

***Epping Forest Youth Council
Tuesday, 6th November, 2018***

Agenda

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

Time: 7.00 pm

Support Officer: R Perrin Tel: (01992) 564532
Email: democraticservices@eppingforestdc.gov.uk Tel:
01992 564532

Members:

Youth Councillors S Bakalov, J Beavis, A Flynn, T Fontenelle, A Gohil, S Halcrow, S Halcrow, B Hodgkinson, J James, R Kent, A Kuhaendran, D Mehr, J McNulty, J Nag-Chaudhury, F New, E Nsofor, O Okeke, H Pickering, O Smith, Z Smith, O Upson, A Whelan, M Wilson and A Yaman

Youth Councillors are reminded of the need to contact Diane or Paula if they are unable to attend a meeting

WEBCASTING/FILMING NOTICE

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If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Public Relations Manager on 01992 564039.

1. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman will be Suzannah for the duration of the meeting, with Annabelle as the Vice-Chairman.

The roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Youth Council meetings are based on a rota to allow all Youth Councillors the opportunity. The Vice-Chairman supports the Chairman throughout the meeting then becomes the Chairman of the next meeting.

Youth Councillors are asked to submit their name, if they would like to be the Chairman for a future meeting.

Chairs for Full Council Meetings 2018 - 2020

Month		Chairman	Vice Chairman
November	2018	Suzannah	Annabelle
December			
January	2019		
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
September			
October			
November			
December			
January	2020		
February			
March			
April			
May			

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**3. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 22)**

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Youth Council are correct.

4. YOUTH COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Youth Councillors to report on school issues, achievements, events and training that they have accomplished since the last meeting.

5. DRUGS SURVEY

Abigail to update.

6. YOUTH COUNCIL CONSTITUTION (Pages 23 - 26)

To consider and agree the Youth Council Constitution for 2018/20.

7. EVENT FEEDBACK

Youth Councillors to feedback on any events that they have attended in relation to the Youth Council since the last meeting.

8. SUBMISSION FORMS

To consider any new submission forms received and to give updates on any previous submission form.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Notices by Gaby;
- (b) Notices by Paula;
- (c) Any other Notices; and
- (d) Youth Councillor Notices.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 December 2018 at 19.00 – 21.00 at the Civic Offices.

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MINUTES

Committee:	Epping Forest Youth Council	Date:	Tuesday, 9 October 2018
Place:	Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping	Time:	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Members Present:	F New (Chairman), O Okeke (Vice-Chairman), J Adams, D Bacheta, S Bakalov, J Beavis, C Brooks, M Chick, C Collins, B Dilek, A Flynn, A Freeman, S Halcrow, S Halcrow, B Hodgkinson, N Honey, R Hughes-Franklin, J James, R Kent, F Jordan, A Kuhaendran, D Mehr, J McNulty, L Nakimuli, J Nag-Chaudhury, E Nsofor, H Pickering, R Singh, Z Smith, M Wilson and A Yaman		
Apologies:	T Fontenelle, R Jayakody, O Smith, A Theodorou, S Tiwana and A Whelan		
Officers Present:	D Gilson-Butler (Youth Engagement Officer), R Perrin (Senior Democratic Services Officer), G Wallis (Community, Health & Wellbeing Manager) and P Dunley (Youth Engagement Assistant)		
Guest Present	Essex Police and Councillor D Wixley		

38. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was noted that Florence would be the Chairman and Onyeka would be the Vice-Chairman for this meeting.

39. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2018 were correct record subject to the following;

Minute 29. (N20 Canisters) To replace September 2018 with July 2018 in paragraph 4.

40. GUEST SPEAKERS - ESSEX POLICE

Police Officers from Essex attended to talk to Youth Councillors about their role and work within the Epping Forest and Harlow area with Operation Raptor.

The Police Officers gave a short presentation on the work they were carrying out within the community to prevent drug and gang related crimes in Epping Forest and Harlow. They explained the importance of being aware of gang cultural, how to recognise the signs and where to go to find help to break the cycle. The Police were there to safeguard the vulnerable people and enforce the law.

People could report issues to the CrimeStoppers anonymously at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information>

Youth Councillors a series of questions regarding drug and gang culture. The Police stressed that information was key to preventing and stopping crimes and the more people did this, the easier it became to build a picture of the issues and how they could catch the offenders.

41. YOUTH COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Youth Councillors updated each other on school issues, achievements, events and training since the last meeting.

- Braeside Independent School – Jessica advised the school council was being set up alongside a charity committee.
- Chigwell School – Chris advised that the drugs had been completed and would be presented Youth Councillors at a future meeting.
- Davenant Foundation – Archie, Eleanor and Adam advised that school councils had held elections, pupils were learning about Black History month, had held a coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan and that the sixth form had created a debating society.
- Debden Park – a Macmillan coffee morning had been held and a Halloween event had been arranged in the library for pupils to make friends.
- St John's Epping – Nina advised that the suggestion box was still not available, Marley had met with the Head teacher and they had also held a Macmillan coffee morning.
- The Ongar Academy – Harriette advised that the school council had met and an event had been held between year 7 pupils and tutors.
- Roding Valley High School – Raaj advised that the school had hosted the opening day, year 10 and 11 students had been involved in drop down days for study skills and the Brooke Building had been opened which included 4 classrooms and a new library.
- West Hatch – Arjun advised that the school had completed the ballot papers for the Youth Parliament 'Make Your Mark' debate. They had hosted their opening evening and they were putting on a Christmas production of 'Elf'.
- Trinity – Suzannah advised that the school had taken part in an ambassador day.

42. DRUGS PROJECT

This item had been deferred to the next meeting.

43. EVENT FEEDBACK

Singing in the Wilderness – Eleanor and Arjun attended a special event that celebrated the life and works of local artist Walter Spradbery. The event was hosted by the Council's Museums, Heritage and Culture team and was held at St John's C of E Primary School, Buckhurst Hill.

Communities Select Committee – Chris advised that he had attended the committee which discussed the Councils response to two important Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation regarding the a "new deal for social housing" and "use of receipts from Right to buy sales".

44. EFYC 2016/18 FAREWELL

Di thanked the Youth Council cohort 2016/18 for their contribution to the Youth Council and work they had produced over their term of office. She wished them all success in their future endeavours and they could always keep in touch.

Gaby and Gill both contributed to the praise giving to the 2016/18 cohort and what they had achieved.

Youth Councillors handed Di a booklet created by them with photographs and messages from the Youth Councillors.

45. SUBMISSION FORMS

Di advised that the following requests had been put forward;

- a) Young Essex Assembly – A future date was to be arranged.
- b) Equal Arts Hen Power project – Youth Councillors interested in this project would need to live near North Weald and contact Di/Paula on WhatsApp if they were interested.
- c) Councillor Wixley – He would like to attend a future meeting when the Youth Council discuss the drugs survey.

46. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Notices by Di;

Christmas Social – Youth Councillors were asked to consider ideas for the Christmas social and WhatsApp's ideas. The date had been confirmed for Tuesday 4th December 2018.

- (b) Notices by Gaby;

Attendance – Gaby advised that Paula would be handing out confirmation on each Youth Councillors attendance. Youth Councillors were required to attend at least 50% of meetings and this was set out in the Youth Council's Constitution, which would be discussed at the next meeting.

- (c) Youth Councillor Notices;

Plastic Water Bottles – Arjun put forward a motion for the Youth Councillors to use reusable water bottles instead of disposable water bottles going forward.

Youth Councillors discussed the merits of this motion and that they currently used reusable bottles within schools so this could be an option to help towards saving the planet.

Gill advised that the Leisure and Communities Service could potentially supply Youth Councillors with their first reusable bottle.

Beckie advised that jugs and glasses could be provided to Youth Councillors who had forgotten their reusable bottles.

Carried

RESOLVED:

1. That from 9 October 2018 Youth Councillors meetings and training evenings would not require plastic bottled water; and
2. That Youth Councillors would bring reusable water bottles to future meetings and events.

47. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 6 November 2018.

CHAIRMAN



OPERATION **RAPTOR**

Gang Awareness

Operation Raptor is the Essex Police response to Urban Street gangs criminality.

Op Raptor teams: Grays, Harlow, Basildon, Southend, Colchester.

S 2769 PAGET

C 75262 BENNETT

What is a gang?

Urban Street Gang – USG

Durable, predominantly street based

Young people

See themselves as a group and are seen by others as a group

Range of criminality

May lay claim to an area or territory

In conflict with other similar groups

Our experience

Core ages – 16 to 24

What is a County Line?

A group (not necessarily affiliated as a gang) establishes a network between an urban hub and county location, into which drugs (primarily heroin and crack cocaine) are supplied.

A branded mobile phone line is established in the market, to which orders are placed by introduced customers. The line will commonly (but not exclusively) be controlled by a third party, remote from the market.

The group exploits young or vulnerable persons, to achieve the storage and/or supply of drugs, movement of cash proceeds and to secure the use of dwellings (commonly referred to as cuckooing).

The group or individuals exploited by them regularly travel between the urban hub and the county market, to replenish stock and deliver cash.

The group is inclined to use intimidation, violence and weapons, including knives, corrosives and firearms

Gang criminality (1)

Drugs

Class A drugs

Heroin - can be injected or smoked. Very strongly addictive.

Crack Cocaine – can be smoked. Very strongly addictive.

Cocaine – perception of a “higher end” drug. Addictive and can be turned into Crack Cocaine.

Other drugs

Class B drugs - cannabis

Gang criminality (2)

Violence

- Used as an initiation
- Perception of strength
- Enforce debts
- Enforce territory
- Increase standing within gang
- Robbery
- Weapons frequently used



Gang criminality (3)

Sexual offences

Girls seen as trophies
May be trafficked for prostitution
Missing children
Older boyfriends
Sexualised language
Knowledge of sexual activity
Gifts, presents etc.



The problem in Epping Forest (1)

Business pressure

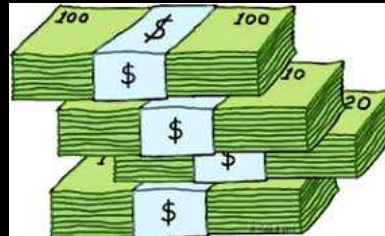
Police

Councils

Rivals

Decreasing or finite consumer

base



Business opportunity

- Lesser police enforcement
- Reduced council enforcement
- Wider consumer base



The problem in Epping Forest (2)

Senior gang members live / family links to EFD

Younger gang members may be moved into EFD

Local users exploited or coerced – family effect

Local youths may be exploited or coerced

Risk of violence if rival groups meet

Local youths attracted towards gang lifestyle

Perception

Perception of:

- Status
- Money
- Respect
- Fear
- Power
- Glamorous lifestyle
- Access to girls
- Excitement
- “Outlaw” mystique

Underlying issues

- Sense of belonging
- Desire for positive attention
- Lack of alternative opportunity
- Lack of parental or familial direction
- Insecurity



Music

Grime” music and “urban” culture

may be used to make claims on territory

insult rivals or prolong feuds

essentially a validation of the desirable aspects of “gang” lifestyle

numerous videos on Youtube and social media

Traphouse, Bando

Trapping, Shotting

Man

Mandem

Dab

Shank, shiv

Dark, brown, b

Light, white, w

Rocks, stones, pebbles, shots, dots
Shine

Bud, Weed, Green, Haze, Lemon, Zoot

Eighth, Henry, Benz, 10s

Food

Allow it

Bare

Beef

Cunching, Up Country, OT

On road

Qway

Fam

Feds

Airing

Jack, merk, tax

Yard

Ends

Whip

Peng

Nitty, Cat

Slang Q and A

What do Operation Raptor do?

Enforcement of criminal activity

Intelligence led search warrants on addresses

Intelligence led stop and search of people and vehicles

Prosecution of suspects

Take drugs, criminals, money, weapons and vehicles off the street

Safeguard vulnerable people

Gather intelligence

Engagement with partners such as social services, schools, Council

Any concerns/advice...?

emergency contact 999

Essex Police non-emergency #101

Crimestoppers #0800 555111 (Anonymous and independent from police)

Contact DS Paget or PC BENNETT

Extension 318260 or 318261

Mail:

318260@Essex.pnn.police.uk

318262@Essex.pnn.police.uk

Epping Forest Youth Council

Constitution

Agreed Mission statement and Purpose of the Epping Forest Youth Council

“To represent the views of young people and see they are put into action.”

Setting Aims and Objectives

The Youth Council must agree its aims and objectives for their Term of Office within six months of election.

Term of Office

The Youth Councillor's Term of Office shall run for two years following their Annual meeting.

Chairman and Vice Chairman:

The Chairman of the Youth Council meetings shall be elected on a meeting by meeting rolling basis with the Chairman for the following meeting being appointed at each Youth Council meeting. The Vice-Chairman will then assume the position of Chairman for the full Council meeting following the one that they have been Vice Chairman.

At the annual meeting the Youth Council shall appoint a Chairman as the first item of business.

The position of Chairman shall be open to all voting youth councillors up to a recommended maximum of twice in any one Youth Council Term of Office.

General Principles

The following general principles of operation are agreed:

- (a) The Youth Council is non-party political and does not affiliate itself to any Political group or party;
- (b) Youth Council members will not miss school to undertake any duties in connection with the Youth Council unless in exceptional circumstances and this is agreed in advance with their Parent or Carer and Head Teacher of the School concerned.
- (c) Support will be supplied to the Youth Council by officers of Epping Forest District Council, who will ensure resources are available to the Youth Council to operate;
- (d) The frequency, venue, dates and times of Full Youth Council meetings, training and working groups will be agreed by the Youth Council at their annual meeting.
- (e) Agenda for full Youth Council meetings will be sent to members' home addresses five clear days before each meeting, alternatively Youth Councillors can request that the Agenda be emailed to them five clear days before each meeting. Minutes of all Youth Council meetings will be taken to record the decision made at each meeting and confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting.
- (f) Voting on issues at Youth Council shall be by majority by show of hands. The Chairman has the right to vote but no second or casting vote. The Youth Council members will be bound by such decisions.

(g) Youth Council meetings shall be open to attendance by the public by prior arrangement and stakeholder/officers/District Councillors can be asked to attend if requested;

(h) Youth Council meetings shall be webcast with agreement of Youth Council members;

(i) Youth Council members shall keep senior district council members and officers informed of their work including regular liaison as necessary;

(j) The Youth Council shall be able to appoint working groups as necessary to meet their agreed objectives with reports and action from those groups being agreed via the Full Youth Council meetings. It is expected that each Youth Councillor will be a member of at least one working group if appointed by the Youth Council.

(k) The Youth Council may, at any Youth Council meeting, determine individual member responsibilities to be reviewed at the annual meeting. Such responsibilities shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Youth Council Membership

There shall be three types of voting member:

- (a) two nominated representatives from each secondary school in the district;
- (b) two from Epping Forest College elected in a manner determined by their own college; and
- (c) up to five co-opted independent members from young people attending School/Sixth Form/College/Home Educated and working within or outside the district, with their membership being determined using appointment criteria agreed by the Youth Council and appointed by the Youth Council or by a Panel of members appointed by the Youth Council at the annual meeting and priority will be given to new candidates and previous Youth Councillors who had not completed a full term of office.

The following shall be co-opted non-voting members:

Those Epping Forest members of the Young Essex Assembly not already members of the Epping Forest Youth Council.

Other eligibility criteria

In addition to the requirements for voting members, Youth Councillors must:

- (a) Be aged between 12 and 17 in the year of their appointment; and
- (b) Be living in the district.

Ceasing to be a youth councillor:

Members will automatically cease to be a Youth Councillor:

- (a) On the date of the annual meeting if not re-elected;
- (b) From the date of a written letter of resignation – resignations will not cause a re-election to be held unless the Youth Council determine otherwise; or

(c) By failing to attend at least 50% of scheduled meetings, training, or working group meetings in any rolling six month period unless their absence for a longer term has been agreed in advance by the Youth Council. Reasons for absence must be advised to the Council Officers in advance

(d) There shall be a warning limit of 60% . If a Youth Councillors attendance drops below 60% within three month period then the appropriate officer will advise the Councillor accordingly.

Conduct:

All Youth Councillors must abide by the following conduct rules:

- Every member of the Youth Council should attend meetings and training and must send apologies to the designated officer if unable to attend.
- Be on time to meeting they are expected to attend.
- Mobile phones should be set to silent or vibrate during meetings or training and members should leave the meeting to answer a call.
- Only one person should talk at a time and always through the Chairman at Youth Council meetings. There should not be any background chat.
- Respect each other and each others views, and must not be discriminatory, judgemental, racist, sexist or offensive regardless of gender, religion, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, medical conditions, social behaviour or sexual orientation.
- Work together with each other and not exclude any other Youth Councillor from any task.
- Freely offer views, thoughts and suggestions and give and receive feedback in a constructive way.
- To treat information given to them with sensitivity and appropriate confidentiality.
- Not to do anything that would bring the Youth Council or Epping Forest District Council into disrepute.
- When attending any Council meetings or other events, always conduct themselves in a way that meets the conduct criteria above, wearing ID and uniform and appropriate dress.

Constitutional Review

Reviews of this Constitution will be undertaken as necessary and at the end of the Youth Council Term of Office. All changes proposed shall be made at the Youth Council meetings with the agreement by majority vote of those present.

Financial matters

Epping Forest District Council to meet transport costs of attending meetings, training and other events, on request and with prior agreement.

Dissolution clause

In the event of the Youth Council being dissolved, any received Grant Funded money that remains unspent after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities of the Youth Council shall be transferred to any organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.

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