



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON

01.02.2010

Venue: Stroud Youth Centre

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Thomas Lydon, Marling**	P
Rob Price, Marling	P
Becky Batting, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Kamila Gebicka, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Kit Powell, Thomas Keble	P
Alex Buckley, Thomas Keble	P
Isobel Holley, Stroud High	P
Rosemary Dickinson, Stroud High	P
Kieran Chadwick, Archway	P
Robin Ellis-Cockcroft, Archway	Ap
Ben Dewfall, Katharine Lady Berkeley	P
Emma Sankey, Katharine Lady Berkeley	P
Lindsey Driver, Rednock	P
Annie Pickering, Stonehouse VoYS	P
Connor Walker, Stonehouse VoYS	A
Isobel Tyrrell, Minchinhampton YC	A
Megan Roberts, Minchinhampton YC	A
(Rudi) Blue Morgan, Stroud College	A
Petra Lalikova, Stroud College *	A
Dave Holder, Maidenhill	P
Millie Gardiner, Maidenhill	P

EX-OFFICIO

Jess Howell, Cam & Dursley YF	A
Hilary Dixon, Katharine Lady Berkeley's	A
Frank Gillison, Vale of Berkeley	A
Andrew Burbidge, Nailsworth YF	A

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Vicki Law, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Beth Jones, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Emma Topping, Katharine Lady Berkeley	A
Will Robson, Katharine Lady Berkeley	A
Archie Flexen-Cook, Thomas Keble	A
George Thomas, Thomas Keble	P
Cerys Bradley, Stroud High	Ap
El Linsell, Stroud High	Ap
Charlie Cox, Archway	A
Lynford Short, Archway	P
Amy Neason, Minchinhampton YC	A
Ashley Skerten	A

CO-OPTIONS

Hagar Niblett	Ap
---------------	----

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC
 Ashley Nicholson, Senior Neighbourhood Warden, SDC
 Tracy Young, Neighbourhood Warden, SDC
 Gary Lynch, Police Community Support Officer, Glos. Police

Minutes of the meeting

Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting and highlighted that he had to leave at 6pm and in the absence of the Vice Chair would hand over to the Youth Cabinet Leader.

Apologies were received from Robin Ellis-Cockcroft, El Linsell, Cerys Bradley, and Hagar Niblett.

Minutes of the last meeting – 14 December 2009

Apologies were expressed by Steve for not being able to send out prior to meeting due to the records being misplaced during the administration process – members were given time to read them thoroughly. They were agreed as being an accurate record.

Steve expressed further apologies to Robin and Will for not being able to include them in the Climate Change Panel event – this was due to the misplaced minute records as detailed above.

Matters Arising

Vale of Berkeley College (VoBC) – proposed closure update

Lindsey reported that the latest consultation period was now over, however there was an event held internally to include current students. An Independent Co-operative Trust option was being proposed and if accepted an extra 6 weeks of further consultation would take place and would inevitably result in the school not closing. Lindsey added there was huge optimism of a successful outcome. It was clarified that no active support from SDYC was required; however Steve commended Lindsey on her massive efforts to ensure young peoples voices were heard during the process and highlighted that members should give her at least moral support over the coming weeks.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – discussion with local MP's

Members agreed that Tom and Rosie would consider how they would communicate with local Members of Parliament, David Drew and Geoffrey Clifton-Brown over this issue and give a progress report at the next meeting.

Social Network & Web-based Project - update

Steve reported that a local web designer had been approached to work on this project and had submitted a proposal for his services. The project team agreed to arrange a date via email in the next few days.

Neighbourhood Watch

Steve reported that he had met with Eddie Whitlock and discussed the possibility of SDYC being involved with Neighbourhood Watch. An invitation for Eddie to come to a future SDYC meeting (either 22 February or 15 March) for further discussions was agreed.

Backing Young Britain campaign

Tom highlighted that the recent pledge from SDC in backing this campaign had received local press coverage and included the acknowledgement of SDYC's support as well. It was noted that so far no other local authority in the county had offered support or signed up to the campaign.

Correspondence

United World Colleges of Great Britain

Information had been received from this organisation regarding their worldwide programme for 15-16 year olds. The globally recognised two year Baccalaureate programme was promoted, but no members expressed any interest.

UKYP Gloucestershire

Further to recent ongoing communication with the UKYP Glos co-ordinators, they had expressed a desire to meet up with SDYC before their forthcoming elections in which to discuss the key issues from the Stroud District. Whilst SDYC members agreed this was welcome, there was unlikely to be time in which to do so beforehand. However Rosie, Tom, Lindsey and Kit agreed to meet the newly elected Members of Youth Parliament as soon as possible and in the meantime formulate a few of the key issues from a district perspective in which to influence their work for the next year.

Stroud FM

Following a successful broadcast on the station involving officers of SDC Community Safety Service an invitation has been received to return with a dedicated slot in which to involve SDYC. Tom agreed to join Steve and a date would be confirmed in due course.

Gary Lynch PCSO, Gloucestershire Police

Gary introduced himself and explained his role in relation to that of SDC Neighbourhood Warden's. He highlighted the general desire to build positive relationships with young people in Stroud town area and explained how a basic information leaflet entitled 'Boredom Busters' is aimed at informing young people about what is available for them to do. He was thanked for his attendance.

SDC Neighbourhood Warden Service – presentation from Ashley Nicholson & Tracy Young

Ashley gave an overview of the Neighbourhood Warden Service as part of the SDC Community Safety Service. As a team of 11 officers the broad ranging work covers many areas of the community and includes focusing on the perceptions of crime and encouraging people to work together to solve the issues that arise. The officers have a non enforcement role; however their uniformed presence on a day to day basis helps create an opportunity for members of the public to engage with them.

Trace asked members for their opinions on how the Warden role could help in their communities, with view to feedback being included in the forthcoming Service Review. The following was bullet pointed; *speeding cars and education of drivers, current conditions of road surfaces, increase awareness of the Warden Service, social networking on projects or initiatives, get involved with young peoples long term project work , help promote work of SDYC, realign negative perceptions of young people particularly among the elderly.*

Stonehouse Consultation 2009 – presentation by Annie (VoYS)

Annie presented the findings of consultation work carried out last summer by Voice of Young Stonehouse. The consultation requested by the Town Council focused on the opinions of young people in relation to many aspects of the town including the overall facilities, what would make the town more comfortable and enjoyable, as well as what young people do in their spare time and what would make things better. 81 young people between 11 and 19 years old were involved with the majority being male in all age categories other than 15 yrs. The results included, the general facilities being considered 'not very good' and bus fares to Stroud and other places were 'very expensive', however most people attended organised activities or clubs. The sale of the Youth Club was a huge concern as was the lack of female specific activities – the later has since been addressed, however the former is still ongoing. SDYC members were encouraged to look at ways to take these issues further - the transport issues was noted as being a common fact for many young people. VoYS were encouraged to ask how the Town Council would be using this information.

Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

KLB – nothing to report

Stroud High – Rosie reported that building works had not impacted as much as previously thought, however with half term approaching it was hoped all work would be complete.

Marling – Tom reported that the school's first Environmental Forum had now met a few times with initial work being to sign up to the Young Energy People Initiative delivered by South West Energy Agency.

Thomas Keble – Alex highlighted that the school had raised over £1000 for the Haiti disaster fund through activities involving students and teachers. The Year 10 students were due to start their Silver D of E Award.

Archway – Kieran reported that the school council would like to enquiry about having a Litter Recycling bin positioned near the school. This would be considered by the project team.

Maidenhill – Millie and Dave reported that the schools 'Husting style' elections for the school council and upper and lower chambers, had recently taken place – the results were due soon. Steve added that the system and structure in place to enable student participation to be active at Maidenhill was very impressive and demonstrated a good practice, he suggested that the youth council should consider having a presentation in the future on how this works.

Voice of Young Stonehouse – Annie reported that the group needed to recruitment more members and asked for ideas on how this could be done. Steve offered support highlighting such development as being part of his role. Some training is also being considered.

Rednock – Lindsey explained that the new Virtual Tutor approach was now progressing but would not include the current Sixth Form. Each Tutor would be defined as ‘communities’ with consultation now being done to decide on the respective names of each community. The consultation was limited and not publicised enough.

Cam & Dursley Youth Forum – Becky reported that the group had recruited a new male member with further efforts on increasing membership on going. Work was progressing on the Connect Dursley Project, with the purchase of a building on the May Lane site known as the Electric Garage now being considered.

Member Training

Half Term event (15-19 Feb) – Steve highlighted that whilst Youth Cabinet shadowing would be taking place between these dates, an opportunity may arise in which to hold a team building day but it would be dependant on initial commitment from members. 50% of members present expressed interest, however a formal response from everyone was required via email in the next few days.

Participation & Engagement (14 & 15 April) – Steve explained that SDC Community Safety Service were co-ordinating a tailor-made training programme on effective participation and engagement in local communities. Whilst this was specifically for Neighbourhood Wardens & Police Community Support Officers with other SDC Officers also invited - a personalised version was being set up for SDYC and possibly a re-launched Stroud Rural Peer Education Project. Both programmes would be delivered by Dynamix, the highly regarded training consortium from Swansea. More information would follow soon.

SDYC Mailing Review

Izzy raised the issue of how members should receive agenda's, minutes and reports etc. She introduced a 'tick box' style document asking members to say how they would prefer this function to happen for them. The options were; Via Post Only, Via Email Only, Via Post & Email, At the Next Meeting Only. Those not present would be asked when next in attendance.

Positive Activities Review

Rosie introduced the opportunity to consult young people in the district on positive activities which had been offered by the County Council's Children & Young Peoples Directorate (CYPD). Whilst there was £600 being offered by CYPD, a very short period of time had been given. In light of this fact, Youth Cabinet had agreed members would undertake this work. The opinions of a least 100 young people were required. A format needed to be designed urgently and would be sent out via email and in the post ASAP. Rosie and Annie agreed to do this.

Power Down

Referred to under Climate Change Panel report

Litter Recycling Pilot Project – update

Izzy reported on the recent project team meeting. The monitoring of current bins for usage was being considered as well as new sites for the remaining 5 bins still in storage. The team were also looking to pursue the idea of carrying out a 'Road show' in partnership with County Council Waste & Recycling Team covering primary schools and some youth groups.

Youth Cabinet Report

Rosie reported that the Youth Cabinet would be looking to present the Hear by Right priorities (as drafted at the October Training) to an appropriate group of SDC officers/members. The forthcoming half term break would see further shadowing work being carried out by youth cabinet. The Talented Young Sports Performers grant application had to be deferred as the application was not correct. The SDYC Constitution would be finished soon.

Youth Initiative Fund – An application from Nailsworth Community Workshop had been received requesting £800 to deliver a craft and arts based facility at the old Nailsworth Boys Club building. The ongoing project led by Practical Intelligence involves woodwork, silverwork and pottery to be taught to young people over 14years old. It is hoped between 60 and 100 young people will experience this opportunity. Rosie proposed the recommendation to support the full amount, seconded by Lindsey. This was unanimously agreed.

Climate Change Panel - Report

Izzy attended the recent Climate Change Panel meeting at Ebley Mil and reported that the Panel were still very keen to support a one off event (entitled Power Down) which would see school leaders and decision makers invited to a forum event on energy reduction in schools. It was highlighted that much planning and preparation was required if this was to happen this summer. Izzy added that Simon Pickering from Ecotricity had presented how he had turned his Grade 2 listed high energy consuming family home in Stonehouse, into a far more eco friendly house. Support for the above event was still being offered by from Ecotricity.

Any Other Business

Kieran reported that during his recent visit to the Stratford Park Leisure Centre Focus Group meeting, they requested supportive ideas on how they could arrange their display board in the main reception. Anyone with ideas should speak to Kieran.

Steve reminded members about the consultation event on Local Transport Plan which had recently been emailed out to all members. The event on 4 February at Stroud Library would be attended by Rosie, Hagar, and Izzy.

A final draft of the SDYC Annual Review document would go to print on 4 February.

Date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 22 February 2010 at Stroud Youth Centre at 4.30pm.