



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

05.06.2006

**Venue: Stroud Youth Centre,
Ryleaze Road, Stroud**

Time: 4:30pm- 6.00 p.m.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Amy Jade, Minch Youth Club	A	Meg Brown, Wotton Youth Club	A
Ashley Skuse, Wotton Youth Club	A	Ben Smith, Stroud College	A
Becky Perry, Peer Education Group	A	Ruth Royall, Stroud Youth Centre	A
Dean Morgan, Archway	A	Ceri Wills, Rednock	Ap
Elsie Kenny, Rednock **	P	Josephine Marshall, Stroud High	A
Erfan Fadaei, Marling	P	Josh Conway, Painswick Youth Club	P
Georgina Greenwood, Stroud High	A	Ben Challis, Marling	P
Joe Tarran, Painswick Youth Club	A	Danielle Russell, Minch Youth Club	A
Katherine Birkin, Thomas Keble	P	Amy Lang, Dursley Youth Centre	A
Sam Durn, Stroud College	A	Mandy Noble, Cashes Green YP	A
Tadhg Martin-Haydock, Thomas Keble	P	Freddie Whittaker, Archway *	P
Stuart Gardener, Maidenhill School	A	Max Webb, Stonehouse YC	A
Dan McIntosh, Maidenhill School	A	Kelly Hooper, Cashes Green YP	A
		Oliver Timms, Marling	A

** = Chair * = Vice-Chair P = present A = absent Ap = apology

OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Harsant, SDC	Councillor Elisabeth Bird
Steve Miles, Glos Youth Service	Councillor Miranda Clifton
Phil Sullivan, Head of Community Safety SDC	Kathleen Maunsell, Glos Youth Service

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ceri Wills.

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting on 8th May 2006 were accepted.

DJ NIGHT EVENT

Alex Cannon, Alex Hill and Dave Harrison attended the meeting to discuss a possible DJ night event in Stroud. The idea first came about when Alex C e-mailed the Stroud District Council from the 'complaints' page on the front of the website. Within the e-mail he highlighted that there are always band nights for young people but not DJ nights. Alex is aware of the talent amongst local DJ's and MC's and would like them to display them.

Feedback from members and officers;

- For the Youth Council with the help of Alex C, Alex H and Dave, to organise the first launch event with the view of it being a success and for it to continue without the support of the youth council.
- Venue; the Subscription Rooms was mentioned but their were concerns over price, security, the bar being open, number of guests etc.
- Another concern was who would be attending the event. It was agreed that the performers and guests to the evening would be predominately from the Stroud area and not from Bristol or Gloucester.
- A sub-group of Youth Cllrs was set up and Mark will arrange a meeting for them in June.

YOUTH CABINET REPORT

No Youth Cabinet to report

REPORT FROM MEMBERS

Elsie – Attended the recent LSP meeting.

Josh – Reported that the 280 mile bike ride to Snowden (north Wales) starting on 15th June has been cancelled. Joe and Josh were attempting to raise £2000 for Painswick Youth Club.

Freddie – Has been attending the Housing Forum

QUESTIONNAIRE

Mark explained to members that the questionnaire is complete. Mark is awaiting a decision on whether or not the Youth Council has been successful in a bid for funding from the Gloucestershire Community Foundation. This funding will be used to buy 3 digital cameras for a school and a youth club who submitted the most questionnaires, and a single individual picked at random.

The decision was made to send the questionnaire out in September at the start of term and not in July as previously discussed.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Elsie has had a request from Ceri for the Cabinet meeting, which is currently scheduled for 3rd July to be moved to 19th July. Mark will circulate an e-mail to the cabinet regarding this request.

ATTENDANCE LEVELS

Due to recent low attendance at meetings this issue was discussed with members and officers. The following thoughts were raised;

- Cllr Miranda Clifton suggested asking questions at the start of the year to Youth Councillors for example; What are your expectations of being a youth councillor, What do you want to get out of being a youth councillor – questions directed at them.
- Elsie suggested more frequent but shorter meetings. Maybe every 2 weeks.
- Freddie thought maybe the Youth Council should receive a reference from teachers at school stating why their pupil should be on the youth council; this can be part of the election process.
- Regarding services from SDC coming to each meeting and doing a presentation it was thought maybe the youth cabinet member for that service could help with the content and delivery of the presentation. By doing this the youth councillor would learn more about the portfolio they have and it would be more interesting for the members watching the presentation as it would have 'one of the team' giving the presentation.

Following on from this discussion the matter of what/how much support youth councillors get from head teachers and head of years. There were mixed feelings on this and how it can be improved. From the Youth Councillors who attended the meeting only Elsie, who attends Rednock suggested she gets a lot of support and backing for the head teacher. Below are some ideas on how to improve this;

- Kath thought a poster designed by the youth council with a photo of the schools youth council representative within it could be put up in all school reception areas to raise the profile of being a youth councillor.
- Phil suggested the chair of the youth council write a letter to all school heads with a questionnaire inside on what /how much support you give your youth council representative. Elsie will do this ASAP.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Phil re-iterated his desire to start a Junior Neighbourhood Warden Scheme. This is a new opportunity for young people and with a chance for the Youth Council to get heavily involved. Mark will liase with Phil and the members to decide the best time and date of the first sub group meeting with a view to drive this forward.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

No requests.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 26th June 2006, 4.30pm in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill.