



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

Date : Monday 10th June 2013

Time : 16:30

Venue: Fresh Ground Cafe, Cainscross

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Kate Jones (<i>Bussage & Chalford</i>)	P
Kieran Chadwick (<i>Archway</i>)**	Ap
Lily Clarke (<i>Archway</i>)	P
Kathryn White (<i>Rednock</i>)	P
Susannah Gooch (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	P
Esme Freedman (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	P
Tom Meadley (<i>Marling</i>)	P
Archie Holley (<i>Marling</i>)	P
Kirsty Driver (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>)*	P
Emily Osborne (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>)	Ap
Roxy Mould (<i>Berkeley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Tom Ambury (<i>Berkeley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Chelsey Peck (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	P
Keelan Spence (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	Ap
Jessica Fisher (<i>Wotton under Edge Youth Forum</i>)	A
Ryan Pilkington (<i>Wotton under Edge Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Millie (Gardiner) Jotham (<i>Maidenhill</i>)	P
Alicia Langton-Balchin (<i>Maidenhill</i>)	Ap
Charlotte Bignall (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	P
Alex Lin-Vines (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	A
Beth Monday (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Ruth Allen (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High</i>)	Ap
Odette Machin (<i>Stroud High</i>)	P
Kyle Roberts (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	P
Elizabeth Powell (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	P
Riet Ihara (<i>Archway</i>)	A
Rhys Carter (<i>Archway</i>)	A
George Gooch (<i>Marling</i>)	P
Jamie Arthur (<i>Marling</i>)	P
Lee Beldam (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Adam Chandler (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	Ap

EX-OFFICIO

Ellen Wightman	A
Shannon Eden	A
Annie Pickering	A
Luka Chadwick	A
Chloe Boulton	A
Laura Byng	A
Sally Holditch	A
Max Freedman	A
Robin Ellis-Cockcroft	A

CO-OPTIONS

Gloucestershire Young Carers	A
Ryan Davis, St Roses School / Bussage	A

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

Others Present:

Steve Miles, Senior 'Hear by Right' Youth Officer, Stroud District Council
 Simon Gillings, Youth and Community Services
 PC Becki King, Gloucestershire Police
 Andy Murray, Neighbourhood Warden, Stroud District Council

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome and Apologies

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly PC Rebecca King and Neighbourhood Warden, Andy Murray. Apologies were received from Kieran Chadwick, Emily Osborne, Keelan Spence, Ryan Pilkington, Alicia Langton-Balchin, Holly Abbott and Adam Chandler.

Minutes of Last Meeting, 20th May 2013

Kirsty went through the previous minutes of meeting; two items of inaccuracy were noted and changed. All other minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

a) Subscription Rooms Tour and Workshop Feedback (All)

Whilst some members commented that the facilitators didn't provide any ideas or opinions on how the subscription rooms could involve more young people, it was noted that the workshop was intended as a listening exercise to enable SDYC members to have their voice heard. Millie added that she found their listening approach very good, as it showed that they did care about SDYC's views and opinions.

b) Young Drivers Experience Course, 29th May – Feedback (All that attended)

12 members attended the young drivers experience course at Castle Combe. Lily felt that the course was really good and the instructor she was assigned to was very helpful and enthusiastic, offering the students advice etc. All other attendees reiterated this and agreed it was a fun yet informative day. However there were a few negative points.

Beth explained that her instructor came across as 'patronising and demeaning'; an incident occurred where Elizabeth (Libby) supposedly ran over a numerous amount of virtual objects, such as children and every attempt other students made at driving afterwards the instructor repeatedly said 'don't do a Libby'. When a student drifted into the other side of the road, she constantly commented that they 'had just killed a pregnant mother or a group of school children'. Beth explained that this made them feel guilty and uncomfortable and it brought down the mood in the vehicle. The three students in that particular vehicle (Libby, Kyle and Beth) all felt that the course was very worthwhile and they all did enjoy the majority of the day, however the instructor could have been more supportive and less patronising and demeaning towards them. All three agreed that they were now less confident about learning to drive in the future as they felt they could endanger a life. Libby added that she now feels that she is unlikely to want to learn to drive. It was noted that this particular instructor drove silver Volkswagen Polo.

Roxy added that their instructor, Mike, was really nice and he made the day very enjoyable – it was his first time teaching younger students on this course and he commented at the end of the day how he also thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Steve reminded members that he had asked for written/emailed feedback from those members who attended the event, as the organisation, Startline, have asked for feedback to be given. He added that the negative experiences had by Libby, Kyle and Beth would be addressed and expressed his disappointment in learning that the experience had been so negative for some. An update would be made at the next meeting.

c) Pride in Your Neighbourhood Events – Potential involvement from SDYC & Local Youth Forums (All)

Whilst PiYN events for 2013 were highlighted at previous meeting, the general feeling was it would be best to let either local youth forums or SDYC Project Teams and Focus Groups consider this opportunity. There is primarily an opportunity to do consultation, networking, etc at these events. The dates of the event were noted on the previous minutes of meeting. Members asked how and why the areas were chosen; Steve was unsure as to how the decisions were made, although it was agreed with the Stroud Community Safety Partnership earlier in the year.

d) South West Youth Voice Convention – feedback from attendee’s (Kathryn/Tom)

On the same day as the young driver’s experience, Simon Gillings took Kathryn and Tom to the South West Youth Voice Convention; Esme also attended the event as a representative of UK Youth Parliament for Gloucestershire. They discussed a new careers advice website that has been set up for young people – it offers advice from the age of 11 all the way to 25 (it is also accessible to the older generation as well) including advice on GCSEs, A Levels, University Courses, College, Apprenticeships, Volunteering, etc. The event was considered to be ‘better than last time’.

Correspondence

Vote Your Goat

A social media website/portal has been created by two brothers, entitled ‘vote your goat’. The purpose of it is to change the way young people interact and engage with politics. It is about empowering young people, encouraging education in politics through debates and attempting to re-engage people in politics through a simple and creative tool. They will hold the UK’s monthly general election and debate what really gets ‘on your goat’ at a local and national level. Although not exclusive, the site is particularly aimed at a young audience as a way of communicating with other members of society such as councillors and MPs. If any members are interested please visit www.voteyourgoat.com

4th University Scholars Leadership Symposium 2013, Manila

An invite for members of SDYC to attend the 4th University Scholars Leadership Symposium in Manila, Philippines on August 1st – 7th 2013, has been received. The event is a gathering of 100 youth leaders and representatives from Leading NGOs, Government Agencies and other stakeholders all over the world. They aim to inspire, motivate and train Global Youth Leaders to do their own Humanitarian Work and make a positive change in their own local communities. Whilst it was noted that financial costs would realistically block this opportunity, Tom M. expressed an interest given he may be in the Philippines this summer.

Kick Off – BBC Sport

BBC Sport are giving young people aged 18 or over the opportunity to take part in an unpaid work experience placement for 8 weeks (2 days per week); they are looking for applications for the 2013 BBC Kick Off trainee sports reported scheme. The project is aimed at giving talented people from a diverse range of backgrounds an opportunity to develop their reporting skills within the BBC.

CONNECTAT

Connectat; an organisation that was successful in gaining funding through the Stroud Youth Activity Fund has invited SDYC to a BBQ on 18th July 2013 at the Community Rooms in Dursley – they would be very pleased if one or two representatives of SDYC could be attendance as it is a good opportunity to meet and thank those people who have contributed to running CONNECTAT. The youth grant fund panel would consider this.

Joint Approach to Tackling Financial Exclusion – Friday 28th June 2013

As a follow up to the Tackling Poverty event on 26th March, a similar multi-agency workshop is taking place with regards to tackling financial exclusion on Friday 28th June 2013, 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill. Members interested in attending the event should contact Steve ASAP.

Gloucestershire Road Safety - Drive for Life/Drive IQ

Further to members recent young drivers experience and informal discussions on road safety, Gloucestershire Road Safety Manager, Garry Handley has acknowledged the interest from SDYC and has shared a potential opportunity to joint host an event entitled ‘Drive for Life’. This programme entitled Drive IQ was recently launched at Hartpury College. Steve suggested the youth cabinet could look at this at their next meeting, to explore this further with view to designing the event to target younger people.

Positive Ticket Scheme – PC Rebecca King & Andy Murray, Neighbourhood Warden

Rebecca (Becky) introduced herself as the Police Officer covering the Berkeley area, as well as a Sexual Offences Officer, Andy covers a similar geographical area and both attended the meeting to get the opinion and thoughts of members regarding the Police Positive Ticket Scheme. The scheme is an initiative from Canada that acknowledges positive behaviour demonstrated by children and teenagers, e.g. *you’re riding your bike along the pavement and you*

come face to face with a pram & parent and you get off your bike to let them come pass. Whilst many Police officers feel that they only meet younger people when they are in trouble or are receiving a warning for anti social behaviour this equates to approximately less than 5% of the children and young people within the district. Therefore the majority of children are going unnoticed for carrying out 'good deeds' that are positive for their community.

Becky explained how the scheme would work: In noticing positive behaviour, Police Officers will send a letter to the person's home address, acknowledging the positive behaviour carried out. Whilst this letter can be placed in personal certificate folders, CV's, references, etc. they can also use the 'positive ticket' and trade it in for an activity e.g. a swim class, zumba, badminton at Dursley Pool or Stratford Leisure Centre (the list of activities are yet to be finalised). The scheme will cover the whole of the Stroud district and not just specific areas. The tickets are available for anyone under the age of 18.

Members asked how easy or hard it would be to obtain a Positive Ticket – Andy highlighted that guidelines have been set to ensure consistency across the district although it is up to the officer's discretion. Becky added that a ticket won't be given for something you should already be doing, e.g. putting your rubbish in the bin – it would need to be an act of positive behaviour beyond the law. They will also ensure that all officers across the district are trained and aware of what they have to do to issue a ticket.

Another member asked how they will issue the tickets – will Police carry the books on them? Becky explained that it will always be a uniformed officer who approaches the individual and they will ask for their name and address; if the child or young person is uncomfortable with giving this information out, then they wouldn't have to. If the information is given, the officer will send a letter to the address acknowledging the behaviour of the child or young person, enclosing a Positive Ticket which can be traded in for a named activity. The child or young person could also give their school address, if they were uneasy about giving out a home address. Becky emphasised that equality of opportunity was important, therefore it would not matter about previous negative behaviour; e.g. if the individual has been previously cautioned for ASB it doesn't make a difference – the person will be awarded for their positive behaviour regardless of their social background.

Kathryn asked if the name 'Positive Ticket' has been decided as a definite; Becky explained that at the moment it is the only name although she was open to further ideas if it causes an issue. Some members felt that the word 'ticket' is always associated with an offence being committed such as speeding ticket, parking ticket, etc. However other members feel the 'ticket' makes it sound more formal. Members asked if a list of available activities will be available online. Andy replied that he was working on putting something on the SDC main website, although nothing has been finalised or decided at present.

There were a number of suggestions made by members, including making a bigger prize for an individual who picked up 4 or 5 positive tickets; after a discussion Becky suggested that these and any other points could be picked up in the 6 monthly review, as currently it's only in the initial stages and therefore trialling what will work best.

Becky and Andy were thanked for their time in explaining this scheme and it was agreed SDYC would be kept updated with progress.

Updates from Schools, College and Local Youth Forum's - all

Archway

On the last week of school Archway hold a 'project week' which has 4 choices that students can choose from, such as a trip to London etc. It was noted that Rhys Carter had now left Archway and therefore was no longer an SDYC rep'. They are also holding a school council meeting this Thursday where one new student will be elected to be a deputy member of SDYC in place of Rhys.

Berkeley Youth Forum

Tom H. reported that the youth forum have been thinking about ideas for fundraising for the skate park and in the near future they will be making some models of the park/ramps so they can visually show people. It was noted that Nathan Pendred was no longer the rep' for SDYC.

Bussage and Chalford

It was reported that recently a number of mattresses which young people were using to sit on near the recreation

area, were removed – whilst these were unconventional as seating, it had caused frustration for local young people. This and previously report issues suggested a huge need for a youth forum to be set up.

Cam and Dursley Youth Forum

There has been no meeting since the previous SDYC full council meeting, although one is scheduled to take place on Wednesday.

Katherine Lady Berkeley

Nothing to report.

Maidenhill

A meeting was held today however Millie was unable to attend. Building work is still continuing at the school and the equipment that was stolen has been returned damaged, but is now being repaired.

Marling School

This year the school managed to raise nearly £2000 through the charity committee which is significant more than previous years. A meeting hasn't taken place in a while due to work schedules. The new chemistry block is nearly completed and is highly praised by the students.

Rednock School

A re-structure of the school council took place, however students were not happy about the change and therefore a number of members left the council.

Stonehouse Action 4 Youth (SA4Y)

Five new members have come on board and at the last meeting they went to visit the site of the new youth building that is currently being built. A meeting is scheduled for 13th June where a new consultation format will be discussed. Members will also be making decisions about the interior of the new building in the near future.

Thomas Keble

There was a non-school uniform day held for a student in year 9 who has cancer – all the proceeds went to helping her out.

Stroud High School

Nothing to report.

Stroud District Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

Kirsty, Millie and Kathryn, along with Steve, attended the LSP meeting on Friday 7th June 2013 at Ebley Mill. They discussed a number of topics at the meeting as well as Millie presenting the outcomes of the work experience survey as undertaken by SDYC members as a pilot project. Feedback was given by LSP members but Millie was congratulated on delivering an excellent presentation – this work will now evolve under the SDYC Employment and Training Focus Group.

British Youth Council (BYC) Report – (Kathryn/Kirsty)

BYC are offering a training package which is targeting young woman aged 18 – 25 to get them more involved with politics and voting; statistics show that these were the age range that voted the least at the previous general election. BYC have also taken action against the recent decision regarding the minimum wage in the United Kingdom – the percentage increase was lower for the 16 to 18 age range, than it was for any other age range increase; a letter has been sent by the Chair of the BYC, to Parliament asking questions about these changes.

The BYC Annual Meeting was also discussed; previously the two voting representatives from SDYC have attended along with 2 other members of SDYC. This year it is scheduled to be held in London on 31st August.

Election of Voting Representatives to British Youth Council for 2013/14 – 2 members

SDYC are required to elect two members to become the voting representatives to BYC for the next year (2013/14) -

the roles had been undertaken by Kathryn and Kirsty for the last year. With only two formal nominations made, it was agreed that Charlotte and Lily will be the voting representatives to the BYC for 2013/14.

Election of Youth Grant Funding Panel for 2013/14 – 6 members

Steve explained that a new youth grant funding was due to be created to meet throughout the next 12 months. The work undertaken during the last 2 years, involves assessing grant applications from a range of organisations to award funding. The £50,000 budget for this is sub-commissioned to SDC by the County Council.

Whilst George, Jamie, Millie, Charlotte, Kate, Archie, Elizabeth, Kyle, Beth, Lee, Roxy, Susannah and Lily all showed an interest in being part of the funding panel, it was agreed that a formal nomination process should be created to ensure the Panel reflects the social and cultural diversity of the SDYC membership, is accountable, transparent and whilst training will be provided, gives sufficient continuity from the previously trained panel. The Youth Cabinet agreed to design a process and present this to the next meeting. Kate suggested they hold a silent vote at the next full council meeting to determine who will become a member of the grant funding panel.

SDYC Health Focus Group – Report from meeting on 30th April (Kate/Millie)

Kate reminded members of the consultation which had occurred in recent months regarding changes to NHS Gloucestershire, in which they had been involved with. She congratulated focus group members on their work with regards to influencing the changes that are planned to be rolled out across the county. A report of the consultation had been produced by the NHS and it included the input of SDYC. Steve highlighted the impact members had made and felt this was a huge achievement. It was noted that Caroline Smith, Head of Community Involvement for the NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group would be invited back to present these outcomes.

SDYC Votes at 16 Project – Report on recent meeting on 13 May & 3rd June (Kirsty/Kathryn)

Kathryn reported that the Project team had discussed recent publicity surrounding the Youth Police and Crime Commissioner in Kent, where a young person aged 17 (Paris Brown) was chosen for the role, then subsequently received 'negative press' due to previous views expressed on Twitter/Facebook. A link with the Votes at 16 campaign was made through the claim by some people via the media, which the aforementioned case proved that 16 and 17 year olds shouldn't be given the opportunity to vote. It was agreed that when carrying out consultation, members should be aware of others views and be prepared to answer difficult and probing questions and that comments given via social media can be used by others in a negative way. They also discussed a number of ways they could consult young people on Votes @ 16, these included; *Online Voting System (e.g. Survey Monkey) – do it in schools, college and local youth groups. George agreed to find out how Marling carries out their surveys. It was agreed that the project needs to be educative and informative, in advance of doing a survey. A tour around the district should take place, with interactive workshops taking place in youth groups. Lasting approx 1 hour. Also hand out A5 info' cards. Use Facebook. Asking in the Street – move around the area whilst having one place as a focus with a stand/stall.*

SDYC Youth Cabinet – Report from meeting on 30th April & 28th May (Kathryn)

Kathryn explained about the opportunity to shadow specific SDC Officers and Council Members; Youth Cabinet members needed to forward their preferred dates, times and services they would like to shadow to Steve ASAP. Steve added this opportunity was available to all members of SDYC and not just exclusive to the youth cabinet.

SDYC Employment and Training Focus Group – set date of first meeting

This group is to be led by Millie and also includes Kirsty, Charlotte, Susannah and Emily; Tuesday 18th June was agreed as the meeting date.

Any Other Business

No other business to report.

Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 1st July 2013 at 4:30pm in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill