

## **CHESHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the '**CHESHAM YOUTH COUNCIL**' meeting  
held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 4.30 pm at Chesham Town Hall

### **PRESENT:**

Bridie Essex-Dobson, Leila Langdon, Daniel Abbasi, Maya Butt, George Shaw, Gretel Weaver,  
Robyn Martin, Leo Clark, Will Nichol & George Corby

### **In attendance**

Jane MacBean	Chesham Town Council Mayor & Chiltern District Councillor
Emily Culverhouse	Chesham Town & Chiltern District Councillor
Noel Brown	Chesham Town & Buckinghamshire County Councillor
Bill Richards	Chesham Town Clerk
Gill Walker	Advisor
Joseph Baum	Advisor

### 1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Emily and Joseph welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new Youth Council. They explained that the purpose of the Youth Council was to be a voice for young people in Chesham and to advise Chesham Town Council of the needs and wishes of the under 18s. It was intended that the Youth Council present to the full Council every 3 to 6 months so it was aware of what was happening.

Emily then explained how councils worked in Buckinghamshire and which council undertook what tasks. Jane introduced herself as Mayor explaining that she did a lot of meeting people of the town, including young people, in her role and was keen to hear their views. Noel stated that as the Buckinghamshire County Council Cabinet Member for Health and Well-Being, he was keen to support and promote young people's events and schemes in this area. Finally Gill stated that she had previously helped run the old Youth Council and listed the many projects it had helped develop such as the skatepark.

The Youth Council members then introduced themselves and explained why they had wanted to join.

### 2. **RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

Joseph briefly explained that the Youth Council needed to operate with a constitution (i.e. its rules to keep to) to ensure it ran smoothly and so it could have its own bank account etc. George C pointed out that the current draft constitution suggested that the membership should be for young people between 11-18 but, as some of the members present were 10, this should be amended accordingly. In light of this, it was agreed that members should take the constitution home, have a look at it in detail and suggest any changes at the next meeting.

3. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

In order to function properly, Joseph emphasised that the Youth Council needed to elect officers to run and administer the group. Those interested in these posts then spent time with the advisors present who explained more about what the different jobs were about. Once completed, interested candidates undertook a short presentation on their suitability for the post; voting took place and the following appointments were agreed:

<b>CHAIR</b>	-	<b>George S</b>
<b>VICE-CHAIR</b>	-	<b>Leo</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	-	<b>Will (with Robyn to assist)</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	-	<b>Gretel</b>
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	-	<b>Working group of George C, Maya, Leila and Bridie</b>

Gill said that it would be useful to have the older group members involved as well because of their experience and knowledge and it was agreed that **Daniel** help mentor George S and Leo in their Chair and Vice Chair roles.

4. **POSSIBLE FUTURE PROJECTS**

Group members briefly suggested projects to be started/run by the Youth Council in the future. These included:

- 'Clean Up Chesham' campaign
- Community Event involving dogs and their owners
- Inter-faith young persons' event
- Campaign for more cycling routes
- More equipment for Lowndes Park and tackling Anti-Social Behaviour there
- Nashleigh Hill Recreation Ground litter-pick
- 'Chesham's Got Talent' event
- More young people's involvement with the Elgiva.

5. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members agreed they would like to meet every 4 weeks so it was agreed the next meeting will take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> October at 4.30pm at the Town Hall.