



## NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

09.05.2011

**Venue: Stroud Youth Centre**

### YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

#### **VOTING MEMBERS**

Beth Jones, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Kamila Gebicka, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Kit Powell, Thomas Keble  
 Ellen Wightman, Thomas Keble  
 Robin Ellis-Cockcroft\*\*, Stroud Town YF  
 Rosemary Dickinson\*, Stroud Town YF  
 Kieran Chadwick, Archway  
 Lynford Short, Archway  
 Emma Sankey, Katharine Lady Berkeley  
 Shannon Eden, Katharine Lady Berkeley  
 Lindsey Driver, Rednock  
 Kathryn White, Rednock  
 Roxy Mould, Vale of Berkeley College  
 Blake Hewer, Vale of Berkeley College  
 Annie Pickering, Stonehouse VoYS  
 (Rudi) Blue Morgan, Stroud College  
 Charlotte-Louise Grigg, Stroud College  
 Chloe Boulton, Wotton under Edge YF  
 Laura Forrester, Wotton under Edge YF  
 Millie Gardiner, Maidenhill  
 Neil Bond, Maidenhill  
 Rob Sidwell, Marling  
 Max Feedman, Marling  
 Sally Holditch, Stroud High  
 Laura Byng, Stroud High

#### **EX-OFFICIO**

Thomas Lydon, Marling  
 Becky Batting, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Izzy Holley

#### **DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Ap	Laurie Watts, Cam & Dursley YF	A
Ap	Jess Lyons-Lynch, Cam & Dursley YF	A
P	Luka Chadwick, Archway	P
P	Charlotte Kruse, Archway	P
P	Jens Newton, Thomas Keble	P
Ap	Kirsty Driver, Vale of Berkeley College	P
P	Jasmin Walker, Vale of Berkeley College	A
A	Tom Williams, Rednock	P
P	Abi Lee, Wotton under Edge YF	Ap
P	Lydia Stephens, Maidenhill	A
P	Dave Holder, Stroud College	A
P	Jakob Sparrow, Stroud College	A
P	Ruth Pilston, Katharine Lady Berkeley	Ap
Ap	Miriam Smith, Katharine Lady Berkeley	Ap
P	Eva Gilder-Hodgson, Katharine Lady	
A	Berkeley	Ap

#### **CO-OPTIONS**

A	Reece Campbell, Young Carers	P
P		
A		

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

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC  
 Helen Smith, Youth Support Worker, Sub-Contracted from GCC Youth Service

## Minutes of the meeting

### Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting, in particular new representatives Laura Byng from Stroud High and Shannon Eden from Katharine Lady Berkeley. Apologies were received from Beth Jones, Kamila Gebicka, Rosie Dickinson, Blake Hewer, Abi Lee, Ruth Pilston, Miriam Smith and Eva Gilder-Hodgson.

### Minutes of Last Meeting – 4 April 2011

The minutes were agreed as being an accurate record.

### Matters Arising

#### **Invitation to a Charity Team Challenge at Cotswold Conference Centre – 10 June**

Information had been received and highlighted the need for organizations wishing to take part needing to pay an entry fee of £150 to cover facilitation and food, plus a committed pledge of £500 as a minimum donation to the chosen charity, Noah Ark Trust. It was agreed this was unethical for SDYC to do and therefore no entry would be made.

#### **Rotary Club Youth Leadership Awards**

There had been no response to recent enquiries; however it was felt that the local branch of the Rotary Club could assist. Robin agreed to email Keith Rogg and pass on any information to members via email.

#### **Meeting with Neil Carmichael, MP**

A letter of acceptance to SDYC's invitation to meet had been received from Neil's office. Whilst the date offered (June 10) was deemed suitable, the timing needed to be revised. Steve highlighted that this meeting would be a chance for youth cabinet members to follow up on issues raised at their meeting with him last autumn and for practical reasons would not be open to the whole membership. However he added that the request for the wider membership group to attend the Houses of Parliament and subsequently meet him for a question and answer session had also been accepted - dates would be offered in due course.

### Correspondence

#### **Say No Now, Stop Violence against Girls, Youth Event on 3 June**

Members were given a 'heads-up' on a forthcoming event being held on 3 June at Ebley Mill which will include a dramatic presentation regarding the issue of violence against girls. This is in relation to the recent United Nations trip to New York involving students from Marling and Stroud High School's. Rob added that as a delegate on the trip he would be involved. The event starts at 4pm and all district youth councillors are welcome to attend.

#### **Web Portal Survey - *Whatnowglos***

The web portal run by County Council Youth Support Service is asking for feedback on its function following its first year of operation. Members were asked to check out this site [www.whatnowglos.co.uk](http://www.whatnowglos.co.uk) and complete the survey. It was noted that only few members had heard of this portal site, but those that do had found it useful.

#### **Alcohol Ads and You**

Alcohol Concern, wish to consult with young people regarding the general exposure to alcohol advertising of those under 18. Under their youth policy they are offering a survey to gain views that will impact on current debate regarding the level of advertising and the relationship between young people and inherent drinking culture. Members were asked to access the website [www.alcoholconcern.org.uk](http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk) by 29 May and complete the survey as well as give themselves a chance to win a £50 voucher.

#### **NHS Gloucestershire**

An enquiry from NHS Gloucestershire had been received offering the possibility of co-hosting a youth

engagement event sometime in the next 3 months. The suggestion from them was that it need not just be about health and ideas of how such an event could benefit both parties would need to be considered. This was a tentative offer and more information would be gained once Steve had spoken to Caroline Smith, NHS Community Engagement Manager. Members were very positive about this opportunity and shared some initial ideas.

### **Stroud Show**

A suggestion had been received from SDC Community Safety Service that SDYC should be offered the chance to attend Stroud Show on 16 July in which to promote the work of members and raise the profile of SDYC in general. Members felt this was a good idea and would consider exactly how they would be involved at a later date.

### **Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums**

*Archway* – Kieran reported that Lynford was looking to stand down from his role as SDYC rep to focus on current exam studies. Arrangements would be made for a by-election or ‘step up’ of either of the current deputy members would be made, which Kieran agreed to oversee.

*Cam & Dursley Youth Forum* – In the absence of the all voting and deputies members, Becky highlighted that the forum had not met recently due to Easter holiday breaks.

*Katharine Lady Berkeley* – Emma announced that four new representatives had been nominated, with Shannon being present as the other voting member. Shannon introduced herself and said she was pleased to become a member.

*Maidenhill* – Millie reported that the new school uniform had been agreed and included blazers, shirts, ties and jumpers. Improvements to various buildings were going ahead.

*Marling* – Max reported that Green Travel programmes were being co-ordinated for June (as part of Tripswitch). Rob added that a junior youth project was being set up enabling year 11 and 12 students to give extra support to Year 7 and 8 students on various issues. A hot composter was also being made with funds from the school Parent Teachers Association.

*Rednock* – Kathryn highlighted that she had been elected as co-chair for the next 12 months, taking over from Lindsey. A new electoral system had been agreed and will be used from September 2011. The aim is that Community Councils will work more closely to ensure greater student voice is heard.

*Stroud High School* – Laura reported that a health programme had begun recently involving ‘wake and shake’ activities in the morning, kick boxing and Indian head massage at lunch time and a sponsored walk for the school charity.

*Stroud Town Youth Forum* – Robin reflected on recent unsuccessful efforts to reconvene the forum group but hoped that they would meet during the forthcoming half term break.

*Thomas Keble* – Kit announced that TK were officially starting the process to become an academy. Steve attended a recent meeting where a Votes at 16 campaign was discussed – students agreed they would like to pursue this in due course with support from SDYC. Kit reminded fellow students that she and Jens would be leaving school in the coming weeks and consideration would need to be given to holding a by-election for their SDYC representative roles. Elly added that Prefect elections were being announced soon.

*Vale of Berkeley College* – Kirsty reported that students leaving after their exams had received their ‘Leaver Hoodies’ and arrangements had begun in other Year Groups in preparation for when the school closes this summer.

*Voice of Young Stonehouse* – Annie reported that she attended a meeting regarding the future of youth work provision in the town recently – hosted by the Town Council there were positive outcomes included discussion on a ‘youth day’ focussing on promotion of projects and consulting the community,

the Town Council had set money aside for the future and street lighting for the skate park. Annie expressed concern about the future of VoYS following confirmation that the local youth worker would be leaving in June.

*Wotton under Edge Youth Forum* – Laura reported that there had been no meeting due to the Easter holiday break.

Reece reported that there was growing concern over the future of Young Carers with support from the County Council being cut, although they hadn't met as a group in Stroud for some time due to recent holiday periods.

Steve explained that the local youth forum being created for Nailsworth was looking to members whom live in or around the area and also attend various secondary schools. The Youth Cabinet agreed to consider how they could support the development of this forum in the future.

### **Votes at 16 Campaign**

Feedback from schools, college and local youth forums via their reps' was as follows;

Maidenhill were looking to include it in their monthly online survey carried out with students. TK discussed this for the first time at their last student council meeting and felt that discussion workshops and assembly tutor presentations would be favourable.

VoBC – The younger tutor groups were not really interested as they would not be able to vote anyway, however the older age range felt it was a good idea.

Wotton Youth Forum – a recent discussion at the youth liaison group meeting was positive and general support was expressed by the adults in attendance.

Rednock – they had already expressed a desire to support a campaign.

A general discussion highlighted that SDYC needed to ensure that an 'informed approach' was taken district wide before any conclusions were sought – the ideas from TK were particularly interesting and understood the need for everyone to understand the key points before asking people to agree or disagree.

Steve added that a dedicated website with plenty of resources was available [www.votesat16.org.uk](http://www.votesat16.org.uk) and is being supported by the British Youth Council and the Co-Operative.

It was agreed to set up a project team to focus on the work required to progress this issue in a co-ordinated approach. The following members agreed to be part of this; Kathryn (agreed to lead this team), Millie, Kit, Kirsty, Tom, Laura B and Kieran.

### **Tripswitch 2011 – Progress Report**

Robin reminded members about Tripswitch which was now in its fourth year. Kathryn reported that Rednock's involvement in this year's initiative had now been endorsed by the head teacher and they were looking to link up with Delta Bikes (shop) in Dursley. Max added that Marling's programme involved encouraging as many people to cycle or walk to school as possible, the provision of a bikers/walkers breakfast and various presentations in tutor groups. Cycling Proficiency programmes were also being promoted for all schools. Archway still aim to do something despite recent regress in planning.

### **Future Delivery of Youth Work**

Steve reported that an event co-ordinated by the District Network Group (strategic lead officers from each district council in the county) would take place on 13 June in Cheltenham. The days programme would focus on various aspects of future youth work provision and invitations had been given to representatives from the communities being most affected by cuts to the County Council Youth Service. Lindsey would be attending to deliver a presentation on 'what young people want' and to promote the work of SDYC. Invitations were limited but there may be an opportunity for another member to attend. SDYC will be the only youth group in attendance.

### **Spring Training Event (s) – confirmation of dates**

Steve reminded members that in light of having to postpone the previous dates, a new programme had been co-ordinated for Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May (New Members Training) and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June (Team building Event) – information had been sent out via post and email with the deadline for return of booking forms being this meeting. He urged all those yet to reply to do so urgently.

### **Pride in Your Neighbourhood (PiYN) Events – Report on 8 April (Ebley) and 14 April (Minchinhampton) and to note 20 May event.**

Kirsty and Charlie reported on their attendance at both events, highlighting that the community safety packs for young people were given out which co-in sided with a bike maintenance/puncture repair demonstration being given by an SDC officer.

Members were encouraged to attend the event on 20 May – the programme was promoted. Roxy, Robin, Millie, Charlie and Kirsty agreed to attend.

### **Junior Neighbourhood Watch Launch**

Annie had to leave the meeting early so Steve briefly explained that an event had been held to launch a junior neighbourhood watch initiative in Stonehouse as a result of the idea shared by SDYC reps' on the NHW committee. However local organizers (Police and NHW Committee) were reminded that greater input on the day should have come from young people and SDYC in particular. Apologies had been received for this oversight.

### **Love Food, Hate Waste Intergenerational Project – 17 May**

It was noted that the project team consisting of adults and SDYC members would be meeting on 17 May at Ebley Mill – information on this would be sent via email to those members concerned.

### **Youth Cabinet Report**

Lindsey reported that the youth cabinet would be holding an extended meeting on either 31 May (after the new members training) or 2 June. A report on this will be given at the next SDYC meeting.

### **Future Meeting Venue for SDYC**

Robin explained that a new meeting venue needed to be found for future meetings as Stroud Youth Centre was soon to be unavailable due to the changes in service provision by the County Council. Possible venues were highlighted, however it was noted that a similar environment was required in which to make the meetings more informal than the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill.

### **Any Other Business**

Robin encouraged members to attend the Brimscombe and Thrupp Village Fete on 28 May where he was due to be a Compeer.

Steve explained that the Rural Youth Network had contacted him regarding the possibility of delivering a workshop at an event in Coventry on 20 July. The theme of the workshop would be 'hearing the voice of young people' – he had expressed an interest and was awaiting a reply. Members agreed that if an opportunity arises a team of members will be interested in attend.

Anniversary Event Members Review – feedback was shared with members on their evaluation of the event carried out at the last meeting.

**Date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 6 June 2011 at Stroud Youth Centre, 4.30pm.**