



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON

11.05.2009

Venue: Stroud Youth Centre

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Thomas Lydon, Marling**
 Rob Price, Marling
 Alex Jones, Cam & Dursley YF
 Jess Howell, Cam & Dursley YF
 Liam Baker, Thomas Keble
 Cameron Patterson, Thomas Keble
 El Linsell, Stroud High
 Rosie Dickinson, Stroud High
 Jack Young, Archway
 Fran Ballinger, Archway
 Hilary Dixon, Katharine Lady Berkeley's
 Lindsey Driver, Vale of Berkeley
 Frank Gillison, Vale of Berkeley
 Andrew Burbidge, Nailsworth YF
 Connor Walker, Stonehouse VoYS
 Annie Pickering, Stonehouse VoYS
 Megan Roberts, Minchinhampton YC
 Amy Neason, Minchinhampton YC
 Ashley Skerton, Stroud College*
 Rudi Blue Morgan, Stroud College

DEPUTY MEMBERS

P	Rebekah Batting, Cam & Dursley YF	Ap
A	Kamila Gebicka, Cam & Dursley YF	Ap
A	Joe Clift, Vale of Berkeley	Ap
P	Chantelle Martin, Vale of Berkeley	Ap
A	Harry Bush, Marling	A
A	Harry Shankar, Marling	P
P	Alex Buckley, Thomas Keble	P
P	Kit Powell, Thomas Keble	A
A	Cerys Bradley, Stroud High	Ap
A	Isobel Holley, Stroud High	Ap
P	Kieran Chadwick, Archway	P
P	Kurtis Herbert, Archway	A
P	Isobel Tyrrell, Minchinhampton YC	A
P	Jodie Nixon, Minchinhampton YC	A
A	Joanna Bullingham, Stonehouse VoYS	A
P	David Reynolds, Stroud College	A

EX-OFFICIO

Rose Horton, Stroud High	Ap
Freddie Whittaker, Archway	A
Luke Smith, Berkeley	A
Matt Stump, Berkeley	A
Natalie Smith, Archway	A
Emma Mears, Cam & Dursley YF	A
Eleanor Cairns, Thomas Keble	A
Harriet Dudbridge, Katharine Lady Berkeley's	A

CO-OPTIONS

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer (SDC)
 Pete Gilbert, Planning Strategy Manager (SDC)
 Cllr. John Jeffreys, Cabinet member for Leisure & Culture (SDC)

Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to Stroud Youth Centre, in particular Pete Gilbert SDC Planning Strategy Manager.

Apologies were received from Becky Batting, Kamila Gebicka, Joe Clift, Chantelle Martin, Cerys Bradley, Izzy Holley, Rose Horton.

Minutes of the last meeting – 16 March 2009

The minutes were accepted with the following amendment; Rosie Dickinson had been elected as Chair of Stroud High School Student Council (not Vice Chair as was recorded) – this would be amended in due course.

Acknowledgement and thanks was given to Cerys for writing up the minutes of the last meeting. Members were asked if anyone else was willing to do this task for the minutes of this meeting – there were no forthcoming offers.

Matters Arising

a) British Youth Council 2009 Convention – 5 August, Swansea

The series of events taking place in August was promoted again, members were reminded that names of interested participants were needed as soon as possible, others dates and venues are available but Steve highlighted the strong youth work practitioner links in Swansea and the potential of visiting some projects over there at the same time.

b) Gloucestershire Young Carers – progress report from Becky

As Becky was not in attendance, this was deferred to the next meeting.

c) SDC Core Strategy – feedback from Steve

Steve reported that following his meeting with Pete Gilbert, it was agreed that Pete should attend this meeting to give greater overview of what this strategy was aiming to achieve and to discuss how SDYC could be involved. Pete highlighted that initial public consultation had brought in 230 responses via the web based questionnaire with only a few clearly from young people, leading to disproportionate views of how people see the district being developed. Members felt the questionnaire was very adult orientated and was too long with some questions needing more background information to be understood. An open discussion on rural transport, housing development, environmental issues and energy use as well as public services and general infrastructure highlighted how important young people's involvement with this strategy was.

A general change in social culture was highlighted as being a huge factor for such issues to materialise into successful development.

It was discussed how best to communicate and involve young people – members felt that Stroud Rural Peer Education Project could play an important role in working with SDYC and SDC to run interactive workshops in schools, colleges, youth groups etc during the next 18 months. Initial thoughts also suggested that this approach should not replace questionnaires, but enable a broader engagement to take place.

It was agreed that a smaller group should be formed in the coming months to look closer at how this work could be progressed.

d) Members Attendance at SDC Council meetings – future dates to be circulated

This item was included in the Youth Cabinet Report.

e) *SDYC Administration Support – update*

Steve reported that due to continued sickness in the SDC Community Safety Service team, administration support will still be very limited. He also asked if members were receiving mail in the post ok and requested that any delays or non delivers be reported.

Annie asked if agenda's and minutes could be sent out via email only, in which to save paper. Suggestions included; emailing only, provide paper copies at meeting, ask members to bring their own copies. It was agreed to discuss this in more detail in the near future, in which to look at the various alternative methods.

Correspondence

Gloucestershire Music Forum – Emma Ordonez, the Music Development Networker for Stroud wishes to engage with SDYC with view to creating and developing the music scene in Stroud and to possible set up a forum for Stroud. Whilst Stroud has already quite a vibrant music scene, she is looking for further networking support and possible funding. Steve added that he had met with her and highlighted the Youth Initiative Fund as well as the Youth Opportunity Fund managed by the Youth Service. The age range this project is targeting is 14 to 25 year olds and some projects in Marling School and Chalford are already active. Members wished to be generally involved and updated and suggested links to the Stroud Fringe Festival.

Play Website Launch – The Play website discussed a few meetings ago, was now up and running and could be accessed via the following address; www.playinstrouddistrict.org.uk

J13 Club, 13 – 17 – Steve explained a recent approach from the owners/management of Junction 13 Night Club in Stroud. Mark Harsant a former employee of SDC is seeking to explore the feasibility of opening a specialised night for 13 to 17 year olds. He is looking to involve youth workers, Police, SDC and would like input from SDYC. Members agreed this could be a good idea particularly as he is looking to run things appropriately. However they expressed concern over the wide age range and felt this was not suitable. They agreed to be involved in future planning meetings.

UK Youth Parliament – Campaign Petition – A petition is being run regarding young people in full time education obtaining national concessionary fares on public transport. Members agreed to promote this in their schools, colleges and youth groups. Deadline for returns is 22nd May.

Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

Stroud College – Ashley reported that he and Blue met with the staff regarding the Power-Down project and the Hear by Right standards, further discussions would be taking place, Steve offered his services of support.

Thomas Keble School – Alex reported that some changes may be made to representatives following the exams.

Stroud High School - Little to report other than some areas of work for student council are being handed over to students not involved in exams etc.

Maidenhill School - initial feedback on SDYC representation from the newly formed student council was encouraging.

Voice of Young Stonehouse – Annie reported that VOYS would be carrying out some consultation on various issues in and around the town including a bus stop. Steve highlighted a recent contact from PSALMS (a Christian based youth group) that were looking to provide youth facilities in the town, but were not aware of the current youth provision available or that VOYS existed. Annie agreed to take this back to VOYS for consideration.

Cam and Dursley Youth Forum – Jess reported that forum members would be visiting Cabot Circus in Bristol as a support team for the World Jungle project who are performing there soon. A logo has been designed for the Connect Dursley Youth Centre development project.

KLB - Hilary reported that she would be leaving KLB following her exams, but highlighted that she was trying to get some representatives involved before then. She briefed members on her ongoing work to get raise the profile of student participation, but was again finding it difficult.

Marling School – Harry S reported that marling were making slow progress with the work on Healthy School Awards and ECO School status - it seemed student participation was difficult with the various areas of work being merged thus confusing what was being done when and by whom. Downfield Block was being closed temporarily. A By Election may also be held in September.

A quick comfort break was held, in which members consumed the donated Chocolate Cake from the SDC Housing Advice Team following their acquisition of the Youth Council book case a week ago.

Litter Recycling Project

EI was pleased to announce that the Litter Bins had finally arrived. Delivery took place the previous week with Tom, Ashley & Steve. Sadly it was highlighted that some of the logos were missing and needed to be rectified by the manufacturers. The bins would not be installed until the logos were correctly displayed. The next project team meeting would take place on Wednesday 20th May at 4pm, Stroud Youth Centre and will hopefully be attended by other SDC officers involved in Waste, Recycling and Marketing.

Power-Down Project

Steve reported that following the recent exchange of emails with members, the SDC Deputy Chief Executive (Nigel Riglar) had advised SDYC to invite Pete Wiggins from the County Council Environmental Services to visit and address members regarding this project. It is understood that he could help with planning and support under the County's Carbon Reduction Commitment. On advice from some members in the interim period, an invitation had been sent - Pete has agreed to attend SDYC meetings on either 22nd June or 13 July.

Changing Gear Initiative/Trip switch

Ashley asked if there was one big meeting of all people involved in this initiative. Tom highlighted the general organisation of this initiative and would explain more after the meeting. It was added that SDYC's profile needs to be maintained with respect to the hard work that members have put in over the years on many projects that are now receiving greater general interest from decision makers. Steve also mentioned the acknowledgement from John Meadley regarding the receipt of Youth Initiative Funding to support this initiative and briefed members on progress to date. Tom explained progress with Stagecoach's involvement.

Tom also explained about another initiative entitled 'Bikes for Liberia' – this was being considered by the Stroud Valleys Cycle Project.

Youth Cabinet Report

Jess reported that members were invited to attend forthcoming SDC Council and Cabinet meetings;

AGM – 21 May @ 7pm

Cabinet – 11 June @ 10.30pm

Council meeting – 25 June @7pm (TBC)

Further meetings will be confirmed in due course.

It was agreed that EI and Jess would be attending on 21 May and as many as possible would try and attend on 11 June.

Youth Cabinet would be visiting YIF supported projects soon for photos and general interest.

The SDYC Constitution would also be reviewed soon by the Youth Cabinet.

2009-2012 Children & Young Peoples Plan – The opportunity had arisen to undertake the task of drafting a children and young peoples version of the 2009 – 2012 Plan. This was being offered by the Children and Young Peoples Directorate and was in the form of a tendering process that would entail bidding for the work. Upon discussion, members felt that the work SDYC was doing locally was more of a priority and the timescales and budget was not sufficient to complete the task. Whilst an expression of interest had been given initially, members agreed that this opportunity should be declined.

SDYC 10th Anniversary

Tom suggested that a small group of volunteers were formed in which to look at plans for the anniversary year (09/10). EI, Hilary, Jess, Kieran and Tom agreed to kick start the planning. Steve advised that to help with workload and ideas, previous members should be considered to join this group. Jess suggested one person from each year.

Any Other Business

Kieran encouraged members to attend a forthcoming event at Museum in the Park in relation to the environment and art.

Jess highlighted her recent involvement in a district council review session entitled 'An Options Appraisal', designed to oversee the future management of leisure centres in the district. The current contract expires in 2011 for Stratford Park. Cllr. John Jeffreys encouraged members to consider how young people could be involved with the review in which to look at the broader design of such services.

Steve highlighted the Work Ready Work Force Project that he had been shown in relation to the drafting of a plan to regenerate a more suitable work force in the district. A plan was being drafted with many stakeholders including the Federation of Small Businesses and SDC. Whilst this has links to the recent SDYC involvement with the FSB, it is a far broader view of work life for young people and employers. Tom and Ashley agreed to consider the plan and to see how involved SDYC could become.

There was no further business.

The next meeting is on Monday 1 June 2009 in Stroud Youth Centre at 4.30pm