

## PTC Young People's Forum

I am proposing that PTC take on the role as the organiser of the PTC Young People's Forum in order to ensure it encompasses all young people and all youth groups and to directly allow the Town Council to engage with the young people of this community.

I propose that the Town Council invite attendees to the PTC Young People's Forum, rather than invites being sent from Northumberland County Council Youth Service; this would allow NCC Youth Service a greater opportunity to contribute rather than facilitating as they do now.

The PTC Young People's Forum should be contributed to and represented by young people across all schools in the Prudhoe Pyramid and it should have a wider remit than looking solely at those young people accommodated via NCC Youth Services. For example, NCC Youth Services do not reach out to young people under 9, but that does not mean these young people should not be included somehow; Prudhoe East Centre does not accommodate children with SEN's but that does not mean these young people should not be included. Surely by reaching out at a younger age and to a wider remit we will increase our chance of engagement.

We have so many groups and clubs in Prudhoe along with many outstanding Schools, they need to be encouraged to engage with the Town Council and the PTC Young People's Forum is the most appropriate vehicle.

I propose that in taking over the running of the PTC Young People's Forum, that we invite different groups to host it, this would give the young people who attend each organisation a chance to voice their ideas and suggestions to make a difference in our town.

As well as sending out the invites, I propose that we manage the agenda and take the minutes, as well as being responsible for recording and ensuring actions are followed through.

Moving forward we can investigate having a Youth Council to ensure the young people of today feel engaged and empowered and have a voice in Prudhoe. We already have a young man from Prudhoe on the Northumberland Youth Cabinet and we should be encouraging more young people in the democratic process in our town.

We have a mere 8% of our Town Council budget (£25k) set aside for Youth Provision in Prudhoe so **we** should be making the best effort possible to find out what young people want us to deliver, have delivered or invest in on their behalf.

If it is felt that there isn't the office capacity to take over the running of the PTC Young People's Forum I will volunteer my time to do this; to invite groups, build relations with our schools and build new relationships with other youth groups and clubs to create a proactive and exciting PTC Young People's Forum for 2018.

The young people of Prudhoe are the future of this town, we as a council need to get them involved, we need to give our youth a voice, we need something back in return; we need our young people to be proud of Prudhoe.

My proposal is that Prudhoe Town Council takes over the administration and facilitation of the PTC Young People's Forum and my reasons for this are detailed above.

Kind regards

Cllr Angie Scott