

# Public Document Pack

## COUNCIL

Tuesday, 13 October 2009

Present: The Mayor (Councillor A C Hodson) in the Chair  
Deputy Mayor (Councillor A Jennings)

Councillors	T Anderson	K Hayes	P Reisdorf
	C Blakeley	P Hayes	L Rennie
	A Bridson	S Holbrook	D Roberts
	IO Coates	P Johnson	L Rowlands
	J Crabtree	AER Jones	H Smith
	G Davies	J Keeley	T Smith
	P Davies	B Kenny	W Smith
	WJ Davies	D Knowles	J Stapleton
	F Doyle	AR McLachlan	A Taylor
	W Duffey	M McLaughlin	S Taylor
	D Elderton	C Meaden	C Teggin
	G Ellis	D Mitchell	G Watt
	S Foulkes	R Moon	R Wilkins
	G Gardiner	S Mountney	J Williams
	P Gilchrist	S Niblock	P Williams
	JE Green	A Pritchard	K Wood
	J Hale	J Quinn	
	T Harney	M Redfern	

<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	RL Abbey	I Lewis
		S Clarke	C Povall
		L Fraser	S Quinn
		J George	J Salter
		S Kelly	P Southwood
		D Kirwan	

### 1 YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Before the commencement of the Youth Parliament in the Council Chamber, the Mayor formally opened the proceedings in the Civic Hall at 6.00pm; Peter Edmondson, on behalf of the Director of Children's Services, explained that the theme for the Youth Parliament was the perception of young people by organisations, adults and the media. The purpose of the debate was to enable a full discussion between councillors and young people about the public perception of young people, how this has developed and the responsibility of the different groups in promoting this perception.

The young people and Councillors assembled in the Council Chamber at 7.40 pm, and the Mayor briefly explained the rules of debate.

The following Motion for debate had been proposed by the Executive Youth Board:

This Council believes that young people today are demonised more as a result of the choices made by the young people rather than the media or peer group pressure.

Shea Rainey opened the debate, speaking for the Motion, followed by Liam McDine opposing it. Several young people then spoke for or against the Motion.

Seconders' arguments from Becky McCartney (for) and Stephanie Lockwood (against);

It was moved as an amendment by Dave Simmons and seconded by James Cowgill that:-

“ This Council believes that the majority of young people are demonised by the media portrayal of the actions of the minority.”

The amendment was put to the vote and carried (42:5).

The debate concluded with an All Party Motion from the three party leaders (Councillors Foulkes, Green and Holbrook), who complimented the young people on their enthusiastic approach and the quality of their contributions to the debate:

“Council recognises the importance of working with young people for the future of Wirral.

It thanks both the young people and all those whose work has ensured the success of the meeting.

It instructs officers to refer issues raised by young people during the course of the evening to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees and outside bodies.

Council instructs officers to report back to the young people on the progress being made in the most appropriate way.”

The Motion was put and carried unanimously.

The Mayor closed the meeting by thanking all present for their participation and for a well researched, informed and good humoured debate. He thanked the Director of Children's Services and Maureen McDaid, Principal Manager

Participation and Commissioning, Debbie McCabe and Lindsay Davidson and the staff of the Youth Service for facilitating the event.

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