



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

06.02.2006

Venue: Stroud Youth Project, Ryleaze Road, Stroud.

Time: 4:30pm- 5.50 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	P
Chris Martin, Nailsworth Youth Club	A	Ruth Royall, Stroud Youth Centre	A
Dean Morgan, Archway	A	Ceri Wills, Rednock	Ap
Elsie Kenny, Rednock **	P	Josephine Marshall, Stroud High	P
Erfan Fadaei, Marling	P	Josh Conway, Painswick Youth Club	P
Georgina Greenwood, Stroud High	P	Ben Challis, Marling	Ap
Joe Tarran, Painswick Youth Club	P	Danielle Russell, Minch Youth Club	A
Katherine Birkin, Thomas Keble	P	Amy Lang, Dursley Youth Centre	A
Polly Lord, KLB	P	Oliver Timms, Marling	Ap
Sam Durn, Stroud College	A	Mandy Noble, Cashes Green YP	A
Tadhg Martin-Haydock, Thomas Keble	A	Freddie Whittaker, Archway *	P
Ollie Payne, Nailsworth Youth Club	A	Max Webb, Stonehouse YC	Ap
Stuart Gardener, Maidenhill School	P	Kelly Hooper, Cashes Green YP	A
Dan McIntosh, Maidenhill School	A		

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Harsant, SDC
Phil Sullivan, SDC
Jo Jackson, SDC

Councillor Elisabeth Bird
Steve Miles, Glos Youth Service
Sophie Shuttlewood, SDC

The Chair welcomed all Youth members, Guests and Officers to the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ceri Wills, Ben Challis, Oliver Timms and Max Web.

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 16th January were accepted.

JO JACKSON – HOUSING WEBSITE

Jo spoke to the group concerning the Housing section on the Stroud District Council website. Jo would like to have feedback on how accessible it is to you, the user. She suggested thinking of a scenario that you are becoming homeless and you need a place to live. What are your options? How easy is it for a young person to find information about this on the website? Does it offer you what you want?

The website is www.stroud.gov.uk

Please could you feed your comments back on this issue to josephine.jackson@stroud.gov.uk

SOPHIE SHUTTLEWOOD – YOUTH HOUSING STRATEGY

Sophie discussed with the group the Youth Housing Strategy. It is currently being reviewed and hopefully the Youth Council can help by providing their comments on the document. *(The document was circulated)*

Sophie had feedback from the group on questions such as;

- Are young people aware of housing issues in the district?
- Are young people aware they have a place to go if they become homeless?
- Is it easier/better to access the housing website from the Stroud District website or the Youth Council website?

Sophie asked the group for them to help her engage with young people. Her aim is to get a comprehensive Youth Housing Strategy for the district.

Sophie also discussed with the group the Youth Housing Forum. Organisations meet together every two months but currently no young people attend. This is partly due to the time of the meeting being held when young people are at school. Sophie offered to be the link between the youth council and the housing forum however Freddie, who is the Cabinet member for Housing offered to attend the meetings, but this would depend on which day of the week the forum took place.

Please forward your comments on this document or any other issues you have with housing to sophie.shuttlewood@stroud.gov.uk

QUESTIONNAIRE

Mark has copied the original Youth Council questionnaire on to a software package called SNAP. This will make the presentation of the questionnaire a lot better and it will be easier for the data entry process.

A discussion followed on what prizes would be available to the prize winners and where would the money come from to fund them.

It was agreed that there would be an,

- Individual prize for someone who has completed a questionnaire. This person would be drawn out of a hat at random;
- A school/college prize for the highest number of questionnaires completed and returned;
- A Youth Club prize for the highest number of questionnaires completed and returned.

The group thought of many prizes that would be of benefit; they included;

- Cash prizes
- Digital cameras
- I-Pod
- Computer
- Printer
- MP3 Players

Phil and Mark will investigate avenues of funding. Outlets such as Dixons, Woolworths and Comet are possibilities.

YOUTH CABINET REPORT

No Youth Cabinet Report

REPORT FROM MEMBERS

Georgina had a meeting with the Stroud News & Journal. She agreed with them to write an article every three weeks. It was also decided that Freddie, Josh and Joe would help Georgina with the articles. The piece could be on any topic and can include what has been happening in Youth Council meetings.

Polly wrote to Skip Walker about writing an article in the Gazette. It can be about anything but predominantly about youth issues. They would like 1 piece a week and would be no more than 300 words. Ceri, Ben and Elsie volunteered to help write articles with Polly.

Polly also attended an Equalities Advisory Panel at Ebley Mill. The topic was the new Customer Services Centre.

Mark would need to forward photos of all Youth members writing articles to the papers editors.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Steve let the group know that Ceri Wills, the Leader of the Stroud District Youth Council, was elected to be the Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP) for Stroud and the Cotswolds. Steve also highlighted that Ceri's deputy will be Ben Challis, also a

member of our Youth Council and serves as Youth Cabinet Member for Environment, Rural Affairs and Licensing. This is the first time that both our MYP and Deputy are from schools in the Stroud District - Ceri attends Rednock and Ben attends Marling.

There are three Youth Parliament constituencies in Gloucestershire - Stroud and the Cotswolds, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, Gloucester and the Forest of Dean. A total of 12185 young people voted - 4000 up on last year - for the 25 candidates.

Phil made the group aware that Stroud Show is coming up soon. He mentioned it could be a great idea for the Youth Council to have a stall on the day. This would raise the profile and awareness of the Youth Council.

Steve shared with the group the future anti-smoking campaign. The idea is to create a rap about the dangers of smoking lasting no longer than 1 minute. The deadline for this is the 24th February. ***For more information please e-mail Steve at wott@wueyc.fsnet.co.uk***

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Communication
- Stroud Show – Youth Council stall

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill, 4.30pm on Monday 27th February.