



**NOTES OF THE Rescheduled ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING HELD ON;**

Date : Monday 10th November 2014

Time : 16:30

Venue: Ebley Mill Restaurant

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

| | |
|--|----|
| Elizabeth Powell (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Tom Schaffner (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | Ap |
| Lily Clarke (<i>Archway School</i>) | P |
| Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High School</i>) | P |
| Archie Holley (<i>Marling School</i>) | P |
| George Gooch (<i>Marling School</i>) | Ap |
| Emily Osborne (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>) | P |
| Georgina Burt (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>) | Ap |
| Toni McNee (<i>Berkeley Youth Forum</i>) | Ap |
| Tom Ambury (<i>Berkeley Youth Forum</i>) | Ap |
| Charlotte Bignell (<i>Stroud Town Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Alex Lin-Vines (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>) | P |
| Lee Beldam (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>) | A |
| James Lauchlan (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>) | P |

DEPUTY MEMBERS

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|--|----|
| Kyle Roberts (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Sam Barnes (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>) | Ap |

EX-OFFICIO

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Kate Jones | Ap |
| Kirsty Driver | Ap |
| Millie Jotham | Ap |
| Sahaya James | A |

CO-OPTIONS

**** = 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
Andy Murray, Neighbourhood Warden, Stroud District Council

Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained why the previous meeting had been postponed. Apologies were received from Tom Schaffner, George Gooch, Georgina Burt, Toni McNee, Tom Ambury, Lorena Davis, Sam Barnes, Mollie Fellows, Jamie Arthur, Kate Jones, Kirsty Driver and Millie Jotham.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Alex went through the minutes of the previous meeting; they were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by: Elizabeth Powell; Seconded by: Charlotte Bignell.

Matters Arising

a) SDYC Member Autumn Training Event – change of plan & set provisional date (All)

Steve confirmed the Autumn Training Event didn't take place in Half Term mainly due to people's unavailability. However, the visit to Westonbirt Arboretum still took place. As discussed at the previous informal meeting, the introductory training sessions for new members will hopefully be before Christmas but would be dependant on new members being in place. There will then be a residential over a weekend in either January or February Half Term subject to people's availability. It was decided to discuss the introductory training session when the new members attend the meeting.

b) Visit to Westonbirt Arboretum – report from participants (Libby/George/Lee)

Members of SDYC went in Half Term to Westonbirt Arboretum and participated in a scavenger hunt and did other activities such as building fires. They visited the Learning Centre and discussed ideas on how to involve more young people in the new project, such as starting doing more outdoor activities.

Correspondence

Ambitions Event 2014

Steve reminded the members that the Stroud District Ambitions Event will be taking place on Wednesday 12th November 4:30pm – 7:30pm at Stratford Park Leisure Centre. This is an opportunity to speak to various organisations, sixth forms and universities about different careers.

Westonbirt Arboretum

Westonbirt Arboretum is creating a Youth Forum and would like to link up with other youth groups. They have an event on 22nd November and 20th December called Wild Westonbirt which includes a range of traditional forest and survival skills. This will be an all day event.

SDYC Members Retirement & Resignations

Millie Jotham has been in contact with Steve to show her support and to say Hello to the Youth Council.

Similarly, Lorena Davis is retiring from SDYC due to other responsibilities and commitments.

Steve has also received an email of resignation from Jamie Arthur who represented Marling and a verbal confirmation from Mollie Fellows that she is also unable to continue with SDYC.

Joint Commissioning Framework

Gloucestershire County Council has asked SDYC if they would like to share their expertise with commissioners from the Council, PCC, Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group. They are producing an overarching long-term commissioning framework to help shape future services to young people, and are running a few focus groups with various stakeholders. Steve has asked for more information on this - members seemed keen to be involved with this.

Members Service Award Certificates

Steve presented various members with a 1 year or 3 year service award certificate and badge.

Chairperson's Report for 2013/14 – Kirsty Driver, Chairperson for 2013/14

Whilst not being present, Jess delivered Kirsty's Chair report for 2013/14. Kirsty expressed her thanks to Alex for stepping into Chair meeting in her enforced absence during the latter part of the year. She highlighted the work of Local Democracy Focus Group and plan to consult on lowering the voting age to 16, which gained inspiration from the opportunity to be part of the British Youth Council delegation at the Westminster event and speak to Members of Parliament. Another important aspect of the year was the Positive Ticket scheme which recognised the good work that young people do in their communities. She reflected upon the progression of the Health Focus Group with the self harm leaflet being produced and the ongoing work with the NHS CCG and Healthwatch Gloucestershire. She rounded her report by praising everybody for the work they have done and wished everybody the best of luck for their futures.

Amendment to SDYC Constitution – To receive proposal to amend constitution

Proposed by: *Archie Holley*

Seconded by: *Charlotte Bignell*

The motion being proposed:

- The Youth Cabinet ceases to function and all reference to it to be removed 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 consist of one Leader and five Principle Members who will represent the Youth Council at the main SDC Committee meetings.
- 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.
- Principle Members will be elected at the meeting which follows the AGM.

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.

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.

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

After a unanimous vote, amendments will be made to the SDYC Constitution.

Election of Chairperson

The following member has been nominated:

Charlotte Bignell, member for Stroud Town Youth Forum

Proposed by: *Lily Clarke*

Seconded by: *James Lauchlan*

Lily gave her reasons as to why she was proposing Charlotte to be elected as the Chairperson. James gave his reasons as to why he seconded this proposal.

After a unanimous vote, Charlotte Bignell was elected as the Chairperson.

Election of Vice Chairperson

The following member has been nominated:

No nominations were received in advance.

The following member was nominated:

Alex Lin-Vines, member for Thomas Keble School

Proposed by: *James Lauchlan*

Seconded by: *Holly Abbott*

James gave his reasons as to why he was proposing Alex to be elected as Vice Chairperson. Holly gave her reasons as to why she seconded the proposal.

After a unanimous vote, Alex was elected as Vice Chairperson.

Election of Leader

The following member has been nominated:

Libby Powell, member for Chalford Cubed Youth Forum

Proposed by: *Charlotte Bignell*

Seconded by: *Emily Osborne*

Charlotte gave her reasons as to why she was proposing Libby to be elected as Leader. Emily gave her reasons as to why she seconded this proposal.

After a unanimous vote, Libby was elected as Leader.

Election of Co-options – up to five nominations can be taken now or at any time during the year.

Up to five nominations can be taken now or at any time during the year for co-options; these can be individuals outside of the school/college/youth forum electorate who have a special skill or knowledge in a specific area that SDYC feel would be a positive benefit to membership.

Steve added there needed to be some dialogue between SDYC members and with the organisations. Once this has been done, this will be revisited.

The following suggestions were made for co-options:

- Allsorts/Shrubberies/St Roses
- Young Carers
- Young Farmers
- Home Educated Programme (NHS)

Ex-Officio Members for 2014/15

The Ex-Officio members for 2014/15 were noted as; Kate Jones, Kirsty Driver, Millie Jotham and Sahaya James. Steve explained they are noticed at every meeting and are invited to attend. They will serve one year and are not able to vote but are allowed to speak/advise.

Key Issues and Projects for 2014/15

The following key issues and projects were suggested at the 2014 Annual Review Session;

Local Democracy*

- Votes at 16 Project
- Adopt-a-Lord

Employment and Training*

- Work Experience Project – interaction with Bristol City Youth Council

Young Peoples Health & Wellbeing*

- Further develop relationship with Glos' Clinical Commissioning Group, Healthwatch Gloucestershire and Children & Young People's Mental Health Services
- Self Harm Leaflet – promote & distribute
- Sexual Health Education Leaflet/Plan

Youth Grant Giving*

- Youth Grant Funding Panel - established

Environmental Work*

- Consider formation of a Focus Group
- Joint work with Westonbirt Arboretum and other organisations

ACTION: **Create a Focus Group for each of these key issues and projects*

Safe and Social Driving

- Young Drivers Experience
- Build relationship with Gloucestershire Road Safety and other organisations

Cyber Crime

- Sexting Workshop – revisit joint work with the Police

Raising SDYC Profile

- SDYC Photography Project, entitled '*Perspectives*'
- Develop new SDYC Website & refresh Facebook page
- Stroud Life/Media Article
- Positive Stories

Other Projects

- Develop the role of Arts Ambassadors
- Positive Tickets – joint work with the Police

James asked if the Arts Ambassador could be turned into a Project Group in order to continue with this work. Steve explained the role the Arts Ambassadors are a group of individuals who are working with Stroud Subscription on various bits of their programs in terms of advising them and being an ambassador for young people.

It was decided to make it an agenda item and revisit every couple of months or quarter so the Arts Ambassador can report back to SDYC members instead of turning it into a Project Group.

Emily suggested creating a Project Team for the Photography Project in order to keep on developing it.

Proposed by: *Emily Osborne*

Seconded by: *James Lauchlan*

After a unanimous vote, there will be a Project Team for the Perspectives Photography Project.

Emily, Alex, Kyle, Holly, James, Charlotte and Lily all showed interest in being part of this Project Team.

Calendar Dates for 2014/15 – to note

All members had received the calendar dates for 2014/15. It will also be on the Youth Council website.

The members discussed other venues that could be used to host meetings.

Suggestions including using Youth Forums, Go Bananas, Nailsworth Youth Club or Rush Skate park. Steve added there may be a chance to use the café next to the Canal Headquarters and include a trip up the canal.

Jess has got contacts for various venues.

Alex asked for a list to be produced of all suggested venues.

Any Other Business

Self Harm Leaflets – The leaflets have now been printed and have had a brilliant reception from the organisation that has seen them. These will soon be distributed to places such as GP Surgeries. Steve commended the members for the work they have done on this.

Sexual Health Statement - The Health Focus Group read through the statements that have been suggested and highlighted what they thought was needed. The below statement was considered the most fitting;

'Youth Service Providers have an obligation to protect and safeguard young people who use their service and part of this is to be able to, should the need arise, offer unbiased advice and signposting in terms of the sexual health needs of the young person, no matter who the young person is and without interference from the providers personal beliefs'.

It was decided to circulate this via email with the view for the Health Focus Group picking it up and making some amendments. This can then go back to the SDYC main meeting.

Startline Young Driver Experience – All members had received a booking form for the Startline Young Driver Experience on Sunday 7th December at Castle Combe Circuit. Steve would like these back as soon as possible once completed.

Consent Forms – Some of the members had received a Consent Form as some of them were out of date. Steve would like these back as soon as possible once filled in.

15 Year Anniversary – This will be an item agenda on the next meeting.

Date of the Next Meeting

Monday 24th November 2014, Ebley Mill Restaurant