



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

26TH APRIL 2004

**Venue: The Restaurant
Stroud District Council**

Time: 4.30pm – 6.15pm

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Louisa Holloway, Archway	A	Alex Farrow, Marling	P
Barney Witts, Archway	A	Dan Rebaty, Marling	Ap
Stuart Byles, Berkeley Vale	A	Alex Chartier, Rednock	P
Daniel Dietschmann, Berkeley Vale	Ap	Nico Mustafic, Rednock **	P
Ryan Castle, KLB	Ap	Jo Sealey, Rednock	P
Adam Didcott, KLB	A	Alex Hutchinson, Stroud College	A
Grace Jackson, KLB	P	Katy Dainton, Stroud High	P
Ben Williams KLB	A	Emma Pinchbeck, Stroud High *	P
Jackie Boor, Maidenhill	P	Frankie Rushton, Stroud High	P
Carrie Gomersall, Maidenhill	A	Daniel Marshall, Thomas Keble	P
Danielle Holland	A	Ben Ruggles, Thomas Keble	A
Iman Fadaei, Marling	P	Catherine Jones, ex officio	A

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Gloucestershire Youth Service	Dave Marshall, Stroud District Council
Phil Sullivan, Stroud District Council	Barbara Tait, Stroud District Council
Miranda Clifton, Stroud District Council	Paul Helbrow, Stroud District Council
Nigel Studdert-Kennedy, Stroud District Council	

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Daniel Dietschmann, Ryan Castle and Dan Rebaty.

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 29th March 2004 were accepted as a correct record.

TRANSPORT OPERATIONS MANAGER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE CC

Derek Lucas, the Transport Operations Manager for Gloucestershire County Council, gave a presentation on transport issues in the Stroud District Council area. He distributed copies of bus timetables to those present. New timetable information is also gradually being introduced at bus stops.

He said that it was important to engage with groups such as the Youth Council as they represented the future of the District. However the bus service operator was a commercial company and it was difficult to make bus services pay in rural areas. The County Council has a duty to provide bus services in areas when it became commercially difficult, but the cost of this still has to be justified. This is done in consultation with parish councils to determine where bus routes should be supported. The objective is to work with people in order to try to spend money wisely.

Answering questions about the possibility of introducing student discounts, Derek Lucas said that this had been trialled by a bus operator some years ago but had proved to be too costly. The Government had been lobbied to bring in a national scheme, but nothing had been forthcoming. In response to requests for more late night bus services he said that some were now provided in certain areas but the demand had to be justified.

Members of the Council thanked Derek Lucas for his presentation. He said he was very happy to answer any future questions which come up.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ACT 2003

Alex Farrow gave a presentation of the background to and the implications of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act. The Act will come into effect in July 2004 and will cover a number of issues including:

- Height of hedges
- Nuisance begging
- Nuisance neighbours
- Environmental crime

Environmental crime was prevalent amongst young people and some of the reasons included:

- Boredom
- Upbringing and parental influences
- Pressure from friends/peers
- The “buzz”
- Follow-on effect of bullying
- Expectations/stereotypical behaviour

What will the Act mean?

- In designated “hotspots” police will have powers to disperse groups.
- Under 16’s who are out after 9:00pm in “hotspots” without adult supervision will be escorted home.
- Fixed fines can be imposed of between £40 and £80.
- ID cards may be required so that young people can prove their age.

Recommendations made by the Youth Parliament.

- Greater discussion had been needed before the Act was introduced.
- Better communication with the Youth Parliament.
- Better awareness of the Act.
- Better education of adults in relation to youth issues and problems.
- Improve the relationships between the police and young people.
- Youth services need more funding.

At the end of the presentation, Alex said that he could provide copies of the presentation to anyone who wanted to pass on the information in their schools.

YOUTH CABINET MEETING

At the Youth Cabinet meeting held on 19th April, a total of 19 funding applications were considered. The following were proposed by the Cabinet for acceptance and agreed by the Youth Council:

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| • Stonehouse Youth Club | £440 |
| • Stroud Peer Education Project | £900 |
| • Stroud Valleys Woodcraft Folk | £950 |
| • Cashes Green Youth Project | £70 |
| • Ruskin Mill College | £500 |
| • Flies Dance | £200 |
| • Berkeley Vale Youth Project | £520 |
| • Nailsworth Youth Club | £520 |
| • Marling Grammar School | £700 |
| • Stratford Park Skating Club | £200 |

Total grants £5,000

It will be a condition of receiving a grant that each recipient will give publicity to the Youth Council. Members of the Youth Council will also visit each recipient to ensure that the money has been spent in accordance with the application.

ALCOHOL AWARENESS SURVEY

Dave Marshall asked if members could return their copies of the alcohol awareness survey forms to him by Friday 7th May at the latest.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dave Marshall said that he had written to Head Teachers asking them to appoint next year's members of the Youth Council as soon as possible. This would then allow new members to be trained in September. He asked members to remind their Head Teachers and to explain the reasons. He will also inform Head Teachers that new members of the Youth Council will be expected to give a level of commitment.

Dave Marshall reminded members that school leavers were entitled to remain on the Youth Council for one year as ex-officio members.

Members were asked to let Steve Miles and Dave Marshall have a list of their holiday commitments by email as soon as possible.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The dates of the next meetings were set as follows:

- Constitution Group Monday 10th May
- Full Council Monday 24th May & Monday 5th July

The date of the next Cabinet meeting will be decided by members.

The date of the meeting of the sub group organising the Autumn gig will be decided by the members of that group.

The meeting finished at 6.15pm