



## NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

26.06.2006

**Venue: Council Chamber,  
Ebley Mill, Stroud**

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

### YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Amy Jade, Minch Youth Club	A	Meg Brown, Wotton Youth Club	P
Ashley Skuse, Wotton Youth Club	P	Oliver Timms, Marling	A
Becky Perry, Peer Education Group	A	Ruth Royall, Stroud Youth Centre	A
Dean Morgan, Archway	A	Ceri Wills, Rednock	P
Elsie Kenny, Rednock **	P	Josephine Marshall, Stroud High	Ap
Erfan Fadaei, Marling	P	Josh Conway, Painswick Youth Club	P
Georgina Greenwood, Stroud High	A	Ben Challis, Marling	Ap
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

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

### OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Harsant, SDC  
Steve Miles, Glos Youth Service  
Sophie Shuttlewood, Housing, SDC  
Jo Jackson, Housing, SDC

Councillor Elisabeth Bird  
Councillor John Jeffreys (part)  
Debbie Lang, Youth Service

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### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Josephine Marshall, Ben Challis and Cllr Miranda Clifton.

### NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 were accepted.

## **DEBBIE LANG - YOUTH OPPORTUNITY FUND MANAGEMENT**

Debbie shared with the members the government's response to the Youth Matters Green Paper, which was published on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2005. They propose to give £115m for young people across the country to manage over the next 2 years. Locally this breaks down to £543,472 to share between the districts of Gloucestershire. This money will help give young people more of a voice and it conveys a powerful message to young people that they have a very important part and role to play in making services better, improving places to go and things to do locally.

Stroud has £10,000 to start off with and Debbie suggested drawing up a small panel of volunteers to decide what this money should be spent on in the district. The government has stated the money available should focus on groups that normally face barriers to getting things, for example, young disabled people, young gay/lesbians and people who live in rural areas.

Debbie highlighted that she is considering using the Peer Education Group to do some consultation events with a view to finding out what young people want to spend the money on locally. This is also a great opportunity for Stroud district youth councillors to get involved with the Peer Group with a chance to gain new skills and attributes.

An interactive training session is being held for people who wish to be involved with the panel at **4.30pm on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July at Stroud Youth Project, Ryleaze Road, Stroud.**

Members who showed initial interest were Josh, Ceri and Erfan.

***If you are interested in being on this panel or if you would like to know more about how to get involved, please contact either Steve [smileymiley2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:smileymiley2@tiscali.co.uk) or Debbie [debbie.lang@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.lang@gloucestershire.gov.uk) directly.***

## **SOPHIE SHUTTLEWOOD & JO JACKSON - HOUSING**

Jo thanked the members for their feedback regarding the youth web pages on the Stroud District Council website. Issues such as the language used and search engines were discussed. Member's thought that words such as 'kicked out', 'home', and 'thrown out' were more likely to get recognised on the search engine for young people who are homeless who want more information on how to get help and support.

Jo discussed with members that work is done in schools on homelessness. Jo occasionally visits schools to talk to year 11 pupils to make them aware of this issue. The visit is designed to encourage young people to think about the realities of leaving home at a young age. The sessions include a 28min video (which is under review), which runs along side a quiz sheet.

Steve suggests this presentation should be available to youth clubs as well as schools and also thought the video could be made available on our website for young people to view in their own time.

Sophie thanked all members for the feedback she had received on the Youth Housing Strategy document. Following this feedback it now has 9 pages plus pictures. Sophie had special praise for Katherine Birkin and Freddie Whittaker.

Katherine had given invaluable feedback regarding the document and Freddie had been an ever present at the regular Youth Housing forums.

The housing questionnaires, which were handed to most members to distribute amongst their colleagues, now have a longer deadline for them to be returned. Once completed, the questionnaires should be returned to Mark for analysis.

## **YOUTH CABINET REPORT**

### **Questionnaire**

Ceri circulated the final draft of the Youth Council Questionnaire. She highlighted that we have been approved the £750 grant from the Gloucestershire Community Foundation for the purchase of three digital cameras. (Questionnaire prizes). This questionnaire will be available on hard copy and our website from September. The deadline for submissions is currently set at the end of May 2007 but this may change.

### **Sports Initiative Fund**

**Four** applications have been received for funding from the Talented Sports Performer Grant.

*These are:*

Iain Whitfield – GB Athletics (RTSM recommendation £300)

***The Cabinet and Council agreed to fund the full amount of £300***

Thomas Curr – England Athletics (RTSM recommendation £300)

***The Cabinet and Council agreed to fund the full amount of £300***

Iain Omnes – England Boccia (RTSM recommendation £300)

***The Cabinet and Council agreed to fund the full amount of £300***

Sam Dalglish – England Athletics (Cross Country)

***The Cabinet and Council agreed to fund the full amount of £300***

*A presentation with the sports performers and their cheques will take place at the next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July.*

## **UK YOUTH PARLIAMNET REPORT**

Ceri and Ben have been attending various meetings nationally and locally. Soon they will be attending a meeting to look at what they will be doing for the next 6 months with the youth parliament.

## **BERKELEY FESTIVAL**

Overall the feedback from the members who attended the event thought it was a disappointment. Freddie suggested the distinct low attendance was the main problem. Steve mentioned that the site seemed too spread out and the two events,

which the youth council sponsored (Human Table Football & Bungee Run), seemed very under used.

The members discussed how best to sponsor such events in the future. The suggestion was to sponsor the PA system or the main stage. This will mean having the youth council logo and website as a backdrop on the stage with a wider number of people noticing that we are a main sponsor.

### **REPORT FROM MEMBERS**

*Elsie* – Elsie sent out a youth council questionnaire to schools. This questionnaire was designed to get the opinions of head teachers around the district with their view on what/how much support they give their youth council representative.

Feedback has so far been good with Stroud High and Marling returning completed questionnaires.

*Tadhg* – Has been very busy with the school council.

### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Please visit the website for regular updates. **[www.youth.stroud.gov.uk](http://www.youth.stroud.gov.uk)**

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve thanked the members for all their contributions so far this year, he mentioned that he and Mark are looking ahead to next year and that he is looking at a couple of locations for the training event in September/October. Steve's intention is to start the year earlier with a view of having the AGM in October instead of December like the previous year.

Steve also assured that youth workers around the district are doing a lot more work with youth council members from youth clubs. He highlighted that there are exciting times that lie ahead for Stroud district youth council with the availability of extra funds and very interesting work in the pipeline.

### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

No requests.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006, 4.30pm in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill.