



WITNEY
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Witney Youth Council held At 4.00 pm in the Gallery Room, The Corn Exchange, Witney on Wednesday 19th November 2025.

Youth Councillors Present:

Six Youth Councillors

Witney Town Council Mentors Present:

Cllr G Meadows

Cllr S Simpson

Witney Town Council Officers Present:

A Clapton – Deputy Town Clerk (Left at 4.15PM)

A Hathaway – Admin Assistant for Communications and Engagement

The Councillors in attendance were Youth Council mentors and were there to guide and answer questions. Officers advised Members this was their opportunity to provide a voice for young people in Witney and the Town Council would try and bring about their ideas and suggestions.

1. Apologies

Received any apologies for absence. **Were there any?**

2. Declarations of Interest

Youth Councillors were advised that if any knew anyone or had any involvement in any of the items being discussed at the meeting, they should say it at this point.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Next Project Focus

Youth Councillors discussed the next project the Witney Youth Council should focus on. There were many great ideas discussed in the last meeting, some of which proposed were:

Have a Stall at a WTC event

- Introduce the Youth Council
- Spread awareness on an issue
- Do an activity for young people (bracelet making, crafts)

Host a Group Visit

- Invite friends and other people to join you in visiting the local police station/fire station to learn and ask questions about how things work

Host a Culture Event

- Can book the main hall/gallery room in the Corn Exchange
- Needs a lot of planning and time

The Youth Council discussed a cultural food event. This would be a gathering of different Witney restaurants, where one representative would bring a tasting platter for people attending to try. This would show a wide variety of food from different cultures that you can try in Witney.

Another very popular idea was arranging a tour around the House of Commons with MP Charlie Maynard. This would involve all participants making their own individual way to London with a guardian or parent if applicable and observing one of their meetings.

Both ideas were voted with all youth councillors present in favour. The admin assistant will add these to the next meeting agenda and contact the office for Charlie Maynard to find out his availability for the next meeting.

4. **St Mary's Church Invitation to Collaborate on New Youth Initiatives in Witney**

Youth Councillors read and discussed the email from St Mary's Church on whether they would be interested in giving them some feedback and possibly collaborating in future projects.

It was agreed they will be invited to the January meeting to give the youth council time to refine their event plan beforehand.

5. **Youth Council Updates Through WhatsApp**

Youth Councillors over the age of 13 requested the WhatsApp consent form to be sent to them over email.

6. **Items for Future Agenda**

A youth councillor raised that the Witney Youth Council should attend the next meeting with a charity in mind that they would like to fundraise for, as well as how they might want to involve St Mary's Church in future events.

The next meeting will decide on the refresh of Witney Youth Council Member Roles, and subsequently how those roles align with the assignment of roles with planning their event.

7. **Dates of Future Meetings**

The dates of the upcoming Youth Council meetings were received.

- Tue 9 December 2025 – 4PM to 5PM
- Thu 8 January 2025 – 4PM to 5PM
- Wed 11 March 2025 – 4PM to 5PM