

Skelmersdale Pupil Parliament takes over council chamber for the day

by Henry James

MEMBERS of the Skelmersdale and Up Holland Pupils Parliament took over West Lancs Council Chamber for a day to elect their new Prime Minister.

The group which is run by SHARES Lancashire, was invited to the chamber by Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Nikki Hennessy and they used the opportunity to elect new leaders.

The youngsters performed all the different processes involved in council and government elections, using a real ballot box and a mock polling station with the mayor chairing proceedings.

A total of 30 children were in the running to stand as 2015-16 Prime Minister and each had to deliver a speech to the rest of Parliament outlining why they were the best person for job.

After the new Prime Minister was chosen, the deputy prime minister and secretaries were elected.

Councillor Hennessy said: "I was very impressed with the enthusiasm shown by the children who really enjoyed their visit. Each and every contender was truly inspiring and delivered well-written and thought-out speeches. It was a fantastic event and the youngsters will have learned a lot about how an election works.

"I want to congratulate the newly-elected Prime Minister and deputy prime minister for Skelmersdale and Up Holland Pupil Parliament and the two secretaries. It was heartening to see the way the pupils discussed issues that are important to them and how they tried to persuade others to be equally concerned.

"I am very proud of the democratic system in our country and it's important that our young people get involved so they take part in our election process as adults."

