – NCC Youth Service Sean Ryan - Gedling Team Lead / Pom Bhogal. Group Manager
- **Equality and Diversity** – Cllrs Fox and Barnes (feedback and discussion, Arnold Summer Fair Sat 24th June, Strategic Equalities Group priorities)

Outstanding action:

- **Review of Youth Mayor role – review feedback received from Freddie, Fatimah and Muhammad**

Members heard from prior and current Youth Mayors about their experiences in the role. In summary, whilst all three had gained some valuable and positive experience, there had been instances where Youth Mayors felt that they did not have enough information or guidance before attending an engagement, and there were concerns that the Youth Mayor role does not have enough of a profile. The variety and diversity of engagements was also discussed.

Action: JA and Democratic Services to review the comments and statements of past and present Youth Mayors and consider the following key areas for improvement raised:

- Introducing a Youth Mayor Induction.
- Preparing the Youth Mayor for an event.
- Youth Mayor invites / Diversity of events
- The Youth Mayors 'Voice for Young People'
- Comms - GYM social media profile.
- Travel arrangements/ expenses*

*(footnote: the Youth Mayor protocol does include allowable travel expenses)

8. Member of Youth Parliament Elections and ‘Make Your Mark’ – Amy Beckworth.

Amy updated members on the campaign, which enables Youth Council members across the County to vote on the top ten priorities for the National Youth Parliament.

9. Any Other Business.

None

9. Future meeting dates:

2024

22nd April (Inaugural meeting of incoming Youth Council 2024 – 2027/8)

Meetings beyond that date would be shared when available.

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Minutes of the Gedling Youth Council 2024 – 2027 Inaugural Meeting

Monday 22nd April 2024

5.30 - 7.30pm in the Chappell Room, Civic Centre

In Attendance:

- Members: Stella Clarke, Lydia Yates, Charlie Rose, Alex Eggleston, Tilda Hatton, Leyla Abass, Freddie Vokes, Fatimah Malik, Sara Agabani, Molly Wright, Alex Millar, Afina (Newstead Youth Club)
- Outgoing Member: Muhammad Malik
- GBC Councillors John Clarke, Kathryn Fox, Sandra Barnes
- GBC Officers Jane Ansell, Anthony Moore
- NCC Youth Worker Amy Beckworth
- Youth Practitioner St Pauls Church Jo Jones

1. Welcome, refreshments, opening remarks from interim Chair

Fatimah Malik

Ice Breaker- “What are you going to do in the holidays?”

New members each described their holiday plans.

2. Role of the Youth Council, opportunities to represent young people’s views, scrutinise and champion key Council plans and services Jane Ansell, Community Partnerships Manager

3. Achievements of the Gedling Youth Council

Jane Ansell (community partnerships manager) gave an overview of the 10 years of the youth councils achievements. Cllr Kathryn Fox, Portfolio Holder for Life Chances and Vulnerability added her thoughts and appreciation for the work of youth council over the years.

4. My experience as a Member of Gedling Youth Council: Muhammad Malik, former Treasurer, Member of Youth Parliament, Chair and Youth Mayor 2020/2021, gave a presentation of his history and development in the youth council and the opportunities it gave him.

5. Cllr John Clarke, Leader of the Council joined the meeting and expressed his appreciation for the hard work and dedication of all the council members over the last decade.

6. Appointments

6.1 Appointment of Chair

Amy Beckworth, NCC Youth Worker outlined links to the County Member of Youth Parliament elections. Amy explained that the incoming chair role is automatically designated to the elected Gedling Member of the Countywide Youth Parliament for Nottinghamshire.

Ryo Reynolds was elected in that capacity, however we were not able to attend the inaugural meeting.

6.2 Nominations for Youth Mayor – expressions of interest:

Four candidates put their names forward: Lydia Yates, Stella Clarke, Charlie Rose and Fatimah Malik. Each candidate made an address in support of their nomination, and a secret ballot was held.

Stella Clarke was the successful candidate.

6.3 Nomination of Vice Chair– expressions of interest:

Three candidates put their names forward for the role: Freddie Vokes, Fatimah Malik and Tilda Hatton. Following addresses and a secret ballot,

Freddie Vokes was the successful candidate.

6.4 Nomination of Secretary- expressions of interest:

One candidate put their name forward for the role: Lydia Yates. **Lydia Yates was duly elected unopposed to the role.**

6.5 Nomination of treasurer – expressions of interest:

One candidate put their name forward: Charlie Rose. **Charlie Rose was duly elected unopposed to the role.**

7. Buffet and social section

During the social section of the meeting, Members discussed future areas of focus, subjects for discussion and guest speakers. The following suggestions were put forward:

- **PSHE lessons at school** – feedback input from students, more informative, delivery approach, delivery – sensitive.
- **Politics** – Learning about the Youth Council, how to vote, political system, media misinformation.
- **Bullying** – Gedling anti-bullying day? Crazy hair, odd socks
- **Vaping/drugs** – learn about the effects, look at how young people are buying vapes.
- **Environment** – push recycling in school, Youth Council led litter pick.

8. Future meeting dates

All meetings are on Mondays 5.30 – 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Civic Centre, unless otherwise stated on the agenda papers for each meeting.

2024

- 22nd July
- 23rd September
- 11th November

2025

- 17th February
- 28th April

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Please sign below and hand it back to the Chair or Youth Worker to show that you understand and abide by the principles of the Code of Conduct:

I (name) agree to abide by the Youth Council's Code of Conduct, as set out above.

Signed: Date:
Thank You!

Gedling Youth Council



Youth Council Meeting Dates 2024 – 2025

All Mondays 5.30 – 7.30pm

2024

- 22nd April
- 22nd July
- 23rd September
- 11th November

2025

- 17th February
- 28th April

All meetings take place at Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottm. NG5 6LU

For further information please contact:

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Or

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Community Partnerships Manager
Gedling Borough Council
Community Relations Team
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If you want to know more, want to attend a meeting or share your thoughts, feelings, ideas or opinions, please let us know. Contact details can be found on the back page of this leaflet. It is important to have your say, we can't do this without you!

Agenda Item 4

What is Gedling Youth Council?

The Gedling Youth Council is a group of young people, aged between 11 and 19, who are committed to making a difference for the young people of the Borough. Each Youth Councillor is elected by their school or Youth Club to represent them and serves for a term of 3 years, after which a further election takes place to choose the next set of Youth Councillors.

The Youth Council is supported by a youth worker and Council Officers who have the skills, knowledge and commitment to young people to give them a say on things that are important to them.

The Gedling Youth Council is chaired by the Member of Youth Parliament for Gedling

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What does Gedling Youth Council do?

- They investigate local issues and concerns
- They look at how local authorities spend their money and ask questions
- They try to tackle big issues, such as bullying and careers advice in schools
- They look at the quality of local youth services
- They can fundraise for activities for young people, or issues that matter to them
- They may be involved in finding people to run activities
- Question the quality of services and their value for money, and suggest improvements
- Work with Councillors, MPs and local organisations to improve the area for young people

Gedling Youth Council Code of Conduct

Young people and adults are expected to:

- Welcome and support each other at all times
- Respect everyone's views
- Listen to others
- Let other people speak, some people may need time to talk
- Be aware that age does not matter
- Be careful about the language that they use
- Have the minutes and the agenda well in advance
- Keep phones on silent whenever possible
- Take part in the meetings and evaluate them afterwards
- Consider the views of other young people
- Keep confidentiality, don't share private things outside of the meeting
- Leave the room if they are feeling overwhelmed, need refreshment, etc
- Commit to attending meetings

If you have a problem:

Please speak to the Chair Person and/or the Youth Worker. If you are the victim of an incident, you will be fully supported. If you are deemed to be the instigator of a serious incident you could be asked to step down as a member and might not be able to attend future meetings.

The above principles form a contract for all Youth Councillors.