

# Annual Council Meeting 2019 Minutes

## Voting Members

Adur & Worthing Youth Council  
Barnsley Youth Council  
Bath and North East Somerset  
Birmingham Youth Services  
Bristol City Youth Council  
British Youth Council Board  
The Boys' Brigade  
Fenland Community Youth Council  
Girlguiding  
Hartlepool Youth Council  
Kent Youth Council  
Knowsley Youth Mutual  
London Borough of Brent  
Milton Keynes Council

National Federation of Young Farmers  
National Union of Students  
Sandwell Youth Parliament  
Scottish Association of Young Farmers  
Somerset Youth Council  
St John Ambulance  
Staffordshire Youth Council  
Stroud District Youth Council  
The Scout Association  
UK Youth  
Westminster City Council  
Wokingham Secondary Federation  
Woodcraft Folk  
Youth of Walsall

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Lewis Addlington Lee and Chisomo Phiri (BYC Board members) opened the event and welcomed all the delegates who had travelled from across the UK to be there. They explained how to make the event a safe space for everybody and introduced the support team.

The purpose of the event is:

- Accountability – Members' opportunity to find out what their national youth council has been doing with and on their behalf;
- Elections – Members' chance to shape the national youth council through voting on who should be the leaders and representatives;
- Policy – creating the mandate of the national youth council through proposing, debating and approving the policy positions on which your national youth council will advocate with on behalf of young people.

### 1.1. Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting 2018

The minutes were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were approved.

### 1.2. Board Report – 2018/19

Amanda Chetwynd-Cowieson, Chair of the Board, presented a report of activities. BYC is on a journey, following a change in CEO, governance review and introduction of a new strategy. In 2018/19 the Charity has ploughed ahead in delivering this new strategy – to empower more young people to find their voice and shape society for the better. Amanda thanks the staff and volunteers across BYC for their continued efforts in empowering young people to find their voice and for

advocating with and on behalf of other young people to affect change that benefits everyone.

### **1.3. Financial report – 2018/19**

Luke Thornton, Treasurer, presented the audited accounts and report for 2018/19. The financial climate within which the charity is operating continues to be challenging, with significant competition for limited funding. However, through significant effort across the team, the charity delivered a surplus, making a contribution to our reserves for the first time in a number of years. BYC is grateful to all our funders and supporters who have helped us on our journey over the past year.

*The Annual Accounts and Trustee report were approved by the Council.*

## **2. Elections**

Jo Hobbs, CEO, introduced the elections as Returning Officer. Candidates for Treasurer, Trustee and UK Young Ambassador all completed application forms and been screened through an interview process, meaning that those presented to the Council for consideration are all considered suitable for the position. BYC uses Single Transferable Vote (STV) and this will be done via a ballot paper.

### **2.1. Treasurer**

There was one candidate for Treasurer. Hustings were undertaken, involving a speech and Q&A session.

*Tom Clark was duly elected.*

### **2.2. Trustee**

There were five candidates for Trustee. Hustings were undertaken, involving a speech and Q&A session.

*Zara Khan and Rebecca Moore were duly elected*

### **2.3. UKYA (European Youth Forum)**

There were three candidates for UKYA. Hustings were undertaken as speeches only – one candidate was not present and so for parity Q&A was not undertaken.

*Tom Matthew was duly elected*

## **2.4. Honorary Presidents**

### **2.4.1. Conservative Party**

Only one nomination had been received. However that MP had since resigned from the Conservative Party and so was no longer eligible. As per the Rulebook, the BYC Board will approve an Honorary President from the Conservative Party and will seek suggestions from Member Organisations following ACM.

### **2.4.2. Labour Party**

Two nominations were received and were presented to the Council for consideration.

*Anna Turley MP was duly elected.*

### 2.4.3. Scottish National Party

Two nominations were received and were presented to the Council for consideration.

*Angela Crawley MP was duly elected.*

## 3. Workshops

Delegates attended workshops run by the BYC and our members:

- Solidarity Projects: Funding Opportunities for Young People under the European Solidarity Corps
- EU Youth Dialogue
- An introduction to the Bank of England Youth Forum
- Mentoring Violence Prevention on Knife Crime

## 4. Policy Debate

Lewis and Chizi introduced the policy session and explained how it would be run. Every effort would be made to include a range of voices from across Member Organisations, although debate will end when there are no new points being made, with the issue being put to a vote.

### 4.1. *[New] Save our arts services – Adur and Worthing Youth Council*

The motion was passed

### 4.2. *[New] Sustainable period products – Girlguiding*

The Motion was passed

### 4.3. *[New] Restricting the promotion and sale of dieting products to children and young people and providing an accessible way of complaining – Girlguiding*

The Motion was passed.

### 4.4. *[New] Fast fashion and the environment – Girlguiding*

The Motion was passed

### 4.5. *[New] Bringing agriculture onto the classroom – The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs*

The Motion was passed

### 4.6. *[New] Agriculture and the environment – The National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs*

The Motion was passed

### 4.7. *[New] Remember to spend time in the real world – The National federation of Young Farmer's Clubs*

The Motion was passed

4.8. *[change] Recognise our minds matter and improve our mental health services – The Scout Association*  
The Motion was passed

4.9. *[change] Recognise our minds matter and improve our mental health services – The Scout Association*  
The Motion was passed

4.10. *[change] Statutory Youth Voice – Stroud District Youth Council*  
The Motion was passed

4.11. *[change] Education on disabilities – Stroud District Youth Council*  
The Motion was passed

## 5. **Closing**

Lewis and Chizi thanked delegates for their active, positive and constructive participation throughout the day. Amanda shared final reflections, in particular thanking the organising team. The meeting was formally closed.