



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON;

Date : Monday 29th September 2014

Time : 16:30

Venue: Ebley Mill Restaurant

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Kate Jones (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Tom Schaffner (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	P
Lily Clarke (<i>Archway School</i>)	P
Reuben Speller-Trowers (<i>Archway School</i>)	A
Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	P
Esme Freedman (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	A
Archie Holley (<i>Marling School</i>)	P
Emily Osborne (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	P
Georgina Burt (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	P
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>)	A
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
Lorena Davis (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	P
Sahaya James (<i>Stroud College</i>)	P
Ben Maudsley (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	A
Mollie Fellows (<i>Wotton-u-Edge Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
James Lauchlan (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	P
George Gooch (<i>Marling School</i>)	P

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Kyle Roberts (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
Elizabeth (Libby) Powell (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
Jamie Arthur (<i>Marling School</i>)	A
Lee Beldam (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>)	A
Tom Ambury (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	A
Indi Higgins (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	A
Keelan Spence (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	A
Sam Barnes (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	A
Joss Beeley (<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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OTHER APOLOGIES

Cllr Miranda Clifton	Ap
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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
- Jess Jenkins, Youth Support Worker, Youth and Community Services
- Simon Gillings, CEO/Youth Worker, Youth and Community Services
- Kathryn Levitt, Business Support Assistant, Community Safety, Stroud District Council

Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Kate Jones, Toni McNee and Mollie Fellows.

Minutes of the last meeting – 8th September

Libby highlighted Tom Ambury did not attend the last meeting. However, the minutes stated that he did attend. With the amendments made, the minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting; Proposed by: Lily Clarke; Seconded by: Holly Abbott.

Matters Arising

a) SDYC Meeting Dates for 2014/15 – To receive venue suggestions (All)

The following were suggested as possible venues for future meetings: *Stroud Subscription Rooms, youth centres, Parish Council Offices* around the district (although it was highlighted this may be a problem with transport and it being too far away for those from the other side of the district). It was felt that we should continue to use Ebley Mill, because it is central for everyone. One issue of concern for many alternative venues, was that some may not be big enough.

b) SDYC Member Autumn Training Event – further discussion (All)

Having taken a 'straw poll' from members, it was likely that Members Autumn Training Event will be the first weekend of the half term. The new members training needs to be included in this, so different options are being looked at. Details would be sent to members as soon as possible.

Correspondence

There were no correspondences.

Constitution Review Group Report – To receive suggested changes to constitution (Archie)

The Group met on two occasions to consider changes to the SDYC Constitution, particularly in relation to the role of the Leader and the now defunct Youth Cabinet. Archie and Charlotte reported on the conversations that included formally moving away from a cabinet system and towards a committee system to fit more with the adult Council's Committee system. Such a change will make youth involvement more inclusive and democratic.

ACTION: Proposal to Amend the Constitution:

- The Youth Cabinet ceases to function and all reference to it to be extracted from the SDYC Constitution.
- The Youth Council will function with a maximum of five Focus Groups and five Project Teams at any time during the year.
- A new Leadership Team will be elected for 2014/15 and annually thereafter by the Youth Council by a straight majority vote.
- The Leadership Team will consist of one Leader and five Principle Members who will represent the Youth Council at the main SDC Committee meeting.
- The specific title of the Principle Member role will be determined by either; the title of the Focus Group or the title of the SDC Committee to whom they are spokesperson/representative.

Proposed Role of the Leader;

- Chair the Leadership Team meetings
- Represent SDYC on the Local Strategic Partnership
- Represent the Leadership Team on the SDYC Youth Grant Funding Panel
- Represent SDYC at Regional Youth Voice Conventions
- Represent and act as a lead ambassador for the Youth Council
- Liaise with adult Councillors, MPs and Officers on behalf of the Youth Council
- Able to appoint a Deputy Leader at their discretion from the Leadership Team.
- In the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, chair meetings of the Youth Council.

Proposed Role of the Leadership Team;

- The Leadership Team will meet at least twice a year to review the work of the Youth Council. It will report to the Youth Council after each meeting.
- The Leadership Team can scrutinize the Youth Council Constitution and make recommendations to the full Youth Council.
- Co-options and non-voting members may not stand for election to the Leadership Team.
- The Leadership Team will take up membership of or be a representative to any appropriate body or organisation whose objectives are considered beneficial to the activities and purpose of the Youth Council.

This will develop links with the adult Council and will enable members of this team to attend adult council meetings.

The additional functions of a Principle Member, to that of a voting representative, will be;

- Lead a respective Focus Group and/or Project Team
- Act as a spokesperson on matters relating to the respective SDC Committee
- Plan Focus Group/Project Team sessions with the youth work facilitator
- Receive information from respective SDC Officers on youth related programs being planned or delivered by SDC and it's partners
- Actively seek to raise the profile of the Youth Council where appropriate

Steve explained a Chair, a Vice Chair and a Leader will still be elected at the Annual General Meeting, as will agreement on projects and issues and membership of each Project Team and Focus Group. Three weeks later (24th November) will be when the five principle members will get elected making the Leadership Team with manifestos and formal nominations.

After a unanimous vote, the motion was carried by members of SDYC and will be proposed at the AGM.

ACTION: Recommendation to consider other outcomes of the review

The group also recognised that with an increasing membership, the pressures to carry out the Annual Review, Elections to SDYC, New Member Training and the Annual General Meeting during September and October period, have increased – this has reduced the ability to carry out all aspects. In addition, it was noted that some elected members have 'moved on' either over the summer or just prior to this time.

Therefore, they recommended that the beginning and end dates of the SDYC calendar year are reconsidered - it was noted that respective changes would need to be proposed at the 2015 AGM.

Further to this, Archie explained it may be better electing new members and running parallel with the financial year - with the Annual Review being in February and having elections in March/April. Kirsty suggested this may be a big commitment for those doing their exams. George also explained the big break in the summer holidays may reduce effectiveness for SDYC. Holly suggested starting the SDYC year in January. It was agreed that this should be looked at in more detail during 2014/15 year.

Any Other Business

Votes at 16 Project - The letter to go out in schools in relation to 'Votes at 16' is in draft form. This needs to be looked at by Steve and Simon. In regards to the actual questionnaire, they are on the final steps before launching it online and to schools. A hard copy of the questionnaire was circulated to SDYC members. George highlighted this was the final chance to make amendments. It was agreed at the last Local Democracy Focus Group meeting that the survey is aimed at year 10, 11, 12 and 13 and Simon is going to find out the contact for each School Council. They have recommended that it is done before Christmas so the results can be analyzed in order to get back to BYC. Local Democracy Week is in the middle of October which is a good opportunity to push the survey out further. George and Simon asked the SDYC members to check it is being done in their own schools. After the amendments were noted, all members were happy with the questionnaire.

15 Year Anniversary - James asked about the 15 Year Anniversary and if there was any progress with this. Steve suggested discussing this at the Annual Review Session.

Date of the Next Meeting - Monday 20th October 2014 (Introduction Meeting)