



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON

14.12.2009

Venue: Stroud Youth Centre

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Thomas Lydon, Marling**	P
Rob Price, Marling	P
Becky Batting, Cam & Dursley YF	Ap
Kamila Gebicka, Cam & Dursley YF	Ap
Kit Powell, Thomas Keble	A
Alex Buckley, Thomas Keble	P
Isobel Holley, Stroud High	P
Rosemary Dickinson, Stroud High	P
Kieran Chadwick, Archway	P
Robin Ellis-Cockcroft, Archway	P
Ben Dewfall, Katharine Lady Berkeley	Ap
Emma Sankey, Katharine Lady Berkeley	P
Lindsey Driver, Rednock	P
Annie Pickering, Stonehouse VoYS	Ap
Connor Walker, Stonehouse VoYS	A
Isobel Tyrrell, Minchinhampton YC	A
Megan Roberts, Minchinhampton YC	A
(Rudi) Blue Morgan, Stroud College	A
Petra Lalikova, Stroud College *	Ap
Dave Holder, Maidenhill	P
Millie Gardiner, Maidenhill	P

EX-OFFICIO

Jess Howell, Cam & Dursley YF	A
Hilary Dixon, Katharine Lady Berkeley's	A
Frank Gillison, Vale of Berkeley	A
Andrew Burbidge, Nailsworth YF	A

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Vicki Law, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Beth Jones, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Emma Topping, Katharine Lady Berkeley	A
Will Robson, Katharine Lady Berkeley	P
Archie Flexen-Cook, Thomas Keble	A
George Thomas, Thomas Keble	P
Cerys Bradley, Stroud High	P
El Linsell, Stroud High	P
Charlie Cox, Archway	A
Lynford Short, Archway	P
Amy Neason, Minchinhampton YC	Ap
Ashley Skerten	P

CO-OPTIONS

Hagar Niblet	P
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**** = Chair * = Vice-Chair P = present**
A = absent Ap = apology

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC
 Liza Hitchcock, Business Support Officer, SDC
 Karen Taylor, D of E Accreditation Officer, GCC Youth Service

Minutes of the meeting

Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Kamila Gebicka, Becky Batting, Ben Dewfall, Annie Pickering and Amy Neason.

Minutes of the last two meetings – 23 November 2009

The minutes were agreed as being an accurate record with the following amendment; the ambitious joint project (with Marling) involving the design and build of an aeroplane was taking place... but it wasn't for charity as stated.

Matters Arising

Vale of Berkeley College (VoBC) – proposed closure

Lindsey updated members on the campaign that was now underway to keep VoBC open. A draft document was made available for reference. An event had taken place recently involving parents, teachers, governors and county council officers regarding the Badman Report (published Aug 09). The facts stated in report & used by the CC were being questioned. An Action Group had been formed to consider a 'third option' involving links with universities and colleges with a possible name change to The Edward Jenner Trust. It was planned to hold student consultation on 12 January following claims that student's voices had not been heard – a formal process was favoured by the GCC Officers but not clarified yet. A final decision was due to be taken by the County Council in mid February. It was highlighted that a SDYC representative from VoBC had now been nominated. It was agreed a support team from SDYC to support Lindsey would consist of the following members; Dave, Tom, Ash, Emma, Izzy H, Lynford and Rosie. There was potential that this team could attend a meeting on 7 January – more details would follow from Lindsey in due course.

Young Communiversity event

Hagar attended the recent event and reported on a low turn out from other people including many schools. He added that the aim of the event was to demonstrate the various projects that strive to make Stroud a more sustainable community. A follow up event in January had been suggested and he recommended that SDYC should support this in future – more information was required.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) - 20th Anniversary

A discussion was held regarding the increasing factors concerning the emerging campaign (being led nationally by Baroness Walmsley), for the UNCRC to become part of UK law in its own right. It was agreed that the information available would be emailed to members in which to consider the youth councils position and the feasibility of a formal approach to the respective local Members of Parliament. A final decision would be made at the next meeting.

Co-Option – Voting Role

With reference to the SDYC Constitution, it was noted that the Co-Option role was a voting role rather than a non-voting role, as stated at the last meeting.

Social Network & Web-based Project

Members were reminded about the emerging project highlighted at the last meeting. Members interested in pursuing the development of this project, are as follows; Dave, Lindsey, Ashley, Vicki, Beth, Robin, Rosie, Lynford and Kieran. This group would get together when a consultant is approached.

Youth Opportunity Fund Panel - elections

Four nominations were received for the 3 remaining roles to support the Youth Cabinet member for Finance. Following a secret ballot, Lindsey, Ashley and Cerys were elected. The Panel would meet at end of January/early February.

Stroud District Cycle Strategy

No feedback from the report document was received, however the members involved hoped to get the opportunity to interact with the Strategy group in the future.

Duke of Edinburgh Award – presentation from Karen Taylor, GCC D of E Co-ordinator

Karen gave an overview of the D of E Award highlighting that all SDYC members have the chance to gain accreditation for the award through their work as a District Youth Councillor. The three levels of accreditation (Bronze, Silver and Gold) are still the main framework and it's open for any 14 to 25 yr old, with some

flexibility regarding the starting age. SDYC provides opportunities for the Volunteering and Skills sections with other registered providers offering the Expedition and Physical sections. The DofE website is very informative and comes with a new development on the branding and an interactive web based system for recording people's participation, the latter is to be introduced over the next 12 months. Karen concluded that a recent survey of employers recognised the DofE Awards as the next best thing they look for on job applications after GCSE and A Levels qualifications. It was noted that 11 members were already involved with DofE and 4 members would be considering it in the near future. Karen was thanked for her attendance.

Correspondence

Neighbourhood Watch

This organisation is looking to involve young people in their work and has approached SDYC for advice and guidance. Eddie Whitlock the local co-ordinator has offered to visit members and discuss this request. Lindsey highlighted that she was involved in the Berkeley area 'Watch'. It was agreed that Steve should meet with Eddie with view to inviting him along to a future meeting.

Backing Young Britain Campaign

This campaign aims to bring business, public, voluntary sectors together to ensure more support for young people is given and their skills are not wasted during the recession and future post recession period. Details can be found on the dedicated website which gives examples of how organisations in the various sectors can help. SDC have recently signed up to the campaign. Members were please to hear of this support locally and agreed that SDYC should do a joint press release to this effect.

Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

KLB – no report

Stroud High – Cerys reported that the school council had recent hosted a workshop style debate with the Oxford Union and some students were entering a competition regarding nuclear power, the aim is to make a video on peoples opinions. Progress on the previously reported aviation project included the setting up of a website and efforts to communicate with the Royal Aeronautical Society. The initial aim was to get all schools in the Stroud area involved but some are still yet to sign up.

Marling – Their will be the first meeting of the Environment Forum, which is hoped will become a joint with Stroud High – this is being promoted by the respective SDYC reps.

Thomas Keble – no report

Archway – no report

Maidenhill –.no report

Voice of Young Stonehouse – no report

Stroud College – nothing to report

Rednock – Lindsey reported that whilst their was no progress on the idea of 'Virtual Tutor Groups', the school council had expressed disappointment at not being involved with discussions.

Cam & Dursley Youth Forum – Vicki and Beth highlighted that a reply to their letter sent to Children's Minister, Dawn Primarolo had been received regarding the Connect Dursley Project, however the forum was disappointed that the content did not answer all there questions – these issues would be followed up in due course. The Forum is planning to make a DVD about their progress of the last 12 months.

Power Down

Referred to under Climate Change report

Set up Stroud; Get a Plan! (Formerly Workforce Work Ready Project)

Steve reiterated the plans for the event on 11 February and added that more schools were now on board – the target age range was years 10 & 11. Delegates would be selected by teachers, with 15 to 20 per school. SDC are the main co-ordinators with Three Sector Match. SDYC members were asked to enquire about how respective schools were progressing with involvement in this event.

Litter Recycling Pilot Project – update

Izzy reported that there had been no progress to date however a meeting would be organised in New Year.

Climate Change Panel - Report

Robin and Will were nominated to represent SDYC on this Panel in addition to Izzy & Tom.

Youth Cabinet Report

Rosie was pleased to report that the Youth Cabinet had been working very hard with the Constitution Review and was near to completing their recommendations.

She added that her and Tom had recently visited a Youth Participation Seminar in London, which featured good practice from projects such as Young Advisors, Youth Mayors and other types of youth participation – she concluded that it was very inspirational and demonstrated the importance of having various different approaches to youth participation.

The Youth Cabinet would be starting their shadowing programme next week.

Any Other Business

Steve congratulated the Youth Cabinet on their high levels of commitment in such a short space of time in which to make such huge progress with the Constitution document.

Steve added that with such a busy calendar of activities and project on the go for all members, a big commitment was required from everyone if progress was going to be made – one example is the 10th Anniversary Committee would be meeting very soon.

Date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 11 January 2010 in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill at 4.30pm.