



## NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON;

**Date : Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

**Time : 16:30**

**Venue: Council Chamber, Ebley Mill**

### **YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:**

#### **VOTING MEMBERS**

Ellen Wightman, ( <i>Thomas Keble</i> )	P
Kate Jones, ( <i>Thomas Keble</i> )	P
Kit Powell, ( <i>Bussage &amp; Chalford</i> )	P
Robin Ellis-Cockcroft**, ( <i>Stroud Town</i> )	P
Kieran Chadwick, ( <i>Archway</i> )	P
Luka Chadwick, ( <i>Archway</i> )	Ap
Kathryn White, ( <i>Rednock</i> )	Ap
Tom Williams, ( <i>Rednock</i> )	A
Shannon Eden, ( <i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i> )	Ap
Miriam Smith, ( <i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i> )	A
Kirsty Driver, ( <i>Berkeley</i> )	P
Roxy Mould, ( <i>Berkeley</i> )	P
Annie Pickering, ( <i>Stonehouse VoYS</i> )	P
Chloe Boulton, ( <i>Wotton under Edge YF</i> )	P
Laura Forrester, ( <i>Wotton under Edge YF</i> )	P
Millie Gardiner, ( <i>Maidenhill</i> )	P
Neil Bond, ( <i>Maidenhill</i> )	A
Max Freedman, ( <i>Marling</i> )	P
Rob Sidwell, ( <i>Marling</i> )	Ap
Laura Byng*, ( <i>Stroud High</i> )	Ap
Sally Holditch, ( <i>Stroud High</i> )	P
Stephanie Davies, ( <i>Stroud College</i> )	A

#### **DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Mary Holditch, ( <i>Stroud High</i> )	P
Lydia Stephens, ( <i>Maidenhill</i> )	Ap
Ruth Pilston, ( <i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i> )	A
Eva Gilder-Hodgson, ( <i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i> )	A
Jessica Fisher, ( <i>Wotton under Edge YF</i> )	P
Abi Lee, ( <i>Wotton under Edge YF</i> )	P
Jenny Moore, ( <i>Thomas Keble</i> )	A
Charlotte Bignall ( <i>Thomas Keble</i> )	P

#### **EX-OFFICIO**

Lindsey Driver,	A
Emma Sankey,	A
Rosemary Dickinson,	A

#### **CO-OPTIONS**

Reece Campbell, Young Carers	Ap
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#### **Others Present**

Helen Smith, Youth Support Worker, Self Employed  
 Cllr Joe Forbes, Cabinet Member, Stroud District Council  
 Cllr Frances Roden, Leader of Cabinet, Stroud District Council

**\*\* = Chair   \* = Vice-Chair   P = present   A = absent   Ap = apology given**

## Minutes of the meeting

### Welcome and Apologies

Welcome was given to everyone. Apologies were received from Rob Sidwell, Laura Byng, Shannon Eden, Kathryn White, Luka Chadwick, Lydia Stephens and Steve Miles (Senior Youth Officer).

### Minutes of Last Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012

All minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the last meeting.

### Additional Item: BYC Youth Voice Award - Presentation from Cllrs. Joe Forbes and Frances Roden

Cllr Forbes addressed members and explained how pleased he was that the Youth Voice Award was designed to recognise and credit the work young people undertake as youth councillors. In total, five members (Kieran Chadwick, Annie Pickering, Kirsty Driver, Kathryn White and Lindsey Driver) received the award at the BYC event in December. Frances re-presented those in attendance with their certificates. It was noted that Stroud had the largest representation in the Country at the event and seven more members have been nominated since (Robin Ellis Cock-Croft, Roxy Mould, Tom Williams, Millie Gardiner, Abi Lee, Laura Forrester and Chloe Boulton). Results are being awaited.

Cllr Forbes showed his appreciation to the work the youth council carry out, stating that it is highly regarded and well respected amongst the Council. A round of applause was given to congratulate the members.

### Matters Arising

#### ***Have Your Say in Europe: Participation & Democracy - reminder***

This survey had been circulated via email since the last meeting. Helen reminded members there is an opportunity to win £30 worth of vouchers. Members were urged to check back through their emails for the link and complete it ASAP.

#### ***Member Training Spring 2012 – confirm dates & programme***

Helen reiterated that there was little response to the dates offered, in which each member was asked to state their availability on the form provided. However thanks were given to those that had replied, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February had been the most favoured dates. Transport will be provided and it is estimated each event will run from 9am to 4pm. Members were asked to let Steve know urgently if they can make these two dates.

#### ***Community and Youth First Aid Training - update***

Helen explained that the training needed to be arranged direct with St. Johns Ambulance and asked members to decide on a date when they can get together to complete their first aid training. It was agreed that this was best included in a training programme for the near future.

### Correspondence

#### **County Hate Crime Event – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

The county Hate Crime and Incident Group have arranged an event at the Civic Suite in Gloucester on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30 till 3:30 – lunch will be provided on the day. Key notes speaker will be Roger Coulson amongst a number of other guest speakers. Phil Sullivan (Head of Community Safety at SDC) is Chair of this group and has offered the chance for a couple of members to attend. Members were asked to let Steve or Helen know if they are interested very soon.

#### **Pride in Your Neighbourhood (PiYN) Events**

Helen informed members of PiYN event dates that have been arranged for this year, they are as followed; Berkeley (Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April), Leonard Stanley (Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May), Middle of the Hill, Stroud (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May), Chalford (Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June), Forest Green (Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September) and Paganhill (Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October). The events are multi agency based in which SDYC has attended last year in which to distribute the Community Safety Packs. Representation from those members who live in these areas is expected for some part of the respected days. Members involved before agreed they are good networking events, enabling you to talk to a number of different

people about the work you do and the work each organization does.

### **Local Government Youth Association Summit, Westminster**

On 14<sup>th</sup> February, there is a Local Government Youth Association Summit in Westminster – this is an opportunity for a couple of members to attend, you have to be between the ages of 16 and 24. They will be discussing topics such as youth unemployment and young people in your area needing more education and training opportunities. It is being run by the British Youth Council, and they will cover travel costs. Lunch will also be provided on the day. Members interested in attending the event were advised to speak to Helen or Steve urgently.

### **District Council Survey – ‘New Bridge’ in Stroud**

Annie addressed the group regarding the recent survey carried out by Stroud District Council regarding the new bridge in Stroud, they asked people whether they find it safe or not and how pedestrian friendly it is. Figures show around 40 youths use the walkway everyday for school purposes (Archway/Marling/Stroud High/Stroud College), however when they concluded the report, they don't believe it to be a risk to them or anybody else. Members discussed as to whether people find it safe or not and whether individuals find it a huge risk to them. It was agreed that SDYC would comment on the report. Annie agreed to draft a letter together in response to the report.

### **SDC Core Strategy/Local Plan**

Further to correspondence a while ago, an email from Susan Deacon (Planning Strategy Officer, SDC), has asked about SDYC input into the latest stage of the Core Strategy/Local Plan. A period of public consultation runs from 6<sup>th</sup> February to 16<sup>th</sup> March. As a follow up to previous work done almost two years ago, SDYC have been asked for a consultation session with the SDC Planning Strategy Team, specifically about the plan. Members agreed this would be good and suggested Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March as an ideal date. Helen agreed to inform Steve, in which to liaise with Susan.

### **Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forum's – reports from all**

#### ***Thomas Keble***

The last school council meeting revolved mainly around catering; they are trying to improve the quality and price. The new Head Teacher will be decided shortly – both pupils and governors are involved.

#### ***Berkeley***

Roxy, Kirsty and Tom (with Steve) held a meeting last Thursday regarding their consultation work in the community with local young people about their opinions on local issues. On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March, it is planned that they will present their findings to the Town Council with view to developing a local youth forum and youth provision generally in the area. Roxy also added that they have decided to have discussion sessions with the local Scouts and Guiding groups to gain further information.

#### ***Rednock***

No representatives. Helen explained to members that Tom Williams has stood down as the Rednock representative and therefore will no longer be attending the SDYC meetings. This is due to Tom making the decision to focus more of his time and effort on developing a youth forum for Berkeley.

#### ***Stroud High***

They recently had a careers day which proved interesting. The Sixth Form Council meetings don't seem to be progressing at all; every meeting seems to be the same topics of discussion and nothing is really ever done about the current issues.

Mary explained the budget will be released on 1<sup>st</sup> April, however before this, young people have been given the chance to go to a website ([chancevchancellor](#)) and you get the opportunity to fill in what you would do with the budget – the individual with the best ideas will get to speak about their plan at an event in London. Robin encourages people to take a look at the website.

#### ***Maidenhill***

A school council meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday. Students have found out that each 'house' has been given a separate subject/topic – Millie explained hers is the Canteen. Mock exams have also begun.

### ***Wotton under Edge Youth Forum***

Members have carried out some public consultations about the plans for the new youth centre. Some were during the afternoon to catch passing students after School; however there were very few people around. They will complete another public consultation with the locals, to talk about what they discovered, what they want from it and any issues they have with the plans.

### ***Marling***

Had a recent election to decide the new chair of the Sixth Form Council.

### ***Archway***

Explained briefly about the Geneva Trip, which is available for year 12's and they get to visit the United Nations Headquarters.

### ***Bussage & Chalford***

Whilst they have the potential to get funding for the youth club at Frith, they have declined this due to not having the ability to support a development based project. Steve is liaising with the Management Committee and Parish Council's.

### ***Stonehouse Youth Forum***

A meeting is scheduled for next Thursday, Annie will report back at next meeting.

### **Youth Exploring Sustainability Project Presentation – Robin**

Robin gave a power point presentation, explaining what the Youth Exploring Sustainability Project Project (YES) is about and how it will work. Robin, along with John Meadley and Doctor Wilson (Head Teacher for Marling School), have all worked together on this project which is all about how the youth of today can create change that will affect the future, and hopefully make it more sustainable.

All secondary schools in the district (Archway, Marling, Stroud High, Maidenhill, Thomas Keble, Katherine Lady Berkeley, Stroud College, Rednock, St Roses and The Shrubberies) have all signed up to the YES project, which gives 8,000 teenagers in education the opportunity to explore what it means to become sustainable. The project will last 3 years. There are many community based groups around the Stroud District that have a hugely varied knowledge in sustainability and the environment that they thought they could take this knowledge and put it into the school structure.

This project is going ahead for a number of reasons; cracks are appearing in our economical system, climate change is becoming a bigger problem than originally anticipated, the world population is still booming, energy is becoming expensive as well as insecure, and the environmental pressure is now huge. Aim is giving the power to young people to make the changes and put them in place.

This has already happened for a year or so at Marling – it worked really well, and they have a dedicated committee focused on environmental issues and therefore this is the structure that they are recommending other secondary schools to adopt.

The project will organise each school a mentor – which will be an individual from outside the school environment, and they will have extreme knowledge around the subject. They will meet with school representatives in January 2012 to support development over the next 6 to 8 weeks and then meet again in April 2012 to finalise the details in each plan/creation. One day a year a representative from each school will come together to discuss and talk about what they have achieved so far and what they aim to achieve in the future etc.

There is a chance to design the logo for the YES project – it has to be made out of Lego! The winner will receive £50.00, needs to include the word 'YES' and the deadline is March 19<sup>th</sup> – Robin to circulate details to members.

### **Youth Grant Fund Panel – Report from Round 2, Initial Assessment**

Annie explained that three applications the Youth Development Fund had been assessed and the Panel was recommending that all applicants will receive some money. Cainscross Parish Council will get £5000 for their

development on their youth provision. Stonehouse are getting £5000, which is slightly less than originally asked for, however they did ask over the limit, and South of Stroud Youth Partnership will get £15,000 to go to all their various different projects in Berkeley, Wotton under Edge, Dursley and Cam. Applicants to the Youth Activity Fund will be assessed in two weeks.

### **Attendance at Nailsworth Community Workshop Celebration Event (see invite) – 9<sup>th</sup> February**

There was an invitation from the Nailsworth Community Workshops and both Kieran, Mary, Millie, Lydia and Roxy all showed their interest to attend. It begins at 19:30 at the Nailsworth Subscription Rooms – those members who showed interest all confirmed their intention to attend the event. Helen agreed to make arrangements regarding transport.

### **Youth Cabinet Report- Annie**

Nothing to report, Annie explained that a meeting needs to be organised and will speak to Steve and report back.

### **Report from SDC Housing Management Forum – Millie**

Millie attended their last meeting, although she explained she is still trying to get to grips on what their actual projects and plans are. She is scheduled to have a meeting with the chair of the Housing Management Forum – will report back at next meeting.

### **SDYC Projects Reports**

#### ***Health Focus Group***

At their last meeting, only 3 members of the focus group attended. They had a consultation session with Guide and PALs – PALS is a service which people can use to get medical advice from. They do things such as free Chlamydia tests and where the nearest condom distributor is, etc. They are trying to set up a project and wanted the Health Focus Groups input. Next meeting is decided to be Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, location and transport to be organised.

#### ***Eat Well, Waste Less***

To meet on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February (during half term) at 4:30 in the restaurant at Ebley Mill, transport to be arranged.

#### ***Public Engagement Project***

No members could remember who signed up to this group, to be organised over email.

#### ***Votes @ 16***

Laid out plans at the last meeting and they finished creating the first questionnaire which will go out to schools and forums after they have finished evaluating it. To organise with Steve the next Votes @ 16 next meeting.

### **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Date of the Next Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 16:30, Fresh Ground Cafe, Cainscross.**