

## **Minutes of the Gedling Youth Council Meeting: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

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

- 1. Welcome, apologies received** – A welcome was given to the new members recruited by Lydia following a presentation at Carlton Academy sixth form.

#### **Apologies received from**

Sophia Benedek, Stella Clarke, Iris Pitt, Tilda Hatton, Amy Beckworth

**In attendance:** Lydia Yates, Freddie Volkes, Emma Leah-Price, Jude Blakey, Juliet Grain, Ivana Smith, Blessing Oharisi, Edi Bendall, Kayanna -Lee McCulloch, Evelyn Rose Parker, Darcey Adams, Vitalia Climenko, Fiona Hextall, Cllr Kathryn Fox, David Stewart, Nathan Ward, Jackie Wilson, Jerry Hall, Helen Aplin, Harrison Turner.

- 2. Icebreaker, to be put forward by the Chair** Members were asked by the Chair to introduce themselves and share their best moment of half term.
- 3. Items raised by member in the Youth Council Group Chat** Lydia to share an invite in relation to the Messages of Kindness project for International Women's Day.
- 4. Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025, matters arising**

Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising:

- All matters arising are included in the agenda.

- 5. Feedback from Amy – PHSE Motion to Countywide Parliament/YP Board and ongoing Gedling representation on the Board**

Amy was unable to attend the meeting but gave the following update. Youth Parliament elections have been extended and will now be running until 6<sup>th</sup> March, she encouraged the young people to vote in schools. Jude Blakey gave an overview of the MYP elections for the new members.

- 6. Feedback from YC members/Youth Mayor on White Ribbon Day presentation to Full Council, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November.**

Lydia gave a brief outline of White ribbon day and the main messages delivered at the full council presentation. She then informed members of further work including a project with the mayor and discussions with the portfolio holder for domestic abuse.

- 7. Standing items:**

### **Youth Mayor updates**

Lydia gave a brief youth mayor review and pointed out some recent engagements attended such as: Christmas light switch ons, Sherwood Forest day, ongoing work with Phenomenal Futures and the Carlton Towns board. Freddie and Lydia also shared their experiences of being Youth Mayor and encouraged the rest of the Youth Council Members to put themselves forward for the 2026/2027 Youth Mayor position.

### **Gedling Social Mobility Commission:**

No meetings have taken place since the last Youth Council meeting. Cllr Kathryn Fox mentioned that the meeting had been delayed due to the new Housing Strategy.

**Opportunities for Youth Council / Youth Mayor Promotion and Communications** – key issues, initiatives (GBC Communications). The group discussed the need to have a resource that they could use to promote the Youth Council. It was agreed that the Comms team could help them create a short video to tell young people what the Youth Council is.

**Action:** To add a planning agenda item to the next meeting. Jackie Wilson also suggested that this could fit with the Next Move You work going forwards.

### **8. Guest Speaker: David Stewart, Chair of the Greater Plan for Neighbourhood Board and Nathan Wall, Assistant Director for Economic Growth and Regeneration, Gedling Borough Council.**

David and Nathan presented the Greater Carlton plan to members, revealing first year plans. Members gave feedback: Jude emphasised the need for greater skills support amongst young people. Emma highlighted the need for more green spaces. Members were also asked about how they would like to be engaged with. Freddie suggested through TikTok or sponsored ads, Lydia highlighted that she can be a long-term messenger between the two groups.



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### **9. Guest Speaker: Jerry Hall, Elgreve and Jackie Wilson, Positively Empowered Kids/ 'Next Move Youth'**

Jerry and Jackie gave an overview of the Digital Inclusion project they have been working on and invited young people to attend an intergenerational event to support Digital Inclusion on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Jerry invited the Youth Council Members to join him in the workshop social session after the meeting.

## **10. Guest Speaker: Helen Aplin and Harrison Turner, Friends of Gedling Country Park.**

The representatives from friends of Gedling country park highlighted their work and need to recruit more young people in their work. Members showed interest asking for information on how to get involved.



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## **11. Future guest speakers and areas of interest, upcoming Council Consultations and other developments**

- FH mentioned that Gedling Borough Council Planning colleagues are keen to talk about the Local Development Plan Consultation, this will take place in the summer.
- FH mentioned that Prevent are keen to deliver a presentation to the Youth Council. FH to look to invite them to a future meeting.
- Members would like to invite the Mayor to a future session, with a new Mayor being elected in May this will take place at a meeting following the April meeting.

## **12. Social session and refreshments in the Beeston Room at 7.00pm**

Members worked with Jerry Hall on a digital inclusion project linked to the Council's White Space – Refuse collection service.

### **Future meeting dates: next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- **Provisional 2026/2027 Dates:**
  - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026**
  - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2026**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026**
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2027**
  - 26<sup>th</sup> April 2027**