

Arun Changemakers

Schools Group - Session 1

Meeting minutes

Monday 30th October 2023

Introductions:

Student from the Regis School, interests include cooking and the royal family.

Students from Littlehampton Academy, interests include musical theatre.

Student from Phillip Howard, also interested in musical theatre.

The Project:

Beccy introducing project. Artswork have been speaking to communities across arun about the main issues that worry young people across Arun and creative projects that they would like to make happen.

Lucy introduces recurring themes from recent consultation in Littlehampton:

- Activities for young people to do
- The sea, sea life, and the beach
- Young people's mental wellbeing
- The environment
- Feeling safe

Leanne introduces the themes raised in a recent survey in Bognor with over **200** year 10 students:

- Where in Bognor do you feel happiest?
 - **177** said at home
 - **32** said at the beach
 - **29** said at sports activities
 - **23** said with friends
 - **13** said in Bognor town
 - **9** said at school
- Describe Bognor in one word:
 - **72** said Boring
 - **41** said Bad
 - **23** said Dirty
 - Other words include sketchy, unsafe, dangerous, and homophobic.
- What's the biggest local issue that affects you?
 - **52** said lack of places to go and things to do
 - **36** said crime
 - **20** said litter
 - **14** said lack of shops

- **7** said sea pollution
- Examples of young people's answers include: Antisocial behaviour, paedophilia, homophobia, racism, drugs and alcohol, anti-teen establishments, dirty and unsafe town/alleyways.
- What one thing would you change in Bognor Regis for children and young people?
 - **78** said more things to do
 - **57** said more places to play/hang out
 - **42** said change the way it looks
 - **28** said safe spaces for young people
 - **4** said chance to learn new skills
 - **3** said chances to show your work and share ideas

Student from the Regis School suggested that a lot of negative feelings towards Bognor comes from poorly managed traffic.

Beccy raised the links to the Youth Council important themes:

- Road Safety
- Climate Change
- LGBTQIA+ representation
- Young Peoples mental health

Activity:

Beccy introduces the activity for the session using a JamBoard to draw comparisons between Youth Council themes and issues raised to Artswork. Use these to draw inspiration for potential projects.

Groups spend 5 minutes on JamBoard

Student from Littlehampton Academy talks through their JamBoard:

- Activities for young people
 - Not old enough to spend time in pubs with your friends, too old to spend time in parks when kids are there, meaning that young people are left to hang out in parks after dark.
- Lack of places to go links to crime as young people hanging out in the streets with people that have turned to crime to entertain themselves.
- To avoid hanging out in the streets, young people isolate themselves at home and turn to technology and social media, which is detrimental to their mental health.

Student from the Regis School shares that they feel that stereotyping of young people who hang out on the streets leads to social isolation.

Student from Phillip Howard shares their thoughts:

- Mental health linking to crime and lack of road safety. Fear of going out leads to isolation and spending time online which is detrimental to mental health.
- Boredom at home and on the streets leads to young people turning to crime to entertain themselves.

How the project works

Beccy shares that the young people will be allocated a budget of up to **£15,000** to put on the project.

Student from the Regis School highlights the importance of including local talents in the project.

Lucy shares examples of potential projects:

- A permanent installation:
 - A mural
 - A mosaic
 - A sculpture
- A town trail
- A creative venue
- Exhibitions
- Regular workshops
- Videogame design

Closing

Beccy encourages the students to invite other young people interested in project leadership, creative projects, and making a difference in the community.

Future meetings will be held weekly on Tuesdays at 3:15.

Beccy discusses the timeline of the project, aiming to deliver before easter 2024.

A student shares a concern about transport to venues for future planning meetings, Beccy explains that the budget can be used to arrange transport for individuals to attend meetings and sessions.

The JamBoard will be kept as a record of the meetings.

The Jam Board can be found here:

<https://jamboard.google.com/d/1dafRRNbmeHumIsRvYybXZu324yd-D3mKQizFyKscJgs/edit?usp=sharing>