



Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2001 at 4.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud.

**MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL PRESENT:-**

Nina Costigan (Chair)	Thomas Keble
Stewart McKane (Vice Chair)	Katharine Lady Berkeley's
Thomas Whitbread	Katharine Lady Berkeley's
Shannon Peacey	Maidenhill
Lucy Churchill	Maidenhill
Dan Snell	Marling
Marcus Angell	Marling
Juzer Esmailji	Marling
Euan Howard	Rednock
Nico Mustafic	Rednock
Katy Costigan	Thomas Keble
Francesca Lane	Stroud High

**Also Present:-**

Cllr Mrs M E A Nolder	Leader of the Council
David Marshall	Information Officer, Stroud District Council
Phil Sullivan	Community Safety Officer, Stroud District Council
Fred Chance	Stroud Team Leader, Youth and Community Service
Lita Windland	Youth Council Assistant

**Apologies:-**

Lucy Dale (Maidenhill)  
Representative from Stroud High

<b><u>Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2001</u></b>	<b>Accepted as a correct record.</b>
<b><u>Appointment of Youth Council Assistant</u></b>	The Chair introduced Lita Windland who had been appointed as the Youth Council Assistant.  Lita particularly commented on the calibre and enthusiasm

	<p>of the panel of Youth Council members who had interviewed her and looked forward to working with all the members.</p>
<p><b><u>Youth Initiative Fund</u></b></p>	<p>Fred Chance explained that the fund had been supported by the District Council for several years and, as it was therefore not a growth item, he did not anticipate difficulties with the money being provided for the next financial year.</p> <p>To date the fund had been managed by 6 young people, who met regularly at Minchinhampton, and were supported by a youth worker. However, this group now felt that it was time for others to become involved and had suggested that the Youth Council might be an appropriate group to take on the responsibility.</p> <p>The fund was approximately £10,000 each year and was intended to support new initiatives put forward, either by individual young people, a group or those working with young people, for the benefit of young people generally.</p> <p>The members generally agreed that the Youth Council would be a suitable group to take on the fund; Fred Chance commented that the decisions required were not easy but felt that the support given to the current group would probably be available if needed. He also suggested that this was an opportunity for the Economic Development and Leisure Shadow Cabinet Member to become involved.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Nolder fully supported the idea as she felt that this was a good instance of young people using their own knowledge/criteria to make decisions affecting other young people in the District. She agreed with the involvement of a Shadow Cabinet Member and suggested that this could also involve the Shadow Resources Member.</p> <p>Fred Chance confirmed that the group would not need to take on the fund until 1 April 2001 which would allow time to prepare.</p> <p><b>The Youth Council agreed to undertake the management of the Youth Initiative Fund.</b></p>
<p><b><u>2001/2002 Youth Council Budget</u></b></p>	<p>Cllr Mrs Nolder explained the political and budgetary situation which had arisen as a result of the District Council's budget meeting on 1 February 2001.</p> <p>As the 2001/2002 budget which had been agreed by the Council was not that of the current Administration, it was possible that that Administration might cease to exist in the near future. The budget agreed, unlike the Administration's, had not included funding for the Youth Council initiatives. She could not, therefore, predict whether the political groups involved would be prepared to provide support either by funding or allowing the 'Shadow'</p>

	<p>Cabinet proposals to continue.</p> <p>David Marshall explained that some funds would be available as £2,000 had been committed in 1999/2000 for a period of two years; however, this was needed in part to support the costs of the Youth Council Assistant appointment.</p> <p><b>The information was noted and the members agreed to lobby their local councillors about the future for the Youth Council.</b></p>
<b><u>Any Other Business</u></b>	
<b><u>Substance Action Group</u></b>	<p>Phil Sullivan stated that the following dates had been agreed for meetings of the Action Group:-</p> <p>Wednesday 14 March 2001 at 2pm Tuesday 15 May 2001 at 2pm</p> <p>Marcus Angell agreed to attend a meeting; any other member interested should contact Phil Sullivan.</p>
<b><u>Validate – Proof of Age Scheme</u></b>	<p>Approximately 50% of the schools/college contacted had responded to a letter from Phil Sullivan and each had nominated a member of staff to be involved in the scheme.</p> <p>Phil asked all the students to check whether their own school had responded and, if not, to persuade them to consider the scheme, particularly as it had been supported by the Youth Council.</p>
<b><u>Youth Council Web Site</u></b>	<p><b>Understood that the project had lapsed due to changes in the membership of the Youth Council; agreed that Marcus Angell and Juzer Esmailji would undertake it with the support of Fred Chance.</b></p> <p><b>Agreed that photos of the Youth Council members would be included on the site.</b></p>
<b><u>Feedback on Shadow Cabinet Work</u></b>	<p><u>Museum in the Park</u></p> <p>Katy Costigan (Shadow Cabinet member for Economic Development and Leisure) reported on her visit to the recent opening of the new Museum in the Park.</p> <p>She thought that the building was well situated and the displays well laid out. There was a good variety of both historical items and those representative of the area. She had spoken to the Cabinet Member for the Museum, Cllr Greenwood, who had given her more information on what was being planned for the facility and she had had the opportunity to talk to other District Councillors present.</p>

	<p><u>Housing Strategy Consultation</u></p> <p>Information had been sent to Marcus Angell, as the Shadow Cabinet Member for Housing, about this District Council event. Fred Chance explained the purpose of the consultation and the connection with crisis accommodation for young people, which he was actively pursuing.</p> <p>Agreed that Marcus would contact Cllr Les Williams, the Cabinet Member for Housing, for further details.</p> <p><u>General</u></p> <p>David Marshall explained that currently the Youth Council's route for feedback to the District Council would be through involvement with the Cabinet meetings. It was intended that Shadow Cabinet members could be given the opportunity to speak on issues involving young people; Cabinet agendas would be circulated to Shadow Cabinet members at the same time as for District Councillors.</p>
<p><b><u>Bussage – project for young people</u></b></p>	<p>Fred Chance reported a request from the group behind the project to make a presentation to the Youth Council on their work to date. The project involved the renovation of a building to provide facilities on this large estate which currently had none.</p> <p><b>The Youth Council welcomed the request.</b></p>
<p><b><u>International Youth Conference – July 2001</u></b></p>	<p>The conference was being organised for young people to discuss the issues affecting youth around the world.</p> <p>Representatives from various countries would be staying at the Wilderness Centre, Mitcheldean and then spend time in their own areas discussing issues which had arisen.</p> <p>For the Stroud area, Fred Chance suggested that the Youth Council could be the group to work with but there would be a need to provide accommodation in private homes for 3 days. This would be reciprocated by a similar length stay at the Wilderness Centre.</p> <p><b>The members were in favour of the proposal subject to accommodation being available; Fred Chance would be the contact.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p>	<p><b>Monday, 5 March 2001 at 4.30 p.m.</b></p>

The meeting ended at 5.25 p.m.