



Young Mayor Poppy Arnold 25th February 2019

Hello

I attended the Holocaust Memorial Event on Friday 24th January. The theme was "Torn from Home. It was moving to hear the performances by our schools and the inspiring guest speaker Robert Rinder. I was pleased to be involved by reading a poem and talking to the invited guests.

Some of the Young Cabinet and I attended a planning meeting with the Music Hub about Soundfest 2019.

The Music Hub is taking over the coordination of this year Soundfest but Young Mayor & some Youth Councillors are going to be on the organizing committee.

Ten Youth Councillors and I attended the Challenging Youth Racism Workshop facilitated by Human Kind here at council offices. The activities were very engaging and we were able to discuss the issues in a safe environment.

I attended the Young Carers Centre Awareness evening at The Exchange in North Shields. The evening was both interesting and entertaining with many of the young carers giving presentations and there was singing and dancing. Some of the young carers are also on the Youth Council and I think its important to support them.

My Young Cabinet and I attended a special meeting with the Elected Mayor Redfearn and Cabinet Members. We fed back to the adults the priorities of the Youth Council outlining what we are already doing. We all valued the fact that adults were very interested in our work and look forward to the meetings becoming a regular occurrence.

The preliminary online election for the Youth Elections closed on February 8th. There was an increase in the number of young people voting online.

The top four candidates who received the most votes are:

Poppy Arnold – Marden High

Amelie Ferris – Whitley Bay High School

Suzie McKenzie – St Thomas More RC Academy

Harshvardhan Singh – Valley Gardens Middle School

We didn't hold a preliminary online vote for Member of UK Youth Parliament election because there was low number of nominations and there was no need to reduce the number of candidates any further. The candidates are:

Oscar Daniel -Marden High,

Hannah Clarke-McKeran – Marden High

May Parker – Taylor – Valley Gardens Middle School

All of the candidates will continue to campaign for votes from young people in the borough.

Only young people aged 11 to 18 school years 7 to 13 can vote if they live or study in North Tyneside.

The final stage of the election with paper ballots will take place on Monday 4th March until noon on Wednesday 6th March in Middle schools, High schools and Colleges then the ballot boxes will be collected in for the final count. Announcement of results will take place on Friday 8th March. We hope to see many of you there.

The Bay Food bank were very appreciative of Youth Councillors, a Children's Councillor and parents for giving up their time on Sunday 10th February to help with the bag pack. The shoppers and staff in the store said everyone was fantastic. We helped raise awareness with shoppers of the need to buy a little extra for others while out shopping.

We helped raise a huge £608.71 along with 77 bags full of groceries on the day. The groceries were collected the same day by The Bay Food Bank and the money will be added to the funds raised previously and a cheque for £2,295.37 will be presented at the March Youth Council Meeting. The Bay Food Bank has received a total of 179 full bags of groceries over the three bags packs.

One of the Young Cabinet & Youth Councillor and I met with the Town Centre/ Retail Sub Committee, the elected members who are looking at the future of the town centre and retail offer. We fed back about what Youth Councillors have said in the survey about their use of their local shops and also our own views about online shopping. We are looking forward to reading the final report.

Health and Wellbeing Cabinet member Niamh reported that she has been working with MH:2K and Phoenix Detached Youth Project on helping to develop a leaflet about mental health support. She had a meeting with public health looking at a survey about growing up in North Tyneside which is going out into schools soon.

The Environment group have a few ideas for the Big Spring Clean up in March; a letter was sent to schools inviting them to take part in a competition style clean up outside of their schools. The school who has most students participating and also who gather the most litter will win an award. The group have asked for photographic evidence of the spring clean up. Also there will be a beach clean up on Saturday 30th March when the clean up will take place on Longsands. The Childrens Councillors are keen to help and the Youth Councillors were invited to help too.

This may well be my last Cabinet meeting. I am standing again as I have enjoyed my time so much but in case I am not re-elected I would just like to thank everyone for all of the opportunities. Regardless of the outcome I will still be around as a member of the Youth Council. I would like to wish all the candidates good luck in the elections.

Thank you