



STROUD DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2001
at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

MEMBERS OF YOUTH COUNCIL PRESENT:-

Jenny Steer	Stroud High
Phillipa Radford-Hancock	Stroud High
Emily Cooper	Thomas Keble
Joe Ireland	Thomas Keble
Marcus Angell (Chairman)	Marling
Dan Snell	Marling
Juzer Esmailji	Marling
Nico Mustafic	Rednock
Euan Howard	Rednock

Also present:-

Stroud District Council Members:

Councillor Mrs Barbara Tait	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs
Councillor Mrs Janet Wood	Cabinet Member for Community Strategy
Councillor Nigel Studdert-Kennedy	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture

Phil Sullivan	Community Safety Officer, Stroud District Council
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Apologies:-

David Marshall	Public Relations Officer, Stroud District Council
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Minutes of meeting held 5 November 2001

Accepted as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

Request for funding – Presentation by Lee Prescott, Cotswold International Film Festival

- Mr Lee Prescott outlined the background to The Cotswold International Film and Video Festival (website address: www.cotswoldfilmvideofest.co.uk) and showed a video of one of the entrants to the latest 2001 Festival. He indicated that Gold, Silver and Bronze prizes were awarded to the best categories, together with a cash prize. There were 90 entrants this year from 19 different countries. The films were shown at the Subscription Rooms, Stroud (in the ballroom) on 14/15 September 2001. Adjudicators were appointed from various backgrounds and there was a stage presentation of the awards by Ms Polly Lloyd an HTV presenter. The public are charged admission to the event.
- Mr Prescott indicated that the cost of the Festival for 2001 was £3,000, with funding being received from both Stroud District Council and Stroud Town Council for which the organisers were very appreciative. Expenditure for the event goes on hiring of equipment, hiring the Subscription Rooms, printing stationery, postages, publicity and also the cost of the celebrity presenting the prizes. They were now seeking financial support from the Youth Council of £500 and also seeking a nomination to serve on the Festival Committee.

Agreed To grant £500 to The Cotswold International Film and Video Festival.

Agreed Juzer Esmailji was nominated as the Youth Council's representative on the Festival Committee.

Community Safety

- Phil Sullivan, Stroud District Council's Community Safety Officer explained that the Government Crime and Disorder Act required Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and the Police to work on a strategy for three years to combat crime and disorder issues throughout the district. The Council is now writing the next strategy for a further three years, we have gone through the public consultation process the results of which we are currently awaiting, at the same time an Action Plan will be produced indicating what people will be doing. From a young people/youth aspect three projects have been undertaken: (i) validated identity cards (at a cost of £2.50) – which contain a hologram photograph of the owner which cannot be tampered with – it can be used to prove your age and a number of premises in the Stroud area have agreed to give discount to the cardholders so that it may be possible to recover the cost of the card. (ii) Child Safe – to assist parents and children when they get separated from each other in shopping areas/shops. (iii) Message in a bottle – this applies to the elderly/chronically sick/young people living alone, when a plastic tube is kept in the fridge identifying medical needs. So that should the Police, Fire or Ambulance Service be called they can immediately identify the appropriate medication.
- Phil Sullivan then outlined some of the projects for which funding had been gained. (i) increase in the number of CCTV cameras in Stroud and improved lighting; (ii) initiative to help solve drug problems; (iii) a mobile police station that will travel to areas where there is currently no police station, which he indicated was well worth a visit; he also outlined some locally funded projects at Roxburgh House, Stroud and Nailsworth.
- Finally, Phil Sullivan indicated that he was happy to talk to any member of the Youth Council either publicly or privately; and also suggested that if there were any projects for which they required funding he was happy to work them up together.

Cabinet Meeting Feedback

- Members of the Youth Council find the quantity of agenda papers that precede Cabinet meetings very difficult to cope with, they do not have time to read them all because of school commitments, and find the phraseology difficult to understand and confusing. They suggested a summary of the papers would be helpful.
- Councillor Mrs Tait confirmed that Councillors also had difficulty in dealing with the large quantities of paperwork and hoped that this might be given attention in the future. She informed the Council that the next Cabinet meeting was on Thursday 24 January 2002 7.00 pm. She also informed the meeting that there was an open meeting on Rural Affairs on 15 January 2001 at 7.00 pm when a speaker would attend to talk about the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and explain possible changes from a Partnership to a Conservation Board which would attract more funding to the AONB.
- Joseph Ireland indicated that he was no longer able to be Leisure Cabinet member for the Youth Council due to commitments. Chairman of Youth Council asked for a replacement but no names came forward.

Youth Council Website

- Juzer Esmailji reported that the basis of the Youth Council Website was set up. The only requirement was a photography of all Council members. Information was also requested on Cabinet members of Stroud District Council and their responsibilities.

Any other business

- Skateboard Ramp at Stratford Park, Stroud – very pleased with progress, completion anticipated January 2002.
- Councillor Mrs Wood Cabinet Member for Community Strategy and Strategic Partnerships, described her portfolio responsibilities. Regarding Strategic Partnerships she explained this will involve various groups working together and the Youth Council will play an important role in that framework. There are a number of key issues that have come forward, including housing, youth and transport issues. Mrs Wood asked the Council if they would be interested in being represented on the Strategic Partnership.

Date of next meeting

4 February 2002 4.30 pm Council Chamber.

Meeting closed at 17.45.