



## **NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> December 2004**

**Venue: Council Chamber  
Stroud District Council**

**Time: 4:40 pm – 5.45 pm**

### **YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:**

Ryan Castle, KLB	A	Chris Nicholls, KLB	P
Katy Dainton, Stroud College	P	Justine Pemberton*, Rednock	P
Jenny Dando, Stroud High	A	Emma Pinchbeck, Stroud High	A
Nikki Deeley, Maidenhill	P	James Radford, Maidenhill	Ap
Alex Farrow, Marling	P	Frankie Rushton, Stroud High	Ap
Grace Jackson, KLB	A	Oliver Timms, Marling	P
Polly Lord, KLB	P	Freddie Whittaker, Archway	Ap
Daniel Marshall	Ap	Ceri Wills, Rednock	P

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

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Councillor Dorcas Binns  
Mark Harsant, SDC  
Ann Sharman, SDC (part)  
Paul Helbrow, SDC

Dave Marshall, SDC  
Clive Hammond, SDC (part)  
Neil Carmichael, Conservative PPC

Apology: Cllr Miranda Clifton

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In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was chaired by Justine Pemberton, who welcomed Neil Carmichael.

### **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The notes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2004 were accepted.

### **QUESTION TIME**

Ann Sharman (Elections) is arranging a young people's question and answer session on the afternoon of 21<sup>st</sup> January, in the Council Chamber from 2pm - 4pm. She highlighted that it will be a 'question time' style debate and that it will be a 'floors day'. Alex Farrow was elected to chair this debate. Ann asked that all Youth Councillors attend.

## **YOUTH CABINET REPORT**

Ceri reported that the Youth Cabinet wanted to be more effective in terms of representing young people. Its first project would be a survey of young people to find out what they really want resources to be spent on. Secondly, the Youth Cabinet would like the Youth Council to be more vocal in representing young people's concerns.

The Youth Cabinet will be holding a special meeting to consider grant applications on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> January at 4 pm.

## **BUDGET CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

A summary of results showing young people's suggestions for SDC spending priorities for the Budget 2004-05 was circulated. Clive Hammond highlighted some interesting points that were made and thanked the Youth Councillors for their input.

## **YOUNG VOTERS QUESTIONNAIRE**

Dave Marshall circulated a draft questionnaire which will eventually be circulated to all those aged 18 or 19 in the District. The aim behind this is to find out how to attract more young people to vote. The Youth Council was asked to add/delete or amend the questions so that the questionnaire can be made more attractive and quicker to fill out for young people. The following changes were made;

- Delete Q2
- Delete Q4
- Merge Q5 & Q7
- Delete Q8
- Keep Q9 if there is enough room for it
- Delete Q10

Additional comments made;

- Only include 'tick box' questions
- Has to be short and simple
- Maybe a postcard style with picture on front and questionnaire on back.

## **ELECTION POSTERS**

Some feedback was made regarding the posters encouraging young people to vote. Dave Marshall suggested that they should be catchy, colourful and designed by young people for young people. Dave also highlighted that they need to be ready to display before the next election in May.

Comments;

- Alex thought the poster idea would not help young people to vote and he does not think it will make an impact
- Katy disagreed and thought the poster idea was a great method of attracting young people to vote. She also suggested using beer mats
- It was agreed the poster should be bright, jazzy and colourful
- A competition amongst schools for the best poster could be arranged
- Dorcas suggested posters should be displayed in youth clubs

- Paul Helbrow mentioned other ways of advertising, such as bookmarks.

Dave asked Youth Councillors to return to their schools and ask their Art & Design departments for ideas. Dave highlighted that we need feedback sooner rather than later.

### **YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

On 8<sup>th</sup> December Alex Farrow went to the House of Commons with Ian Mean, Editor of The Citizen. They were highlighting how young people and the local press could work together.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Following the Youth Cabinet report, the Youth Council discussed the question of Nailsworth Youth Club. A new youth worker had been trained, while membership had risen to 180; funding for the youth worker had now been withdrawn. It was agreed that Alex should issue a press release deploring the decision.

It was also agreed that the County Council should be asked to confirm that following a change in legislation, it does not intend to impose charges for school buses. Alex to follow up.

### **NEXT MEETING**

To be held in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill, 4.30 pm on Monday, 10th January.