



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

19th December 2005

**Venue: Council Chamber
Stroud District Council**

Time: 4:30pm- 6:15 p.m.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

| | | | |
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| Amy Jade, Minch Youth Club | P | Meg Brown, Wotton Youth Club | P |
| Ashley Skuse, Wotton Youth Club | P | Ben Smith, Stroud College | P |
| Chris Martin, Nailsworth Youth Club | A | Ruth Royall, Stroud Youth Centre | A |
| Dean Morgan, Archway | P | Ceri Wills, Rednock | P |
| Elsie Kenny, Rednock ** | P | Josephine Marshall, Stroud High | Ap |
| Erfan Fadaei, Marling | A | Josh Conway, Painswick Youth Club | P |
| Georgina Greenwood, Stroud High | P | Ben Challis, Marling | P |
| Joe Tarran, Painswick Youth Club | P | Danielle Russell, Minch Youth Club | P |
| Katherine Birkin, Thomas Keble | P | Amy Lang, Dursley Youth Centre | P |
| Polly Lord, KLB | P | Oliver Timms, Marling | Ap |
| Sam Durn, Stroud College | P | Mandy Noble, Cashes Green YP | A |
| Sophie Warren, Rednock | P | Justine Pemberton, Rednock | P |
| Tadhg Martin-Haydock, Thomas Keble | P | Freddie Whittaker, Archway * | P |
| Ollie Payne, Nailsworth Youth Club | A | Max Webb, Stonehouse YC | A |
| Chris Martin, Nailsworth Youth Club | A | Kelly Hooper, Cashes Green YP | Ap |
| Stuart Gardiner, Maidenhill School | A | Dan McIntosh, Maidenhill School | P |
| Alex Farrow | P | | |

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Councillor Dennis Andrewartha
Councillor Miranda Clifton
Mark Harsant, SDC
Susie Haig, LSP

Councillor Elisabeth Bird
Petula Davis, SDC
Steve Miles, Glos Youth Service
Kathleen Maunsell, SYC

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Oliver Timms and Josephine Marshall.

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th November were accepted.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Code of Conduct

Steve Miles discussed with members issues surrounding code of conduct. Matters highlighted were respecting the building before, during and after Youth Council meetings, which includes no smoking inside or outside the front entrance, keeping the noise level down when leaving meetings and completely excluding bad language whenever members are in the building.

A PowerPoint slide displayed what disciplinary action will be imposed if:

- A member brings the Council into disrepute
- A member does not attend 50% of meetings over 3 months without a valid reason

The slide also explained a list of options that the Youth Council has at their disposal for disciplinary action.

Co-Options

Steve explained to the members the role of co-opted members. The Youth Council may, at any time during the year, co-opt up to five additional voting representatives who are deemed to possess useful skills or knowledge. Steve suggested a co-option opportunity with the Peer Education Group. He recommended to members writing a letter to them asking if they would like to come along to a meeting.

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Petula Davis gave a short update to the members on the Local Strategic Partnership and explained its role; a handout accompanied this.

Susie Haig expanded on this by offering the Youth Councillors the chance to work together and feedback to the LSP about any issues that are affecting young people in the Stroud area. Susie stated, "It is important to have a young person on board as all the LSP members are currently over 35 and may not know what the concerns of the youth are"

Meetings are held quarterly, with the next due on the morning of 3rd March at 8.30 with the venue TBA.

The following members are interested in representing the Youth Council on the LSP.

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| Dean | Ceri |
| Amy J | Ben |
| Amy L | Elsie |
| Georgina | |

The decision on who represents the Youth Council on the LSP has yet to be decided.

WEBSITE

The Youth Council website has not been updated since March 05. Mark has spoken to Andy Jackson (Website Developer) and he is still keen to help the development of the website. Mark will act as a link between Youth Councillors and Andy in updating

the website on a regular basis. Initially all members need to send a 100 word brief on themselves to mark.harsant@stroud.gov.uk ASAP. Mark also warned the members that photo's will be taken at the next meeting for the website and the ID cards.

CABINET REPORT

Ceri shared with the group that they had received one Talented Sports Performer Grant Application. This was from Tom Russell –GB Athletics. Jane Bullows (RTSM Officer) recommended the Youth Council grant him £300. This was agreed.

Steve suggested that Jane Bullows attends the next meeting to give a clearer insight into the Youth Council Talented Sports Performer Grant.

Ceri suggested a possible amendment to the Constitution: for the Cabinet to nominate a Deputy Cabinet Leader. This vote will take place at the next meeting.

TEAM BUILDING EVENT

Steve shared with the members that he and Kathleen Maunsell are getting together to organise a team building day for all Youth Councillors. This would happen sometime early next year. Dean suggested it be a one-day event occurring on a weekend and Kath proposed a day in half term. No further details are available.

REPORT FROM MEMBERS

Josh and Joe – Organising a bike ride to Snowdonia to raise money for charity

Ben – Worked with Cllr Nigel Cooper (Environment, Rural Affairs and Licensing) for the day. He suggested the Youth Council do a report on climate change.

Polly – Chairs school Council meetings, may bring issues to Youth Council.

Alex – Stagecoach have withdrawn their offer to increase age limit to 18 for an adult fair. Alex is meeting with Stagecoach again in January to try and rectify the situation.

Ceri – Spent the day with Chas Fellows (Leader of the Council). Ceri also attended a Creating Excellence seminar on the Archimedia Project.

Amy and Justine – Working on an application to get new toilets at their evening youth club.

Elsie – Mark has sent a letter to banks and building societies in the district offering them the chance to sponsor the Youth Council. The money would go towards membership packs that should include polo shirts and pens.

TIMETABLE FOR FORTHCOMING YEAR

Mark circulated the timetable for all forthcoming Youth Cabinet and Youth Council meetings through until April 06'. Steve highlighted that the meetings on 6th February and 20th March will be held at an alternative location to the Council Chamber. These locations however are yet to be announced.

UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT

A DVD was shown to Youth Councillors. Ben Challis and Ceri Wills have put their name forward to be a representative for the UK Youth Parliament. The elections will be held on 23rd, 24th and 25th January 2005 and Youth Members are able to vote in their schools.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were some concerns from Youth Club representatives that they felt patronised and left out during and outside of meetings. A discussion between Youth Councillors followed as to how to overcome these feelings.

Amy suggested Mark should put name cards randomly on the tables before the Youth Council meeting starts; this would mix up who sits by whom during the meeting.

Polly reminded the group that last year there was a PR Department and suggested we carry it on this year. It involved writing a weekly column in a local paper. All members were full of support for this and the following showed a keen interest in being on the PR team:

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| Ceri | Dan |
| Amy L | Dean |
| Josh | Polly |
| Georgina | Justine |

Polly will contact all the local newspapers to discuss the possibility of having a weekly Youth Council column.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill, 4.30pm on Monday 16th January