

Broxbourne Youth Council Minutes

11 March 2026 (Week 7/10)

Participants: Deputy Youth Mayor Tej Nundah, Ayan Maradia, Ayla Kayaga, Zara Djemal, Scarlett Robertson

Facilitators: Linton Sutherland (Services for Young People), Alessandro Principato (Broxbourne Borough Council)

Apologies: Natasha Morgan (Services for Young People)

Minutes by Alessandro Principato

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Youth Council introduced themselves and participated in an ice-breaker activity, Zara introduced a project a poetry project taking place in Waltham Cross which supports young people with expressing topics meaningful to them, facilitated by Mike Warby.

2. SEND Youth Council

The Youth Council met with the SEND Youth Council to reflect on recent projects and explore opportunities for joint working. The SEND Youth Council shared updates on their successful Bake Sale fundraiser for CHIPS Charity, which raised £270 and increased awareness of Waltham Cross Young People's Centre and local youth services. The event was attended by families, the Mayor, Police, MIND colleagues, and local mental health workers. Both councils discussed future fundraising ideas, including activities sponsored by local businesses, a Summer Fayre, raffles, hampers, and a larger community event at Waltham Cross Playing Fields, subject to permission from Green Spaces. They also discussed different baking methods for future fundraising events.

The groups explored collaboration on the Public Transport Report, sharing experiences with local transport disruptions and proposing a focus group to gather further insight. They talked about the condition and maintenance of local defibrillators and agreed that the defibrillator at Waltham Cross Youth Centre should remain in the building, with oversight from Linton. The SEND Youth Council also plans to undertake Mental Health First Aid training and will share dates so the Youth Council can participate.

Both councils discussed improving accessibility and the overall experience of drop-in sessions at Waltham Cross Youth Centre. Young people expressed a desire to feel

more welcomed and to have greater access to youth workers during hub times. Mark Hughes is willing to attend a joint meeting, potentially on 25 March, to hear concerns and work with both councils on solutions. A joint meeting, either via Teams or in person, will be arranged.

Finally, the SEND Youth Council offered to create artwork to help promote Youth Council projects and raise awareness of key campaigns, including messages about personal safety, mental health, and public transport safety. They hope to bring this artwork to the 2 April session when the Youth Council will be collecting data.

3. Funding – Adventurous Activities

The group discussed The Pawprint Trust funding opportunity, which offers grants for adventurous activities and could support initiatives such as the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, noting the 31 March 2026 application deadline and that projects must take place after 31 May 2026.

Members explored potential ideas suited to the scheme, including creative projects such as a poetry competition where the winner would take part in the funded adventurous activity, and agreed to develop proposals promptly while also considering future funding opportunities.

4. Current Affairs

The group discussed current international affairs and participated in research to keep informed.

5. AOB

Following Linton's drop-in session at St. Mary's High School, there will be various students attending Youth Council next week.