

**Draft NOTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD ON:**



**Date : Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Time : 16:30**

**Venue: Council Chamber, Ebley Mill**

**YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:**

**VOTING MEMBERS**

Libby Powell ( <i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i> )	P
Tom Schaffner ( <i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i> )	P
Lily Clarke ( <i>Archway School</i> )	Ap
Ollie Catchpole ( <i>Archway School</i> )	A
Holly Abbott ( <i>Stroud High School</i> )	P
George Gooch ( <i>Marling School</i> )	P
Charlotte Bignell** ( <i>Stroud Town Youth Forum</i> )	P
Isabelle Llewellyn ( <i>Thomas Keble School</i> )	P
James Preece ( <i>Thomas Keble School</i> )	P
James Lauchlan ( <i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i> )	Ap
Tom Brady ( <i>Maidenhill School</i> )	Ap
Sophie Wilkins, ( <i>Nailsworth &amp; Minch Youth Forum</i> )	Ap

**DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Noella Usborne ( <i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i> )	P
Nyima Trawally ( <i>Archway School</i> )	P
Lily Bryant ( <i>Thomas Keble School</i> )	A
Tiarna Crowther ( <i>Maidenhill School</i> )	Ap
Ollie King ( <i>Maidenhill School</i> )	P
Precious Kennedy-Haulton ( <i>Stroud High School</i> )	A
Alexandra Parker ( <i>Stroud High School</i> )	Ap
Richard Harper ( <i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i> )	P

**EX-OFFICIO**

Archie Holley	A
Emily Osborne	A
James Pain	P

**CO-OPTIONS**

**\*\* = Chair \* = Vice-Chair (L) = Leader (D) = Deputy Leader P = Present A = Absent AP = Apology given**

**Principal Members: (ET) = Employment & Training, (H) = Housing, (E) = Environment,  
(LD) = Local Democracy, (HWB) = Health & Wellbeing**

**Others Present:**

Steve Miles, Senior Youth Officer (Hear by Right), Stroud District Council  
Simon Gillings, CEO/Youth Worker, Youth and Community Services

## **Welcomes and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, with particular welcome to Cllr Miranda Clifton and Cllr June Cordwell the councillors. Apologies for absence were noted and are listed on the membership register above.

Certificates of attendance were presented to Isabelle Llewellyn and James Pain for the mental health event in June.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record. *Proposed by: Libby; Seconded by: Tom S.*

## **Matters Arising**

### ***a) Policing and Youth Radicalization (Prevent) – Members Questions to Martin Surl, PCC***

Everyone is reminded to send on any questions to Martin Surl that were unanswered. Questions to be put forward are:

- *What is happening to the Stroud Magistrates Court?*
- *What are the statistics for knife crime in Gloucestershire?*
- *Why are Police Surgeries not at a time more accessible to young people and those at work?*
- *Report on Positive Tickets – up take?*

## **Correspondence**

### ***Update from Alysha Bodman (MYP for Cotswold and Stroud) regarding the UKYP House of Commons Sitting***

Alysha will be coming to one of the next two SDYC meetings, either Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November or Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. She will be presenting a report on the recent UKYP House of Commons sitting and would also like to get more involved in some of the local projects and give us some support in these areas. This will be a chance for everyone to ask her questions regarding the House of Commons Sitting.

### ***Resignations***

Archie Holley handed in his resignation as a representative of Marling School. He passes on his regards but has decided he would like to continue in the Ex-Officio role, he will be keeping in contact as much as he can.

Ella Turney also handed in her resignation as a representative of Stroud High School.

### ***Being You – Corinium Youth Radio***

An opportunity has been offered by Corinium Youth Radio, as part of their tenth anniversary to explore how young people find their identity, celebrate their distinctiveness and participate in local and national democracy. A team of trained local programme-makers and technicians as well as a RADA trained actor is offering SDYC to attend four workshop sessions that will give participants the confidence to perform on stage, using their own identity to portray a chosen Shakespeare character. By the end of the sessions participants will:

- Develop skills in public speaking
- Build confidence
- The opportunity to meet and debate with local MPs and Councillors
- Have made a programme about 'being you' on Corinium Youth Radio

Members felt this was an interesting opportunity and would consider this more over the coming weeks and at the next meeting.

### ***Visit to Stroud by British Council Vietnam***

Members of a developing Youth Parliament in Vietnam, along with delegates from the National Assembly, the British Council and the British Youth Council are coming to the UK (29<sup>th</sup> November to 6<sup>th</sup> December) to meet with various different groups that are working with young people, and/or represent young people. In their provisional programme they would like to visit Stroud on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December and have asked if SDYC would be able to meet them and show them how young people are involved in local-level decision making. They are hoping to see the differences between youth participation in urban, metropolitan, and rural areas. The long-term aim is to establish an independently run Vietnam Youth Parliament that has strong relationships with Young Deputies who together can champion young people. The trip is being co-ordinated by Alex Farrow, a former member of SDYC. Information would be sent to members in due course.

## **Chairpersons Report for 2014/2015 – Charlotte Bignell**

Charlotte highlighted the main events of the past year by saying how much has changed over the past year; from welcoming new faces, creating new links in our community to our own leadership team changing. She highlighted that the things that don't change are; the spirit, commitment, and hard work that members demonstrate. Charlotte added that she feels proud and honoured to have been Chair of an organisation that has achieved so much in a relatively short period of time. She had been elected Chairperson in her fourth year as an SDYC member and spoke about how at first she was apprehensive about being able to fulfill the role. Charlotte thanked everyone who encouraged her to stand for election to the role, saying how much she has enjoyed it.

Charlotte explained that the Local Democracy Focus Group have developed links with local MPs and have excelled at the opportunity to take part in BYC's Adopt-a-Lord Scheme, whilst creating an excellent platform to take the views of young people in the district to decision makers, on a national level through the BYC membership. As well as this they have recently gathered the results from the Political Education / Votes at 16 survey, which reached over 400 young people across the district, a figure which she was sure everyone involved, is proud of.

The Health Focus Group has covered a large range of topics and issues in the last year. One great success has been the publication of the self harm awareness leaflet, a step to tackle a growing issue within our district. Members of the Focus Group worked tirelessly, with the help of the SDC Health and Wellbeing Officer, to ensure every detail was perfect. The Focus Group's work is ongoing, with Healthwatch Gloucestershire, Facts4Life and School Nurses Scheme proving that yet again they have experienced a busy and productive year.

Employment and Training has also come far in the past year, on the back of the 2014 Work Experience survey we have seen the Skills for Stroud work experience scheme created by SDC. There are already opportunities to be involved with Bristol City Youth Council work and further involvement with the Work Experience Charter to be pursued in the coming year.

Charlotte thanked members of the Leadership Team, who have put in huge efforts this year to ensure SDYC works more efficiently and in line with adult decision makers. Principle members have ensured that SDYC has continued to work for the benefit of the 12,500 young people we represent. Charlotte expressed that her personal highlight of the year was seeing so many members of the SDYC recognised for their work through SDYC Achievement Awards. The huge efforts that many members make to represent the young people of the district at main meetings, focus and projects groups does not go unnoticed and is represented by the volunteer time amounted through out the year. She also thanked Ollie Catchpole for his help as Vice Chair, and Steve for his support and relentless commitment to the SDYC.

Charlotte was thanked for her dedication to SDYC over the last four years and for her leadership and hard work as Chair.

#### **Amendment to SDYC Constitution**

Proposed by: *Libby Powell*; Seconded by: *Richard Harper*

Proposal – *'The SDYC year should run from April to March and that election of representatives to SDYC (from schools, colleges and local youth forum groups) should take place during January and February each year.'*

The current system of 'Electorate Groups' will in principal, remain the same for the respective member bodies (school, colleges & local youth forums). However, the start and finish dates will change, as follows;

**Electorate Group 1 (EG1):** Elections will take place in January/February 2016 for the representatives to serve from April 2016 to March 2018 with future elections held biennially, thereafter. Member bodies in EG1 currently scheduled to elect new representatives in October 2015 can still do so, with the option of either holding another election in January/February 2016 or; extend the term to fit the new arrangement (as proposed above).

**Electorate Group 2 (EG2):** Elections will take place in January/February 2017 for the representatives to serve from April 2017 to March 2019 with future elections held biennially thereafter. Member bodies in EG2, who are currently scheduled to hold elections in October 2016 can still do so, with the option of either holding another election in January/February 2017; extend the team to fit into the new arrangement (as proposal above).

Decision - This was agreed, by those voting members present.

#### **Interim Election and E-Voting**

Proposed by: *Tom Schaffner*; Seconded by: *George Gooch*

Proposal – *'The SDYC Elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Leader should be for the interim period of November 2015 to March 2016 to coincide with the constitution change regarding the year end date. The election of the principal member roles should also coincide with this and be carried out at the next SDYC Main Meeting as normal. A new electronic system for electing the Chair, Vice Chair and Leader should be used as a Pilot'*

Decision - This was agreed, by those voting members present.

#### **Calendar Dates for 2015/16**

The calendar dates were presented for approval - revised dates suggested will be completed and different meeting places will be

considered, e.g. Snow Business, Winston's Ice-Cream.

### **Key Issues and Projects for 2015/16**

The priorities (as devised from the annual review work) for the 2015/16 Key Issues and Projects were presented. After some discussion it was decided that the Focus Groups should consider each priority. It was also suggested that some of the groups could also do work towards the other projects such as Work with Police and Crime Commissioner, SDYC Profile. Steve is hoping that around January/February, work can begin on the renewal of the SDYC Website. He also asked everyone to start thinking about ideas for the new design.

### **SDYC Project Teams & Focus Groups for 2015/2016 – Formation of Groups**

Members allocated themselves to respective Focus Groups.

### **Elections of Co-options**

Co-options are up to 5 people who represent organisations that SDYC don't represent as a whole. Last year the following organizations were offered a co-opted role; *Young Farmers, Young Carers, and Home Educated* young people in our district. Members were encouraged to think about who they want to nominate, and for everyone to note that the nominations can be anytime during the year.

### **Ex-Officio members for 2015/16**

Everyone is asked to note that Emily Osborne, who has been with the SDYC for a while, will now be an Ex-Officio. This means she will have more of an advisory role. Also as Archie Holley has handed in his resignation, he is also becoming an Ex-Officio member.

### **Regional Youth Voice Convention – Report from Autumn Event (James Pain)**

James explained that the programme included; a workshop on listening skills, a Government Consultation on Women's equality and discrimination against gender, transgender discrimination, sexuality and racial. Results from the UKYP Make Your Mark programme were announced.

### **Any Other Business**

#### ***Resignation***

George Gooch announced his resignation as a representative of Marling School and thanked fellow members for their interaction and participation. He accepted the opportunity to remain an Ex-officio member.

#### ***Updates on Focus Groups***

**Employment and Training** – Some members visited Bristol City Youth Council (BCYC) to attend their Campaigns Meeting. The differences between the two councils were discussed, e.g. the structure of the council and the similarities and differences including member roles. The SDYC delegation also met with the Bristol Youth Mayors to discuss 'work experience' as a common issue of concern. Their young mayors explained they are planning to have a hub in Bristol for people to go to for careers advice. SDYC members also observed BCYC's meeting with the City Councillors. Steve highlighted that a second visit to BCYC, would take place on 18<sup>th</sup> November – members interested should contact him.

**Local Democracy** - George highlighted that they haven't made any defined progress recently, but spoke about the 'Vote 16 survey' and the three year process that had evolved – the report was very near its conclusion now. There is also the 'adopt a lord' scheme which is all set up now, it just needs to be decided how the connections are going to be used. Also there is the 'Make Your Mark' scheme which is over for this year but, it will start again next year. He goes on to thank Steve and Simon, who supported that group.

**Health and Wellbeing** – The group met two weeks ago; we had Julia Davidson, Sexual Health Nurse from Hope House in Gloucester attended. Julia discussed what happens in the Sexual Health Centre in relation to young people and sexual health. Discussions about Chlamydia testing were had, with members suggesting that the boxes that the kit comes in should be changed. Since the meeting, it had been observed by some members that the kit no longer comes in the wrapped boxes, rather now just cardboard boxes with toilet signs on.

#### ***Stroud Ambitions Event – 11 November***

This Wednesday is the Stroud Ambitions event in Stratford Park, there are lots of business and schools where people can go and find out information on different careers. Tom S, Ollie K, James P, Nyima, and Issy expressed an interest in attending to support the work of the E&T Focus Group.

### **Date of the Next Meeting - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**