



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON;

Date : Monday 24th February 2014

Time : 16:30

Venue: Fresh Ground Cafe, Cainscross

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Kate Jones (<i>Bussage & Chalford Youth Forum</i>)	A
Lily Clarke (<i>Archway School</i>)	P
Reuben Speller-Trowers (<i>Archway School</i>)	A
Susannah Gooch (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	Ap
Esme Freedman (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	Ap
Tom Meadley (<i>Marling School</i>)	P
Archie Holley (<i>Marling School</i>)	Ap
Emily Osborne (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	Ap
Georgina Burt (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	A
Kirsty Driver (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>) **	P
Toni McNee (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Millie Jotham (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	P
Chelsey Peck (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	A
Charlotte Bignall (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
Alex Lin-Vines (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)*	P
Jai Aldridge (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	A
Sahaya James (<i>Stroud College</i>)	Ap
Ben Maudsley (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Mollie Fellows (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	P
James Lauchlan (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	P

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	P
Kyle Roberts (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
Elizabeth Powell (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
George Gooch (<i>Marling School</i>)	P
Jamie Arthur (<i>Marling School</i>)	Ap
Lee Beldam (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Lorena Davis (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Tom Ambury (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	P
Indi Higgins (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	A
Keelan Spence (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	A
Lucy Curtis (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	A
Sam Barnes (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	Ap
Joss Beeley (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	P
Keller Philpot (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	A

EX-OFFICIO

Kieran Chadwick	A
Kathryn White	A
Ryan Pilkington	A
Jess Fisher	A
Roxy Mould	A

CO-OPTIONS

Ryan Davis (<i>St Roses School</i>)	A
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**** = 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, CEO/Youth Worker, Youth and Community Services

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted that the Children and Young People's Mental Health Service were unable to attend the meeting to give a presentation. However, it was noted they are still very keen to come to another meeting. Apologies were received from Susannah Gooch, Esme Freedman, Archie Holley, Emily Osborne, Toni McNee, Sahaya James, Ben Maudsley, Jamie Arthur and Sam Barnes.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

There was a note of inaccuracy highlighted by one of the members about the attendance of an ex-officio member. The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting; Proposed by: Millie Jotham, Seconded by: James Lauchlan.

Matters Arising

a) Members Winter Training & Activity Programme – Review (All)

Members were asked to give feedback on the following;

Skillzone – 4th February

Positives/Likes: The realism (especially the house), the interactivity (especially the 'egg') and the burnt bedroom - the importance of the basics i.e. changing plugs, etc. was very good. The cyber-café and interactive video was good. The alleyway was 'weird'. On the whole the session was enjoyed by the group. Individuals also requested an opportunity to return to Skillzone to participate in the other scenarios.

Notes for the future: Review (and possible change to) the feedback session at the end of the opinion finder activity. Most of the information was more of a 'gentle reminder' and seemed to be based at a younger age group. Whilst it was noted that the group enjoyed the scenarios, they agreed it would have benefitted them even more if it was aimed at their age group or even older. There was some new information i.e. the cyber safety, etc. but in general it was good to recap on things that have been focused upon at an earlier age. It was agreed this feedback would be shared with the venue organizers.

Introductory Training – 8th February

Positives/Likes: Always engaging – quote 'we did not drift off'. The personal shield, group activities and age of importance activity were all good. Interacting with our new members – the social aspect was of great benefit, as was learning about the SDYC system and how decisions are made. The debates around types of participation were also good.

Notes for the future: The 'talkie-talkie' bits could be changed. It would be interesting to discuss the rights in a more interactive way. A low point was the realization that schools have difficulty in enabling participation.

Some of the group did not like the food.

Young Drivers Experience – 18th February

Positives/Likes: The instructors were patient and explained everything. Having the chance to drive a car for the first time was great. This was a much better experience this year. Each of the instructors pitched their bit at the right level for the group. Quote – 'It was awesome'.

Notes for the future: There was no hot food available in the café and it was empty and unstaffed - it was as if we weren't really customers. Even though the café was empty the group had to sit outside in the cold and wet. Could there be different track layouts/courses/scenarios to use? Is there an advanced course for mopeds or motorbikes? There could have been a group or paper-based evaluation at the end of the event. It was agreed this feedback would be shared with the venue organizers.

b) BYC Votes at 16 Parliamentary Lobby Event on 12th February – Report (Charlotte/Sahaya/Holly/Lily)

Young representatives from across the UK attended this event, principally aimed at 'lobbying' MP's and Lords on the issue of lowering the voting age to 16. The delegation from SDYC had a meeting with the MP for Stroud and also MP for Cotswold - both suggested a greater dialogue should be had in the future regarding this issue. SDYC also had discussions with Baroness Royal of Blaisdon. It was highlighted that whilst the SDYC consultation (to find out what people in the district feel about this issue) is yet to be carried out, members

should be careful not to demonstrate/communicate their own personal feelings in an official capacity (inc lobbying MP's or Councillors). Attending the event was considered very successful and enabled a greater knowledge on the issue to be gained.

c) South West Youth Voice Convention on 18th February – Report (Kirsty)

The Chair reported this was a follow up from the previous convention on 3rd January. Videos were shown that were previously produced in January. There was also a railway transport consultation. The event was also attended by James Cracknell, athlete and Olympic Gold Medalist for Rowing and local MP for Taunton – a 'question time' session allowed the members to put their questions forward to them. It was suggested setting up closer links with the Member of Youth Parliament for Stroud and Cotswold who Simon mentioned, was interested in joining Stroud Town Youth Forum. Following that, Steve suggested this was something the SDYC Leadership Team should consider.

d) Positive Ticket Scheme 3 Month Review Meeting – Confirm Project Team Meeting Date (All)

The date Tuesday 25th March was agreed.

e) Katie Piper Lecture on 27th February at Dean Close School – Update (Steve)

Plans for members to attend the above event were explained. Transport was included and those expressing an interest would be contacted in the next day or so.

f) SDYC Members Spring Residential Events: 7th to 9th March – Update (Steve)

Plans for the above training event were explained. Members were reminded that a returnable deposit of £5 was required for booking. The draft programme had been sent out and places were still available. Simon and Jess would be dealing with bookings etc whilst Steve was on leave.

Correspondence

Waldorf College

Steve reported Waldorf College had invited SDYC members to a forum they are holding for businesses and some educators. The forum is asking 'How can we strengthen the links between business and education to support young people better?' Millie expressed interest in attending but would need to check other commitments.

Employing Young People – Expert Advice Business Morning

Gloucestershire County Council has partnered with the Department for Work & Pensions and the National Apprenticeship Service to host a free business morning to help businesses, considering employing young people understand the opportunities to help them recruit successfully. This will be at the Global Language Immersion Centre in Gloucester on 26th February 2014 from 8am-12.30pm.

Stroud Council Housing Forum Bus Tour

Stroud District Council is planning a bus tour of their housing stock and projects across the district, possibly in the Easter holidays. SDYC Members are invited to join the tour and were asked which dates would be favourable. Libby and Lee expressed an interest in attending and suggested the 14th – 17th April. More information would follow.

My World

Anna Bonallack from Creative Sustainability has asked if they could come and present a project they are undertaking called My World – this received grant funding from the Stroud Youth Development Fund. It was agreed that the 28th April would be a good date.

Prince's Trust Hospitality Programme

The Prince's Trust has another programme coming up in Stroud. It is for young people who would like to work in the Hospitality industry. There is a taster day on 12th March and the course dates are between 17th – 28th March. This will include training to give you key knowledge about the hospitality sector, gain qualifications to help you to get a job, improve team and CV writing – these details would be emailed to members.

Updates from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums (All)

Maidenhill

No report

Marling

The sixth form centre has had its group/silence study area taken away - this was a controversial decision, which many students disagreed with. The Pink Escape raised £8000 on a sponsored break out - one group reached the Canary Islands.

Wotton under Edge Youth Forum

Coffee morning was OK but didn't have as much support from locals as they had hoped, unlike the previous one. There are plans to do a sponsored skate to raise money for Wotton Skate Park – contacts are being made with 'RUSH' the new indoor skate venue at Brimscombe.

Cam & Dursley Youth Forum

There have been discussions with Hannah Gorf, Health and Wellbeing Co-coordinator from Stroud District Council regarding health issues for young people – this will be ongoing.

Berkeley Youth Forum

World Jungle has been in touch regarding funding. A consultation event will be held regarding the Park Recreation Area.

Chalford Cubed

A Litter Pick was carried out in local area in response to the local issue raised by young people. Members were supported by local District Councillor's Debbie Young and Chas Fellows. The event was co-ordinated by Dominic Everiss, SDC Neighbourhood Warden and gained local publicity for their efforts.

Archway

No report.

Stroud High

Election of the student council was taking place. New ideas had been put forward regarding a House Behaviour Management System.

Stonehouse Action 4 Youth

Community Consultation will be done in surrounding villages. A Bag Pack maybe be held in the Stanley's area. The new Stonehouse Skate Park is now in use and the new youth centre is also being used – the grand opening of both facilities (situated next to each other) will be in May. There is a sponsored Bounce for the Cadets being organized.

SDYC Project Teams & Focus Groups – to note dates of next meetings:

- a) Employment & Training Focus Group – *Wednesday 26th February (All)*
- b) Votes at 16 Project Team Report – *Monday 3rd March (All)*
- c) Health Focus Group Report – *Monday 10th March (All)*

British Youth Council – Report (Charlotte/Lily)

Positive Stories: January's Report – Can be found on the BYC website. Youth representatives have been sharing their stories of positive activities they have been engaging in, throughout each month. The next BYC National Members meeting will be on Saturday 1st March, 10am-4pm at the BYC office.

Message from BYC member Cardiff Youth Council: Cuts to youth services song – Young people have been voicing their concerns over the proposed cuts to youth services. A song has been written and performed by the band Sharks Don't Sleep who have used and accessed Howardian Youth Centre in Cardiff.

Share your human rights stories: A new project led by the Children's Right's Alliance for England (CRAE) is looking for examples of where children have used their human rights in their own life to make it better in some way e.g. if they have been treated inappropriately at school or in contact with a health service, or separated from their family.

They want to show people how human rights have helped young people, by making short films showing how children have used their human rights. They are looking for children who are willing to share their stories about how human rights have helped them.

Spice it Up Consultation Training Events – to note dates (All)

Steve gave an overview of the forthcoming Spice it Up Consultation Training Events and highlighted that they were open to all SDYC members and all members of the Local Youth Forum's. Members were asked to encourage each other to attend. The training will be fun, interactive and aims to enhance participant's knowledge on young people's rights and responsibilities and also their skills in carrying out consultative work. The dates and venues are as follows;

- a) Event One: 22nd & 23rd March – Stroud Sub Rooms
- b) Event Two: 29th & 30th March (*provisional, to be confirmed*) 5th/6th April – Kingshill House, Dursley

The aim is to have all members in the north of the district, attending Event One and all members in the south of the district attending Event Two.

Any Other Business

Tom Meadley from Marling School reported he was having to retire from his role at SDYC and subsequently thanked colleagues for the experiences shared and knowledge gained. He also thanked Steve and fellow youth workers for their support during his two years as a representative from Marling. The chair thanked Tom for his hard work and efforts, particularly in his role as a youth cabinet member last year.

Date of the Next Meeting – Monday 17th March 2014 at Fresh Ground Café, 4.30pm.