



Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2001 at 4.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud.

MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL PRESENT:-

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| Nina Costigan (Chair) | Thomas Keble |
| Stewart McKane (Vice Chair) | Katharine Lady Berkeley's |
| Thomas Whitbread | Katharine Lady Berkeley's |
| Cheryl Holley | Maidenhill |
| Laura Brown | Maidenhill |
| Shannon Peacey | Maidenhill |
| Lucy Dale | Maidenhill |
| Dan Snell | Marling |
| Marcus Angell | Marling |
| Juzer Esmailji | Marling |
| Euan Howard | Rednock |
| Niko Mustofic | Rednock |
| Katy Costigan | Thomas Keble |

Also Present:-

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| 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 |

Apologies:-

Mark Loveridge (Maidenhill)
 Representatives from Berkeley Vale
 Cllr R Eccles (Chair of Council)

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| <p><u>Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2000</u></p> | <p>Accepted as a correct record.</p> |
| <p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes</u></p> | |

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| <p><u>-Stroud Substance Action Group</u></p> | <p>Phil Sullivan advised that the programme for meetings of this group would be discussed at their next meeting. He encouraged Youth Council members to consider attending this group.</p> |
| <p><u>-Neighbourhood Watch Association</u></p> | <p>The Association's work with schools on youth co-ordinators had started.</p> |
| <p><u>-High Sheriff's Fund</u></p> | <p>No proposals had been put forward and Phil Sullivan urged schools to look at this source of funding and to think about a project. He was prepared to consult on a school basis if that was required.</p> <p>He added that the current limit of £500 per scheme was being looked at with the view of increasing it to £1,000.</p> |
| <p><u>-'Message in a Bottle' Scheme</u></p> | <p>The scheme would be launched on 31 January by Cllr Simon Pickering (Stroud District Cabinet member for Cross Cutting Issues) and the Assistant Chief Constable and would take place in Cam.</p> |
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| <p><u>Youth Council 'Shadow Cabinet' – Update and Election of Youth Council members to 'Shadow' Cabinet posts</u></p> | <p>David Marshall gave a brief explanation of the Council's previous Committee system and how this had been streamlined into the current Cabinet structure. The new system provided for a more co-ordinated approach to decision-making and had reduced the number of formal meetings. He also outlined the services relevant to each of the Cabinet posts.</p> <p>The Cabinet had agreed to support the formation of a 'Shadow Cabinet' from the Youth Council; it was anticipated that the Shadow Cabinet members would spend time with their Council counterparts and perhaps with officers to learn about the services for which they were 'responsible'.</p> <p>Participation at Cabinet meetings might have some limitations but generally the Shadow Cabinet members would be encouraged to put forward their views, particularly in relation to matters directly affecting young people in the District. As far as he knew this would be the only Youth Council in the country with a direct input into the democratic process of a local authority.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Nolder emphasised that the modernisation of local government was taking place after about 100 years of very little change in the basic way that decisions were made. Inevitably, it was still very much a learning curve for both councillors and officers into their new roles.</p> <p>The Council had felt that it was important when the Cabinet was created that it was not viewed as an 'elitist' group and that discussions/decisions were open and transparent. A</p> |

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| | <p>Scrutiny Committee was also set up to 'scrutinise' Cabinet decisions and the seats on this Committee were held by opposition members. Cabinet members and officers could be questioned on any decision which the Scrutiny Committee 'called in'.</p> <p>Until the legislation governing the modernisation changes was fully enacted, officers took the decisions which the Cabinet could agree.</p> <p>She saw the changes as a big challenge, but a positive one and she looked forward to the involvement of the Youth Council.</p> <p>The following 'Shadow' appointments were agreed:-</p> <table data-bbox="576 734 1230 1003"> <tr> <td>Leader of Cabinet</td> <td>Nina Costigan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cross Cutting Issues</td> <td>Stewart McKane</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Development and Leisure</td> <td>Katy Costigan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment</td> <td>Thomas Whitbread</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing</td> <td>Marcus Angell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning</td> <td>Dan Snell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resources</td> <td>Juzer Esmailji</td> </tr> </table> <p>An invitation from Cllr Mrs Nolder for the Shadow Cabinet to meet their Council counterparts was accepted for 6.30 p.m. on Thursday 11 January 2001.</p> | Leader of Cabinet | Nina Costigan | Cross Cutting Issues | Stewart McKane | Economic Development and Leisure | Katy Costigan | Environment | Thomas Whitbread | Housing | Marcus Angell | Planning | Dan Snell | Resources | Juzer Esmailji |
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| <p><u>Appointment of Youth Council Assistant</u></p> | <p>Fred Chance advised that three applications had been received for the post. He explained the process to be followed for shortlisting the candidates, working out set questions and the interviews.</p> <p>He suggested that, from his point of view, the post should be used to help the Youth Council work more effectively as a group and to assist in preparing for their meetings.</p> <p>It was agreed that group A would form the Panel to decide on the questions for the interview and group B the Panel for the interviews:-</p> <p><u>Group A</u> Thomas Whitbread, Shannon Peacey, Lucy Dale, Juzer Esmailji, Marcus Angell, Euan Howard and Niko Mustofic.</p> <p><u>Group B</u> Nina Costigan, Stewart McKane, Katy Costigan and Dan Snell.</p> <p>The students present at the meeting discussed and agreed the shortlist and that Group A would meet on Monday 22 January at 4.30 pm to formulate the</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>questions and Group B would deal with the interviews on Thursday 25 January at 7.00 pm.</p> <p>(David Marshall and Fred Chance would assist as necessary).</p> |
| <p><u>Gloucestershire Young People of the Year Award</u></p> | <p>Fred Chance explained that the annual county wide award, in which all the District Councils were involved, was to recognise the achievements of young people. These could be over a wide range of categories from caring, support to their community, individual achievements etc.</p> <p>The candidates chosen for the Stroud District were always introduced to the elected members at a Council meeting.</p> <p>He distributed leaflet/application forms for the award.</p> |
| <p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p><u>National Youth Parliament</u></p> | <p>From a recent Gazette article Stewart McKane understood that this 'Parliament' had been set up and he wondered if any representatives might be available to talk to the Youth Council.</p> <p>Fred Chance advised that a colleague was supporting the unit in the County and that 3 Youth Council MPs had recently been appointed. There was a web site available on www.glosyouthservice.com.</p> <p>He felt that talking to local Youth Councils would be part of the remit of the Youth Parliament but he would check with the local organiser.</p> |
| <p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> | <p>Monday, 5 February 2001 at 4.30 p.m.</p> |