



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

27.02.2006

Venue: Council Chamber
Stroud District Council

Time: 4:30pm- 6.10 p.m.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Amy Jade, Minch Youth Club	A	Meg Brown, Wotton Youth Club	P
Ashley Skuse, Wotton Youth Club	P	Ben Smith, Stroud College	Ap
Chris Martin, Nailsworth Youth Club	A	Ruth Royall, Stroud Youth Centre	A
Dean Morgan, Archway	A	Ceri Wills, Rednock	P
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	P
Joe Tarran, Painswick Youth Club	P	Danielle Russell, Minch Youth Club	P
Katherine Birkin, Thomas Keble	Ap	Amy Lang, Dursley Youth Centre	P
Polly Lord, KLB	P	Oliver Timms, Marling	P
Sam Durn, Stroud College	Ap	Mandy Noble, Cashes Green YP	A
Tadhg Martin-Haydock, Thomas Keble	A	Freddie Whittaker, Archway *	Ap
Stuart Gardener, Maidenhill School	Ap	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
Phil Sullivan, SDC
Matt Pearce, SDC

Councillor Elisabeth Bird
Councillor Miranda Clifton
Sophie Shuttlewood, SDC
Jane Bullows, SDC

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Stuart Gardiner, Katherine Birkin, Sam Durn, Ben Smith and Freddie Whittaker.

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 6th February were accepted.

MATTHEW PEARCE – HEALTHY LIFESTYLES DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Matthew Pearce gave a presentation on Healthy Lifestyles. He explained his role and shared with the members his responsibilities and jobs within the Stroud District. Part of his tasks includes the promotion of the Maidenhill School Sports Complex. Matt works two days a week at Maidenhill to help encourage the public to use the facility. Matt also runs the Healthy Workplace Scheme at Stroud District Council. This has been adopted across the organisation encouraging staff to adopt and sustain a healthy lifestyle. It offers a range of lifestyle workshops on issues such as quitting smoking, healthy eating, physical activity, stress management in addition to having lifestyle plans and activities such as health walks.

If you have any questions for Matt please contact him by e-mail. matthew.pearce@stroud.gov.uk

SOPHIE SHUTTLEWOOD – HOUSING

Young peoples housing advice service contract delivered via Shelter. At the last meeting issue of the threat of contract termination due to County Council cuts was raised. Sophie advised that a decision has been taken to delay the ending of the contract until 31st December 2006.

Stroud District Council, with the other district authorities in the County, are identifying the service requirements for young peoples housing advice and will be commissioning a new service for 2007 onwards.

Consultative Youth Housing Strategy March 2006

Sophie thanked the Youth Council members for their consideration and feedback on this document. Polly Lord had raised queries in regard to the reality of service for young people in very rural areas. Sophie advised that access to information, advice & support was currently provided through the Shelter contract. Ensuring the continued ease of accessibility of information and advice in rural areas will be included in the 3 year Youth Housing Strategy which is being informed by the consultative strategy process.

Several Youth Council members advised that a poster with a synopsis of the youth housing strategy would be easier to use to inform other young people. Sophie agreed to give consideration to this idea.

The finalised Consultative document will be published on the website by 31st March 2006.

JOHN HOWE – FRENCH VISITORS

John Howe is the Chair of Frampton Parish Council and the Chair of the Twinning Group. John spoke to the members regarding a visit from a Youth Council in Bourgarre, Brittany, France to Frampton. They are due to arrive on 15th April and leave on 17th. They would like to meet another Youth group and John thought it would be a great idea for the Youth Council to come along and introduce themselves. It was discussed that the meet would be in Frampton and there would be food and drink available. A suggestion for the Youth Council to do a presentation about their role as Youth Councillors was made.

The group of Youth Councillors who are happy to meet their counterparts are,

Ceri	Elsie
Polly	Oliver
Georgina	Ben
Erfan	Josephine

Mark will be the link between John and the youth members regarding any questions or organisation.

Phil mentioned that a laptop and projector could be borrowed from Community Safety.

YOUTH CABINET REPORT

Ceri shared with the group that the Cabinet have completed a funding application from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. The fund has been set up to encourage and support people in rural areas who have a new project that will benefit their community. ***The grant is hoping to be in the region of £500 and will be used to fund the Youth Council questionnaire prizes.***

REPORT FROM MEMBERS

Ceri and Ben attended a Youth Parliament day trip to Plymouth. Issues such as, what age are you when you become an adult? were debated. Both Ceri and Ben also attended a Youth Parliament Residential weekend; they both decided that Jobs, Transport and Places to go were what they were going to focus on in the future.

Radio Gloucestershire are speaking to Ceri about the rebuild of Rednock School. Ceri highlighted that she could possibly plug Stroud District Youth Council and the Youth Parliament during her interview.

Georgina, along with Josephine, Ben C and Ceri as well as a number of students from Marling and High School attended an organised litter pick around the Cainscross and surrounded area. David Dowse along with SDC Cllrs and Officers also helped pick the litter up.

For pictures of the 'litter grot spots' in the Stroud District visit www.cleanupstroud.com.

Polly spent a day with Phil Sullivan, (Head of Community Safety, SDC) she thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learnt a great deal.

Polly along with other students from KLB are currently organising the development of a School Newspaper and Fate.

Meg and Ashley are currently organising a car wash on Saturday morning to raise funds for their Youth Club.

Josephine and fellow students are raising various issues within their school council about the canteen at the High School.

Ben is taking a trip to London to go and lobby some MP's on the subject of climate change.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Steve highlighted to the group the vast overspend on Taxis this year. He explained that a more user and financially friendly way of getting Youth Councillors to meetings must be made available. Suggestions for this problem include Using the bus service, and Lift sharing.

Polly mentioned that if anyone lives between Purton and Ebley Mill she would be happy to give a lift to them.

Phil recommended that a sub group needs to be pulled together to solve this issue. He suggested that the Neighbourhood Wardens may be able to help in giving lifts but more specific information on times and destinations must be made available.

Phil highlighted that he would like to introduce a **Young Person Neighbourhood Warden Scheme**. The District currently has 7 senior wardens and Phil would like each warden to have a junior. The purpose is so young people can engage with other people to carry out good work within the community on a regular basis.

The Youth Councillors who were interested in the scheme are,

Elsie	Polly
Ceri	Ben C
Amy L	Erfan
Georgina	Josephine

More information will be available soon and Mark will keep the Youth Councillors informed of any developments.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Presentation for the Gloucestershire Young Person of the Year Award nominees.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill, 4.30pm on Monday 20th March.