



Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 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
Chris Miller	Berkeley Vale
Cheri Clifford	Berkeley Vale
Thomas Whitbread	Katharine Lady Berkeley's
Lucy Dale	Maidenhill
Hayden Fry	Maidenhill
Dan Snell	Marling
Marcus Angell	Marling
Juzer Esmailji	Marling
Euan Howard	Rednock
Nico Mustafic	Rednock
Katy Costigan	Thomas Keble

Also Present:-

Cllr J N Stephenson-Oliver	Leader of the Council
David Marshall	Information Officer, Stroud District Council
Phil Sullivan	Community Safety Officer, Stroud District Council

Apologies:-

Shannon Peacey	Maidenhill
Lucy Dale	Maidenhill
Thomas Whitbread	Katherine Lady Berkeley's
Francesca Lane	Stroud High School

<u>Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2001</u>	Accepted as a correct record.
<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes</u>	

<p><u>-Stroud Substance Action Group</u></p>	<p>Phil Sullivan distributed copies of an information card available through the Stroud Substance Action Group, in conjunction with the Council's Community Safety, which gave advice on what to do if a discarded syringe was found.</p> <p>The card was being distributed to all senior schools in the District and he asked Youth Council members to check that these were being passed on to pupils.</p>
<p><u>Validate UK – Proof of Age Card</u></p>	<p>Phil Sullivan circulated copies of the application form to be used for the Proof of Age Card, explaining that the card would be a 'credit-card' type which could not be forged or obtained other than by verification through individual schools. To date he had had positive feedback from 7 schools.</p> <p>The cards would cost £2.50 each and, apart from being proof of age for age-related goods, they could be used to obtain some discounts.</p> <p>The official launch of the scheme would take place on 31 May 2001 at the Forest Green Rovers Ground, Nailsworth. He hoped that members of the Youth Council would apply for the cards and be able to lend their support by attending the launch.</p> <p>The card had been in use in the Forest of Dean for 12 months, Cirencester for 6 months and was also launched in Cheltenham the previous week. Gloucestershire Trading Standards would be writing to suppliers of age-related goods in the Stroud District to ensure that they were aware of the scheme.</p> <p>Cheri Clifford mentioned a magazine article she had read regarding a youth court system running in America. Phil Sullivan asked for a copy (enclosed for information).</p>
<p><u>Crime and Disorder Act 1998</u></p>	<p>Phil Sullivan explained the background to the District Council's involvement with this Act and the 3 year Strategy which had evolved between the County Council, District Council, Police and Probation Service. This Strategy was in its third and final year.</p> <p>Under the legislation a new Strategy would have to be developed at the end of the 3 years and an Audit undertaken prior to that to establish any problems. The Audit would involve consultation with the public and he would be contacting as many people as possible for their views.</p> <p>He asked if the Youth Council would be prepared to act as a consultative body for the Audit as part of the process for</p>

	<p>sized facility locally. It was more likely that there might be split sites to accommodate the 'buses and the maintenance but this would obviously have to be the subject of further discussions.</p> <p>The Youth Council members supported the proposal to provide a cinema as a much needed facility for young people in particular but also as a means by which to encourage people generally back into Stroud and help its regeneration. Stroud was losing a lot of its businesses.</p> <p>Some of the members also suggested that the existing site for the 'bus station was a less than pleasant place and if a better facility could be provided this would of benefit to all those who used it. Others commented that it was important to ensure that 'buses were easily accessible by both young and old.</p> <p>Cllr Stephenson-Oliver confirmed that the previous Administration had been very supportive towards a cinema provision and had worked towards this. Both the results of a survey of the public and general letters to the Council also supported the need.</p> <p>He agreed to attend the Youth Council's next meeting and provide an update on the Cabinet decision.</p>
<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p>	
<p><u>Youth Council Web Site</u></p>	<p>It was agreed that David Marshall would provide a form for each of the Youth Council members to complete with their details, so that these could be included on the web site. The form would be circulated with the minutes of the meeting.</p>
<p><u>Informal event for Youth Council members</u></p>	<p>Lita agreed that, in conjunction with Fred Chance, it had been proposed that she would co-ordinate an informal get-together for everyone. However, Fred Chance had been on leave and until she could discuss with him a venue, resources etc. it would be difficult as yet to plan this.</p> <p>The members agreed that they would like it to be a social event and that an item to discuss this would be on the next agenda.</p>
<p><u>National Youth Parliament</u></p>	<p>The Vice Chair was disappointed that it had not been possible for the Gloucestershire representatives on the Youth Parliament to meet the Youth Council but hoped that Fred Chance might be able to provide feedback on the Parliament in due course.</p> <p>He stated that the web site for the Parliament was www.ypp.org.uk and that it contained a database of youth groups in the country. He hoped to be able to add Stroud</p>

	<p>to the information.</p> <p>The Chair reported that a recent programme about Youth representation and the Youth Parliament which had not included anything about the existence of the Youth Council, an error which she hoped to correct by contacting the makers of the programme.</p>
<p><u>Feedback on Shadow Cabinet Work</u></p>	<p>Dan Snell reported that he and Marcus Angell had attended the all day Housing Strategy event held by the District Council on Friday, 9 February. The day had included various workshops, including one on involving tenants in initiatives such as community safety, and had been very interesting.</p> <p>Marcus felt that it had been a good opportunity to pass on their views and a good point of contact for the Police to put their views forward.</p> <p>Dan Snell particularly commented on a new scheme in Stonehouse which involved young and old in an effort to overcome the perceived difficulties each group might have with the other. He also explained the suggestion of a 'Youth Shelter' in Nailsworth where young people could congregate and the local discussions which were taking place on this.</p>
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p>	<p>Monday, 2 April 2001 at 4.30 p.m.</p>